For more than a century, Norton Children’s Hospital and its predecessor hospitals have cared for the children of Kentucky and Southern Indiana without regard to their families’ ability to pay. Today, the Norton Children’s name stands for expert pediatric care across a spectrum of specialties and locations throughout Kentucky and Southern Indiana.

Composed of two hospitals, a medical center, regional outpatient centers, and primary and specialty care physician practices, Norton Children’s is a comprehensive network of highly trained pediatric specialists and support services that care for children of all ages and their families.

As the need for expert pediatric care has grown in our region, so has the footprint of Norton Children’s. Our medical facilities currently serve more than 170,000 patients each year, with over 93,000 pediatric emergency care visits and nearly 13,000 pediatric surgeries.
Special areas/services

- 26-bed "Just for Kids" Critical Care Center (PICU)
- 101-bed Level IV neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) caring for more than 1,500 babies each year
- Emergency department is the area’s only designated Level I Pediatric Trauma Center
- Comprehensive pediatric surgical services with 10 active operating rooms
- Addison Jo Blair Cancer Care Center, accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer since 1959
- Photopheresis and apheresis program with one of the largest sickle cell anemia treatment programs in the country
- Heart, kidney, stem cell and bone marrow transplant programs
- Four medical/surgical units
- Ackerly Child Psychiatric Unit
- Heart Center for children from before birth through adulthood with congenital heart defects
- Full diagnostic and radiology services staffed by pediatric specialized radiologists
- Respiratory care
- Inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services including occupational, physical and speech therapies
- Pediatric sedation services
- Level IV Epilepsy Center including designated monitoring unit
- Wendy Novak Diabetes Center
- "Just for Kids" Transport Team
- Child life and expressive therapies program
- Norton Children’s Prevention & Wellness program
- Family Link cord blood storage program
- Kentucky Poison Control Center
- Partnership to Eliminate Child Abuse
- Diagnostic imaging and testing capabilities for children staffed by pediatric specialized radiologists
- Child life specialists and pet therapy
- Music therapy for NICU infants
- Pediatric sleep center
- Marshall Family Pediatric Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Center for occupational, physical and speech therapies
- Pediatric and adolescent specialist offices, including gynecology, urology and orthopedics

Norton Children’s Hospital (downtown Louisville)
Number of beds: 267

Norton Children’s Hospital is Kentucky’s only full-service, free-standing pediatric hospital dedicated exclusively to caring for children and being an advocate for their health and well-being. The hospital serves as the primary pediatric teaching facility for the University of Louisville School of Medicine. Established in 1892, Norton Children’s Hospital serves all 120 counties in Kentucky and more than 35 in Indiana and is the only Level I Pediatric Trauma Center in the area.

The hospital includes the Addison Jo Blair Cancer Care Center, which cares for more than 650 children annually and has one of the nation’s largest sickle cell anemia treatment programs. It is home to Norton Children’s Heart Center, which performs more than 400 heart surgeries and over 12,000 noninvasive diagnostic studies each year.

The Heart Center also cares for adults with congenital heart defects. And the hospital houses the Wendy Novak Diabetes Center, the region’s only dedicated center for children with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes. Pediatric and adolescent specialists and subspecialists representing more than 35 clinical specialties and team members made up of nurses, social workers, child life and expressive therapists, respiratory therapists and more create an environment of care that can provide any type of care a child may need from before birth into their teens.

Each year, Norton Children’s Hospital cares for more than 118,000 children and sees approximately 60,000 emergency department visits.

For more information on any of these services, visit NortonChildrens.com or call the Norton Children’s Access Center at (502) 629-KIDS or toll-free (844) 629-KIDS.
Norton Children’s Medical Associates

Primary care services throughout Kentucky and Southern Indiana

Norton Children’s Medical Associates is a collection of pediatrician practices that are an extension of the care the community has come to trust from Norton Children’s. With over 18 office locations, our pediatricians provide routine well checks and preventive care, as well as treat minor illnesses and injuries in newborns to teenagers. Often, same-day appointments and extended hours are available to meet the needs of busy families right away. These offices are focused on partnering with families to help children grow healthy and happy.

Norton Children’s Medical Associates pediatricians are connected to the comprehensive resources of the Norton Children’s network, including specialty referrals, prevention and wellness programs, and electronic medical records for convenience in managing families’ medical care.

Norton Children’s specialty practices

Specialists offering expertise “Just for Kids”

Norton Children’s specialists are highly trained to care for most every need — from a broken bone to intensive care for a newborn. Norton Children’s specialty practices include gynecology, urology, neonatology, neurosurgery, radiology, orthopedics, hospitalists and maternal-fetal medicine.

Norton Children’s also partners with University of Louisville Physicians and a variety of private practice physicians in the community to offer additional specialized expertise. All of our physicians, along with a team of health care support staff, work diligently to provide the highest level of care for children.

Norton Children’s Hospital Outpatient Centers

Four locations throughout Kentucky

The reach of Norton Children’s stretches far and wide when it comes to providing that special brand of care that’s “Just for Kids.” Specialists associated with the University of Louisville, Norton Children’s Medical Associates and other community providers care for children throughout Kentucky at four Norton Children’s Hospital Outpatient Centers. The outpatient centers offer children, as well as moms-to-be experiencing high-risk pregnancies, the ability to see physicians who specialize in their unique health care needs without having to travel to our main offices in Louisville. Appointments may be face-to-face with a specialist, or patients can use telemedicine technology to connect with specialists via videoconferencing.

