

Health happens everywhere.

Our Commitment:

Healthy Schools | Healthy Homes | Healthy Neighborhoods



Health Beyond the Hospital Walls

Nationwide Children's Hospital is one of the United States' best pediatric health care systems, producing research that has a worldwide impact.

But Ohio is our home. We have cared for children here for more than 130 years. And we know that our children's health doesn't only happen in the hospital — it happens where kids live, learn and play. Their schools. Their homes. Their neighborhoods.

Together, with many partners, we have created a trailblazing model of improving well-being beyond our walls and all across Ohio. We're proud to share it here.

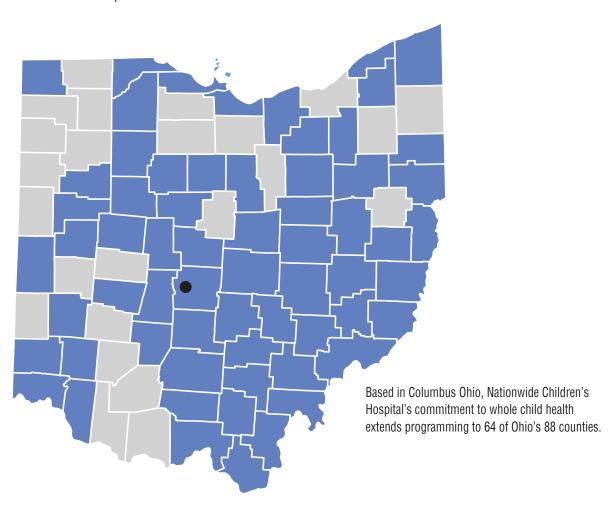


Table of Contents:

Health Happens at School	4
Health Happens in the Neighborhood	. 14
Health Happens at Home	. 20





"Hospitals have always focused on the ways that medical treatment and research can improve people's health. Nationwide Children's Hospital certainly focuses on those areas, and it's why we can provide the world's best care right here in Ohio.

Two decades ago, however, we began to realize we should do more outside the realm of traditional health care if we wanted to make a bigger impact on children's lives. Medicine and research make a difference, but so do affordable, high-quality homes in safe neighborhoods. A family's financial stability is crucial. Educational opportunity can have an effect for generations.

We want every child to have the best possible health outcomes. We want every family to succeed.

To achieve these goals, Nationwide Children's has built the United States' most comprehensive initiatives to improve child health beyond traditional health care. In cities and rural communities, in schools and neighborhoods, our hospital and our partners are working to lift entire populations of Ohioans."

— Tim Robinson CEO, Nationwide Children's Hospital

Celebrating partners across Ohio

"Nationwide Children's Hospital has been a valuable partner to us as we work to expand access to health care among the children of Ohio's Appalachian region. Nationwide Children's has been a valuable resource as we have worked to expand school health services, crisis stabilization services, behavioral health care, and support for families and caregivers. They have helped to shape strategies with their expertise, build connections with their networks, and expand access to care with their strong team of caregivers. Their work with us has resulted in many children having access to services that were not previously available to them."

— Randy Leite, Executive Director, Appalachia Children's Coalition

"Collaboration lies at the heart of The Columbus Way, and it is the primary vehicle through which we will improve quality of life in every neighborhood across our city. Partners like Nationwide Children's Hospital make this work possible by leveraging innovative solutions to address society's most pressing challenges. It is vital that we remain purposeful and intentional about tackling these issues through a lens of equity — expanding access to housing, education, health care and transit, to name a few — so that we are able to include those who've been left out and left behind, and empower them with the resources, knowledge and opportunities that will lead to a more resilient, sustainable and prosperous future."

— Mayor Andrew J. Ginther, City of Columbus

"Nationwide Children's Hospital recognizes that taking care of children also means taking care of the communities where children live. I and my fellow Franklin County Commissioners have partnered with Nationwide Children's to build and repair homes because it is clear that safe, affordable housing in our neighborhoods is crucial for health. We've seen the impact that the hospital has had not just through great medical care, but also through community investment — and we're looking forward to continuing our work with Nationwide Children's to improve lives throughout Franklin County."

— Erica Crawley, Franklin County Commissioner

The Country's Most Robust School Health Services Program

The link between health and educational achievement has never been clearer. It's hard for children to learn if they miss class for illness or if they struggle with behavioral health conditions. And children who achieve in school are more likely to become healthy adults.

That's why Nationwide Children's Hospital works in central Ohio, and increasingly across the state, to bring health services to thousands of children where they spend so much of their time: at school.







Masters-level behavioral health therapists in 47 schools

Official consulting partner for school-based health in 32 Appalachian counties



School-based asthma therapy in 284 schools







2 mobile care centers

62 school districts, including 44 rural; 270,000+ students reached; 26 health care partners in 38 counties



Signs of Suicide prevention program in 26 counties



Recognizing that school-based health has the potential to change a child's lifetime well-being, Nationwide Children's has partnered with the state of Ohio, health care providers, nonprofit funders, school nurses and school districts across the state to support the development of programs in more than 38 mostly Appalachian counties.



