

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los Angeles Announces \$1.6 Million Gift Intent to Children’s Hospital Los Angeles for Pediatric Epilepsy Fellowship Program

***The endowment will allow CHLA’s Division of Neurology to create The
Pediatric Epilepsy Fellowship Program***

LOS ANGELES (February 8 2016) – The Care+Cure initiatives of the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los Angeles have stated their intent to establish a \$1.6 million endowment to fund the The Pediatric Epilepsy Fellowship Program at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA). This endowment, announced on International Epilepsy Day, will be used to launch a program in July 2016 that will train one epilepsy fellow every year in perpetuity.

“The Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los Angeles has been the leading voice and catalyst on building a workforce of child neurologists and epileptologists in Southern California to provide timely access to expert care,” says Brent Polk, MD, Chair of Pediatrics at CHLA. “We are so grateful for their commitment to CHLA’s Epilepsy Program by ensuring training of the next generation of pediatric epilepsy specialists.”

“There is a shortage of child neurologists in this country and in this region,” says Andrew Gumpert, Treasurer of the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los Angeles and Co-Chair of Care+Cure. “The Care+Cure initiatives of our organization have led the way in supporting the training of specialists, specialty care, research and supportive care for families affected by epilepsy. This intent to establish an endowment is one more step in our organization’s fight to End Epilepsy.”

“This fellowship is an example of our organization’s commitment to ensure every effort is made to give children with epilepsy the best treatment possible,” says Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los Angeles Vice President and Care+Cure Co-Chair, Mark Borman.

“We are thrilled to strengthen our bond with CHLA and to further commit to making the Greater LA area a leader in training of pediatric epilepsy specialists so children with epilepsy can get to specialty care faster and have a more hopeful future.”

Advances in technology, such as brain mapping and genetic testing, are improving epilepsy treatment options. It is essential for physicians to have experience in the latest treatments, including diet therapy in conjunction with clinical care, while also learning how to adapt as medical science evolves. This program will train child neurologists at CHLA in comprehensive care for children with epilepsy. Fellows will receive experience in the most advanced epilepsy care for these vulnerable patients and will be eligible to become a Board-certified epileptologist at the conclusion of the yearlong fellowship.

“This program is a critical next step in our ability to carry out the vision of building a more robust team of epileptologists at CHLA given it will create an essential pipeline that currently does not exist,” states Deborah Holder, MD, Director of the Epilepsy Program, EEG Lab and Epilepsy Monitoring Unit at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. Under Dr. Holder’s leadership, the Pediatric Epilepsy Program will train one fellow per year in perpetuity, beginning in July 2016.

“We’re very proud of the work CHLA is doing to improve specialty care for children with epilepsy and our board is proud to give financial support so CHLA can train more pediatric epilepsy specialists who can participate in our mission to End Epilepsy,” says Steve Baum, EFGLA board President. “And, by announcing this partnership on International Epilepsy Awareness Day, we’re hoping to bring more attention to the 65 million people across the world who are in this fight and need our support.”

About the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los Angeles

The Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los Angeles is leading the fight to End Epilepsy through care (specialty and supportive), advocacy, research and educating families affected and the general public about epilepsy. We are focused in Los Angeles and surrounding counties, which is home to over 160,000 families living with epilepsy, and our reach extends well beyond that region. This partnership with CHLA is another example of our commitment to partner with those who are dedicated to the best care, treatment and research of children with epilepsy.

About Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

Children’s Hospital Los Angeles is a nonprofit pediatric health care organization dedicated to creating hope and building healthier futures for children. Honored as the premier children’s hospital in California and among the top 10 in the nation, we treat 107,000 young patients annually from Los Angeles and around the world. As a pediatric charity of choice, the hospital relies on the generosity of the community to support its groundbreaking pediatric research and the complex care it provides for critically ill and injured children.

For more information, visit www.EndEpilepsy.org Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) or contact our office directly (310) 670-2870.