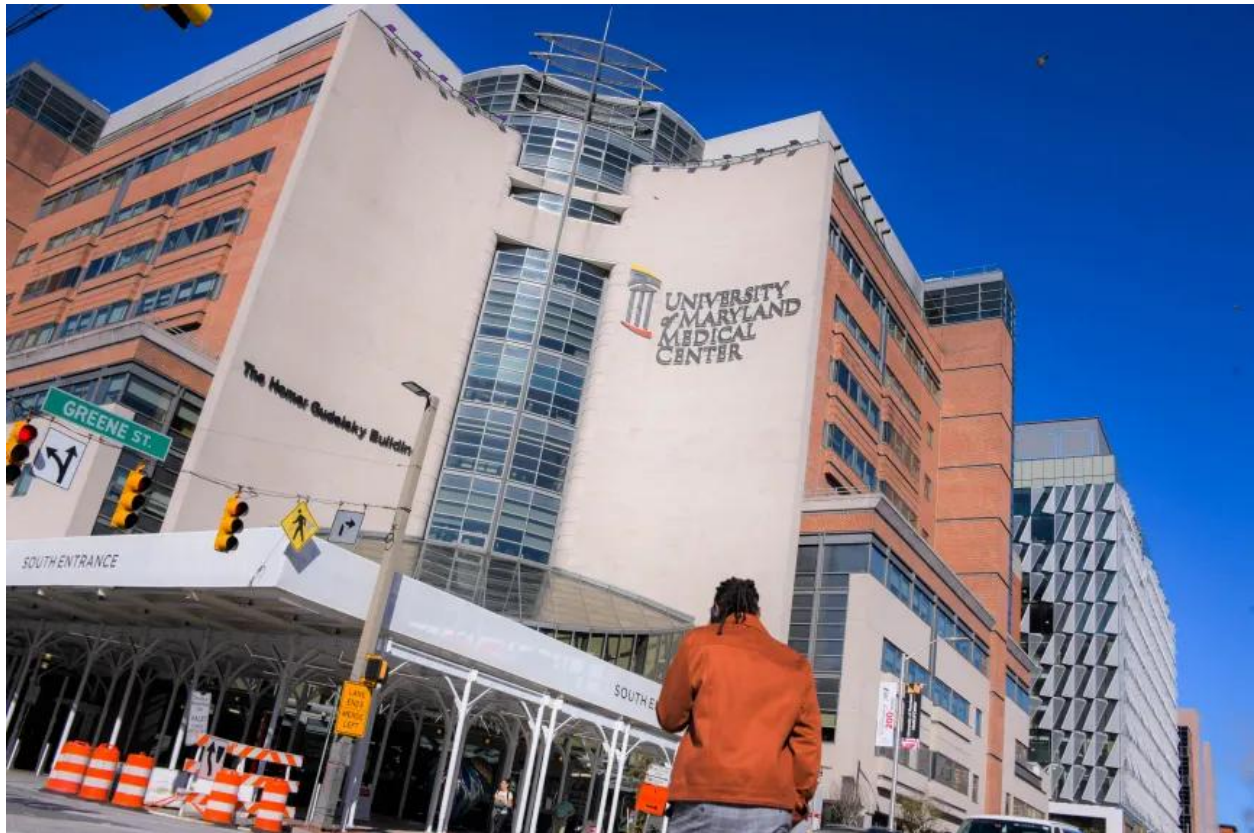


## \$50M gift to ‘transform’ University of Maryland Children’s Hospital



University of Maryland Medical Center, part of the University of Maryland Medical System. The \$50 million donation to the children’s hospital is the largest gift that UMMS has received. (Karl Merton Ferron/Staff)



By [Todd Karpovich](#) and [Karl Hille](#)

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Entrepreneur and philanthropist Tom Golisano donated \$50 million to the University of Maryland Children's Hospital to support advances in pediatric medicine, officials announced Tuesday.

Hospital and university leaders called the donation a "transformative investment" that will expand medical care, research and community outreach for children across the state.