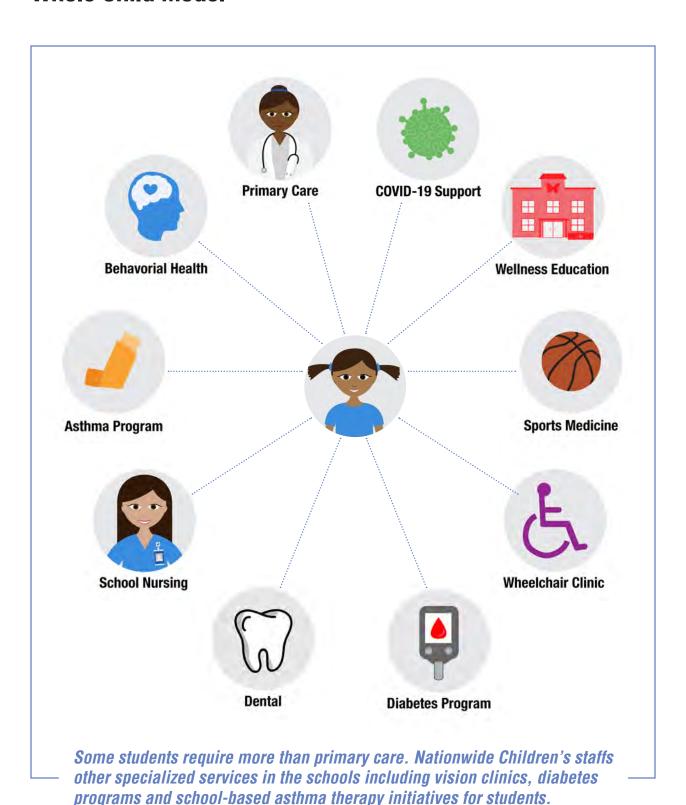
Highlights

Appalachian Community Grant Program. In 2023, the state of Ohio named Nationwide Children's as the planning partner for 32 Appalachian counties as they create school-based health initiatives — part of a \$500 million plan to support transformational projects in Ohio's Appalachian communities.

School Health Learning Collaborative. Nationwide Children's has created this nine-county collaborative to support the opening of school-based health centers. With grant funding, this has led to eight new school-based health centers, one school-based dental clinic and a comprehensive mobile program reaching eight rural counties: Licking, Fairfield, Pickaway, Ross, Hocking, Pike, Scioto, Greene and Meigs.

School-to-School Transportation. Nationwide Children's, with the support of CareSource, is piloting a first-of-its-kind effort to transport students between school buildings so they can attend school-based health appointments. Transportation was available in Franklin, Greene, Hocking and Licking counties in 2023 with plans to expand.

Whole Child Model



School-Based Medical Care

Since 2015, Nationwide Children's has partnered with Columbus City Schools, Reynoldsburg City Schools, Mount Vernon City Schools, Shelby City Schools and others to run full-service primary care centers in school buildings.

These school-based health centers provide the same services that a pediatrician's office can — physicals, ongoing prescriptions, vaccinations — but they focus on children who don't have health care providers. Working with parents, the centers help children access the care they need.



14,129 visits to school-based health in 2023.

67% of those patients who have Medicaid had not had a checkup in at least 18 months.









"I am truly grateful for the long-standing partnership with Nationwide Children's, and the services provided to Columbus City Schools' students through school-based health services. Your coordination with our school nurses helps to ensure out students have necessary routine care such as well-child visits, immunizations, behavioral health, asthma management, dental services and diabetes management. We are thankful for the continued care and concern that addresses the needs of our students to ensure barriers to attendance are quickly addressed and their health and well-being is prioritized."

— Dr. Angela Chapman, Superintendent, Columbus City Schools

School-Based Behavioral Health Services

Ohio's children and adolescents face a behavioral and mental health crisis.



Approximately 1 in 5 children have a significantly impairing mental disorder, but most aren't getting the care they need. Suicide is now the second leading cause of death for people 15 to 25 years old.

So together with many partners, Nationwide Children's has created the most comprehensive school-based behavioral health services program in the United States, in partnership with the hospital's medical school-based health teams.

Highlights

Individual and Family Therapy. Nationwide Children's has placed masters-level therapists in central Ohio schools to provide year-round treatment for behavioral and mental health diagnoses. In 2022, 1,200 individual students used these services.

Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation. Since 2016, Nationwide Children's has provided free consultation, support and training for more than 20,000 early learning professionals in 17 counties, supported by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

SOS Signs of Suicide[®]. Nationwide Children's has helped implement, for free, this suicide prevention program in 3,741 classrooms in 247 schools since 2015, reaching nearly 80,000 students. Nationwide Children's SOS program includes a depression and suicide screening. SOS has shown a decrease of 40-64% in self-reported suicide attempts by students.

