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If it's everyday love in action you're looking for, look no further than The Charity League's work at Children's Hospital.

These 70 energetic volunteers are the force behind some of Children's Health System's most innovative programs for children, most notably the Hearing & Speech Center at Children's Hospital. The Charity League provides a number of other services to hearing- and speech-impaired children, including scholarships for speech and language therapy, financial assistance for hearing aids, preschool screening programs and parent forums on speech and language development.

The group also supports many other CHS programs, including Hospital Patient Pals and guided tours of the One-Day Surgery Center for area schoolchildren.

For the volunteers, the 170,000-plus hours of service worked and nearly \$2 million dollars in funds raised since the group started in 1959 are all a labor of love.

"We are all about service," said Teri Hibbard, the group's President. "Volunteers feel like they're coming in and doing something worthwhile for the community."

Volunteers must perform 20 hours of service each term and are trained and supervised by CHS staff for their work at Children's Hospital. Service terms run September through May of each year.

To fund their work, The Charity League holds spring and fall fundraisers organized by members each year. They also raise funds through cookbook sales as well as personal and corporate donations. Recent fundraising efforts also include applying for grants to support arts therapy programs for these special patients.

The Charity League volunteers are enthusiastic about their association with CHS, and the feeling is mutual.

"My relationship with this wonderful group of women has been one of the most rewarding parts of my job at Children's over the years," said Judy Mann, CHS's Director of Speech & Hearing. "In every way they exemplify the values Children's Hospital holds dear."

It's these values of love and service that motivate The Charity League's volunteers in their work at CHS. "Through the years, we've experienced being the hands, feet and voices together with the Children's Hospital, to share love in real ways," said Hibbard. "It's very rewarding to see these children do so well."

For more information on The Charity League's work at CHS, visit their website at <http://www.thecharityleague.org>.