

2021 Boston Investment Conference Marks Decade of Helping Fund Critical Research at Boston Children's Hospital



Conference showcased the impact funds raised at the annual networking event over the past 10 years have had on helping Boston Children's Hospital find answers about childhood disease

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Last week **Boston Children's Hospital** gathered together the brightest minds in the financial investment community for a full day of sharing insights, ideas and networking opportunities at its annual **Boston Investment Conference**. Since its launch in 2011, the Boston Investment Conference (BIC) has raised funds to help fuel the development of life-changing innovations for the world's sickest children. Cumulatively the event has raised over \$20 million since its founding to drive transformative research at Boston Children's and strengthen scientific collaborations with the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard.

"What an honor it was to have the opportunity to attend the 2021 Boston Investment Conference! As the BIC awardee, I am beyond grateful to the conference founders, organizers, speakers, and attendees for focusing attention on medical research that will impact so many children, in Boston and beyond," said Annapurna Poduri, MD, MPH - Director, Epilepsy Genetics Program at Boston Children's Hospital and 2021 Boston Investment Conference Awardee leading pioneering research in infants with epilepsy. "As a physician-scientist, I listened to speakers from careers very different from my own and was struck by common themes that resonate across disciplines. These include the value of innovation and creativity and an emphasis on diversity, all key to our progress as we strive not only to make discoveries but also to bring them to the very children who inspire our research."

The conference also featured in-depth discussions on a variety of topics with esteemed business and financial leaders including:

- Ben Balbale of Dockyard Capital Management
- Stephane Bancel of Moderna, Inc.
- Mary Barra of General Motors
- John Chambers of JC2 Ventures
- Bihua Chen of Cormorant
- Will Danoff of Fidelity
- Stanley Druckenmiller of Duquesne Family Office LLC

- David Fialkow of General Catalyst
- Dave Furneaux of Virsec
- David Gross-Loh of Bain Capital
- Jean Hynes of Wellington Management
- Seth Klarman of The Baupost Group
- Jeff Lawson of Twilio
- Evan Rachlin of Blackstone Life Sciences
- David Rubenstein of The Carlyle Group
- Corey Thomas of Rapid7

Boston Children's Hospital has been quietly changing the future of health for children around the world since 1869. Named the number one hospital for care in the country, the hospital is also the largest research center for pediatric medicine anywhere. Each year the conference proceeds benefit a new research initiative at Boston Children's Hospital, and help facilitate unique collaborations between Boston Children's and the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. The Broad Institute, founded in 2004, was created to fulfill the promise of genomic medicine—three years after completion of the Human Genome Project, which Broad scientists helped create and lead.

Since 2011, the Boston Investment conference has helped fund the following research programs:

- **2013 | Infant Brain Monitoring** - BabyMEG safely and accurately monitors infant brain activity. **Today:** Physicians design improved seizure-treatment plans for babies.
- **2014 | Surgical Simulation** - 3D models of each patient's unique physiology help neurosurgeons tackle the most complex procedures. **Today:** Augmented and virtual reality tools expand our global reach.
- **2015 | Cancer Diagnosis** - The Laboratory for Molecular Pediatric Pathology deploys next-generation sequencing technology. **Today:** Experts accurately diagnose cancers and detect cancer-driving gene fusions.
- **2016 | Mitochondrial Therapy** - Healthy mitochondria restore damaged heart tissue. **Today:** Mitochondrial therapy is tested in cancer, heart attack and diabetes.
- **2017 | Blood Stem Cells** - Patient-specific blood stem cells are created to treat rare disorders. **Today:** Novel drug candidates are screened to accelerate blood stem cell production and bring them to the clinic.
- **2018 | Gene Therapy** - Stem cells delivered directly to the brain accelerate production of genetically corrected cells. **Today:** New treatments for neurological disorders promise to change lives of millions worldwide.

- **2019 | Customized Therapy** - A therapy is created specifically for one child with a rare disease. **Today:** Revolutionary thinking about a tailored treatment for a single patient creates hope for thousands worldwide.
- **2020 | COVID-19 Vaccine** - Researchers seek to optimize a coronavirus vaccine for older adults. **Today:** Vaccine manufacturers adopt the basic science and advance projects to clinical trials.

To learn more about the conference and its contributions please click [here](#). To learn more about the research underway at Boston Children's Hospital click [here](#).

About Boston Children's Hospital

Boston Children's Hospital is ranked the **#1 children's hospital** in the nation by U.S. News & World Report and is the primary pediatric teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School. Home to the world's largest research enterprise based at a pediatric medical center, its discoveries have benefited both children and adults since 1869. Today, 3,000 researchers and scientific staff, including 9 members of the National Academy of Sciences, 23 members of the National Academy of Medicine and 12 Howard Hughes Medical Investigators comprise Boston Children's research community. Founded as a 20-bed hospital for children, Boston Children's is now a 415-bed comprehensive center for pediatric and adolescent health care. For more, visit our [Answers](#) blog and follow us on social media [@BostonChildrens](#), [@BCH_Innovation](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

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