Norton Children’s Hospital Outpatient Centers are located in Bowling Green, Frankfort, Owensboro and Paducah, Kentucky.

Norton Children’s Prevention & Wellness

Creating a healthier future for children

Advocacy and outreach educational programs are at the heart of the Norton Children’s mission. Established in 1991, the Office of Child Advocacy, now called Norton Children’s Prevention & Wellness, takes an active leadership role in health promotion; injury and illness prevention; and protection of children, families and communities.

The Prevention & Wellness office looks at trends affecting children’s health, teaches the importance of healthy lifestyles, identifies dangers and risks, implements ways to keep children safe from harm and works to change legislation — all in an effort to create a healthier future for our children.

Children’s Hospital Foundation

Pulling together for Norton Children’s

The Children’s Hospital Foundation raises funds exclusively for the not-for-profit Norton Children’s Hospital and its sister facilities. Through donations, volunteers and community support, the foundation is able to help Norton Children’s continue its mission of caring for all children, regardless of their families’ ability to pay, and serving as a community resource for kids’ safety and health.

Grants from the Children’s Hospital Foundation help fund facilities, equipment, new technologies, clinical research, child advocacy and health education for patients, families, medical staff and the community.

For more information on any of these services, visit NortonChildrens.com or call the Norton Children’s Access Center at (502) 629-KIDS or toll-free (844) 629-KIDS.
Milestones and accomplishments

Norton Children’s Hospital

1890 .................. A tornado devastates Kentucky and leaves many children injured and in need of care. Plans are set in motion to create a regional children’s hospital.

1892 .................. The first patient is admitted to Children’s Free Hospital (now Norton Children’s Hospital).

1926 .................. A year of firsts for the hospital: The region’s first pediatric gastroenterology clinic and craniofacial anomalies team for children with facial deformities; the region’s first plasmapheresis procedure for blood disease (the hospital is now one of the largest pheresis centers in the country); Kentucky’s first and only burn unit exclusively for children; established the Kentucky Poison Control Center, the state’s only comprehensive poison information service, still in operation today.

1930 .................. Hospital formally becomes the teaching hospital for the University of Louisville School of Medicine.

1958-1963 .... Outpatients increase from 1,500 to 11,500, amounting to $1 million annually in free care to families who are unable to pay.

1969 .................. Norton Memorial Infirmary and Children’s Hospital consolidate to become Norton-Children’s Hospitals Inc.

1978 .................. Norton-Children’s Hospital launches Kentucky’s first pediatric fixed-wing air transport service.

1981 .................. Norton-Children’s Hospitals Inc. and Kosair Crippled Children’s Hospital join to form Kosair Children’s Hospital.

1984 .................. Nation’s first Cotrel-Dubousset surgical procedure and instrumentation for scoliosis repair performed, now the standard throughout the country; becomes Kentucky’s only hospital to offer ECMO (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation), a type of heart/lung bypass machine.

1986 .................. Site of America’s second successful heart transplant in an infant.

1988 .................. Hospital is designated as Kentucky’s first Level I Pediatric Trauma Center.

1999 .................. First children’s hospital in the country to test a new device that monitors cerebral oxygenation during open heart surgery; first program to study neonatal massage on premature infants; first in the country to perform a bone marrow transplant for Kostmann’s syndrome with nonmatching bone marrow.

2000 .................. The first sleep medicine center in Kentucky designed specifically for children.

2005 .................. The region’s only Congenital Heart Center for children and adults opens; it includes a state-of-the-art cardiac catheterization hybrid suite and Kentucky’s only electrophysiology lab for treating arrhythmias in children.

2006 .................. Becomes one of five benchmark centers in the country for cystic fibrosis.

2009 .................. Renovated and expanded imaging and sedation departments open thanks to support from the Children’s Hospital Foundation.

2010 .................. Kentucky’s first outpatient children’s medical center opens with a dedicated emergency department, diagnostic testing and outpatient surgery unit.

2012 .................. Hospital becomes the only center in Kentucky to offer minimally invasive Melody valve implantation to treat dysfunctional heart valves; hospital gathers concerned groups to formally create the Partnership to Eliminate Child Abuse.

2013 .................. Hospital’s Comprehensive Epilepsy Center receives highest recognition by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers as a Level IV center; Wendy Novak Diabetes Care Center opens as the region’s only dedicated center for care of children with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes.

2014 .................. Renovated Norton Women’s & Children’s Hospital opens in St. Matthews, adding pediatric surgery, emergency care, diagnostics, inpatient and other pediatric services; Norton Children’s Hospital doctors and University of Louisville engineers print a 3-D model of a patient’s heart to prepare for a complex surgery.

2015 .................. Hospital uses extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) on the 1,000th patient and becomes a designated ECMO center of excellence.

2016 .................. The children’s hospital and its sister facilities are collectively renamed Norton Children’s. The Norton Healthcare Board of Trustees selected the name Norton Children’s Hospital for the downtown pediatric hospital after several rounds of research involving the local community and surrounding areas, as well as Norton Healthcare employees.

For more information on any of these services, visit NortonChildrens.com or call the Norton Children’s Access Center at (502) 629-KIDS or toll-free (844) 629-KIDS.