

DC Philanthropists Establish Transformative Research Fund at the Crnic Institute for Down Syndrome



Scott LaRose and Cathy Fonfara provided a generous multi-year donation to the Crnic Institute. They established the **Mary Miller & Charlotte Fonfara-LaRose Down Syndrome and Leukemia Research Fund** in honor of their daughter Charlotte, and her friend, Mary Miller. Both girls have Down syndrome and Mary has inspired her friends and family in her fight against leukemia.

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Help Save or Change the Life of Someone with Down Syndrome

Your donation to Global will help us continue to provide life changing medical care to over 1,200 children with Down syndrome and life-saving research that stands to benefit the entire population. We need \$200K to meet our year-end goals. Your donation will go twice as far thanks to an anonymous donor who is deeply touched by our work and provided a critical \$100K year-end matching grant.

[Help us meet our year-end goals!](#)



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Important Published Research from the Sie Center May Prevent Aspiration

Essential knowledge for caregivers and physicians, the study found that 56% of young children with Down syndrome aspirated on a swallow study; 90% of those who aspirated did so silently without overt clinical symptoms and thickened liquids was the most effective adaptation. Speech Pathologist Arwen Jackson, Medical Director Dr. Francis Hickey, and others at Sie Center published "Clinical Characteristics of Dysphagia in Children with Down Syndrome" in international journal *Dysphagia*.

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Global Employment Grants Offer a More Inclusive Future

For the second year, Global is accepting applications for Self-Advocate Employment Initiative Grants. A benefit of Global membership, Employment Grants provide up to \$2,000 each to help Down syndrome organizations hire employees with Down syndrome.

[Apply Now](#)



CO Ballet Casts Two Global Dancers to Perform in "The Nutcracker"

Two of Global's Be Beautiful Be Yourself Dance program ballerinas were cast in Colorado Ballet's magical production of "The Nutcracker" this holiday season. Laura and Maya have been practicing for three months for their performance, the fifth such time Global's dancers will take part in the production.

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