



JOHN R. KASICH

GOVERNOR • STATE OF OHIO

Communication Department

SUPPORTING BETTER HEALTH CARE FOR OHIO'S CHILDREN

In July 2011, Governor John R. Kasich pledged \$2 million in research funding to improve health care for Ohio's children. After visiting with pediatric physicians, the governor committed to support collaborative research efforts shared among all of Ohio's children's hospitals.

This investment paved the way for Ohio's children's hospitals to develop new treatment methodologies for children with asthma and infants born addicted to drugs (or "Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome"). Through the use of these funds, the children's hospitals developed a statewide system to share information that identifies different methods for treating children and provides best practices among clinicians.

Building on the success of this initial investment, Governor Kasich pledged an additional \$2 million for a second round of collaborative research among the children's hospitals. The governor's commitment will provide \$1 million each for the following research projects:

- **Expanded Asthma Research:**
 - Asthma is one of the leading causes of avoidable hospital admissions for children.
 - This proposal will personalize research-based treatment options for children most at risk.
- **Launch new Pediatric Pneumonia Research:**
 - Pneumonia is the leading cause of death in children under 5 years of age, and second only to injuries as the most common reason for hospitalization in children under the age of 18 in Ohio.
 - This proposal will develop better protocols to diagnose pneumonia, identify high-risk patients, and better manage care to improve health outcomes.

Ohio's children's hospitals will partner with Ohio Medicaid to capture Medicaid costs for both research efforts and document improvement in health outcomes.

Funds for both projects are from the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act performance bonus Ohio received for enrolling more eligible children in Medicaid and CHIP.

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