The gift is the largest ever received by the University of Maryland Medical System and the University of Maryland, Baltimore. Golisano announced the donation and similar gifts to six other hospitals around the country in an event on Tuesday in Rochester, N.Y., that was broadcast live at the children's hospital. Together, these new members expand the Golisano Children's Alliance to 10 hospitals.

In recognition of the contribution, the children's hospital within the University of Maryland Medical Center will be renamed the University of Maryland Golisano Children's Hospital.

"For nearly 80 years, our children's hospital has been caring for Maryland's children and families right here in downtown Baltimore," said Dr. Steven J. Czinn, the hospital's director and chair of pediatrics at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. "Over the years, we have grown, and these programs and services are now located in multiple buildings downtown. This is going to allow us to locate all of these services in one building."

The gift will support a major expansion of the children's hospital within the new Stoler Center for Advanced Medicine, now under construction and expected to open in 2026. The project will bring together inpatient and outpatient pediatric services under one roof, adding facilities for oncology, critical care and emerging gene therapy treatments.

Other goals include increasing surgical capacity for complex cases, enhancing neonatal and pediatric intensive care units, and creating a dedicated gene therapy program for children with rare diseases, according to hospital officials. The hospital also plans to grow research in areas such as CAR T-cell therapy, social determinants of health and community-based pediatric care.

"Tom Golisano's extraordinary gift will help us create a world-class facility with programs in gene and cell therapy that move us closer to cures once thought out of reach," Czinn said.

### **'It will have lasting impact'**

Heather S. Culp, chief philanthropy officer for University of Maryland Medicine, said the gift will allow the children's hospital to continue to grow as well as help attract and retain best-in-class physicians. She said the timing of the donation could not be more significant.

"This historic and transformational gift comes at a time of urgency and opportunity for pediatric care in Maryland," she said in a statement. "It will have lasting impact across generations of children and families."



Entrepreneur and philanthropist Tom Golisano gifts the newly renamed University of Maryland Golisano Children's Hospital, \$50 million. (Courtesy of University of Maryland Medical Systems)

Golisano, founder of the payroll processing company Paychex Inc., announced the gift during an event in Rochester, N.Y., where he unveiled new donations to six children's hospitals nationwide. His total giving to pediatric health care now exceeds \$200 million.

"Children's health has always been a priority for me, and it's been deeply rewarding to see how the Golisano Children's Hospitals are making a profound impact on the communities they serve," Golisano said in a statement. "I am fortunate to be able to help others in this way, and I'm looking forward to seeing what these hospitals can achieve together. Also, I plan to continue making similar transformative gifts that will strengthen this new alliance."

The alliance also announced that the first Golisano Symposium will take place next May in Rochester, bringing top experts in pediatrics together to share knowledge.

"Being a part of a ten-hospital alliance has tremendous benefits for the children of Baltimore," said Bert O'Malley, president of the University of Maryland Medical Center. "We will be able to look at the best practices and get advice from other hospitals in dealing with the issues we face."

### **More about the hospital**

The University of Maryland Golisano Children's Hospital operates 90 beds, treats at least 3,000 admitted patients and records more than 118,000 outpatient visits annually. The hospital is home to Maryland's largest Level IV neonatal intensive care unit and has led

advances , including the state's first pediatric double heart-lung transplant and the first pediatric stem cell treatment.

Dr. Mohan Suntha, president and CEO of the University of Maryland Medical System, said the gift will boost specialized pediatric care throughout the system.

"As a result, more children in more communities will receive the care they need closer to home," he said.

The new hospital building will improve care and simplify patients' lives, Czinn said. "We will be able to provide a more patient-friendly, child-friendly experience in a visually welcoming location," he said.

"This will be the crown jewel of children's medical treatment in Baltimore."

*Have a news tip? Contact Todd Karpovich at [tkarpovich@baltsun.com](mailto:tkarpovich@baltsun.com) or on X as @ToddKarpovich, or Karl Hille at 443-900-7891 or [khille@baltsun.com](mailto:khille@baltsun.com).*