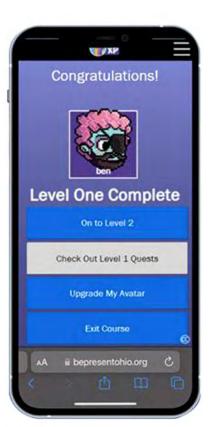
PAX Good Behavior Game® and PAX Tools. Nationwide Children's has helped support implementation of this self-regulation, peer-relationship, and school-climate model for free in nearly 600 classrooms within 40 elementary schools across nine counties in central and southeast Ohio.

On Our Sleeves: Nationwide Children's started the On Our Sleeves Movement For Children's Mental Health to provide free resources to parents, caregivers, educators and more. Nearly 2,400 teacher kits and kindness kits have been sent to Ohio educators, impacting nearly 70,000 students.

Be Present Ohio: The Online Experience. This new video-game inspired program makes suicide prevention education available to schools and communities. It is a joint project of the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation and Nationwide Children's Center for Suicide Prevention and Research, with funding and support from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.







Kindergarten Readiness to Post-High School Prep

Student well-being goes beyond physical and behavioral health. Children who start kindergarten without the learning foundation they need struggle to catch up to their peers; many high school seniors need extra support to begin post-secondary education.

Nationwide Children's has implemented a number of programs, starting before kindergarten, that help youth succeed.



Prevention Partnership's hotline.

Highlights

Literacy Screening in Primary Care. Nationwide Children's is screening 3- and 4-year-old children for school readiness and linking children who may be at-risk to community resources and supports that are designed to prepare young children to start school ready to learn.



1,529 unique patients supported by Kindergarten Readiness Coordinators



1,063 completed
Reading House
screenings



flagged at risk



1,167 referrals to early childhood services



463 confirmed patients linked to services



1,248 at home literacy kits provided

Preschool Expulsion Prevention. Preschoolers are expelled at more than three times the rate of children in grades K-12. To help, Nationwide Children's manages a statewide hotline for Ohio — funded by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services — that connects preschool teachers and child care providers to on-site support to prevent children with challenging behaviors from being expelled. Since 2016, the hotline has responded to more than 3,100 calls.



"The Ohio Preschool Expulsion Prevention Partnership is a one-of-a-kind service that provides rapid response supports for young children in licensed early learning centers statewide. This partnership has been an invaluable service that assists in equipping the adults in the lives of young children to best meet their social emotional needs, ensuring they are not removed from early education programs."

- Misty Cole, MSW, LSW, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Administrator, Ohio Department of Children and Youth

spark. Specially trained educators visit families with young children to help them learn skills they'll need in kindergarten. Ninety-seven percent of children in Nationwide Children's SPARK program test ready for kindergarten.





"Partnering with the Early Childhood Mental Health consultant has increased our capacity to promote nurturing relationships and responsive environments that support the whole child. Over time, our focus has expanded to emphasize the implementation of strategies and tools that support educators in addressing classroom needs."

— Helene Stacho, Coordinator of Early Childhood Services, State Support Team 11



Triple P. The Positive Parenting Program is offered for free to parents in 13 counties in and near central Ohio, through support from the Ohio Children's Trust Fund. Triple P parents build strong, healthy relationships, confidently manage behavior and prevent problems from developing. This program, provided by Nationwide Children's and its network of regional partners, has impacted over 7,500 caregivers since 2018.

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"The Triple P model gives local communities flexibility to customize the types of support that are available, including the free online program, one-time seminars or more involved groups. Parents all over Ohio can connect with an accredited practitioner through our partnership with Nationwide Children's Hospital, ensuring all Ohio communities have a dedicated resource for parenting supports."

- Nicole Sillaman, Executive Director, Ohio Children's Trust Fund

Upward Bound Math and Science.

Focusing on high school students who would be the first in their families to attend college, this program provides tutoring, academic advising, SAT and ACT test prep and other services. Nationwide Children's is the only hospital in the United States with its own UBMS.





Be the One. This initiative at Linden-McKinley STEM Academy serves students who may be at risk for not graduating, often because they have experienced family trauma, homelessness and other adverse childhood experiences. The program has led to increases in graduation rates, fewer suspensions, less frequently missed classes and other successes.

A ZIP Code Shouldn't Determine a Child's Health

The home a child lives in, their access to health care, the economic opportunities available to their families — all have an impact on a child's lifetime trajectory.

That's why Nationwide Children's created the Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families initiative on the South Side of Columbus in 2008 and expanded it to the Linden neighborhood in 2021 after months of listening to the concerns and dreams of Linden residents.



With local government officials, faith-based organizations and many others, Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families has a life-changing impact on the biggest factors that determine overall well-being.

Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families











Economic Development and Workforce Opportunities

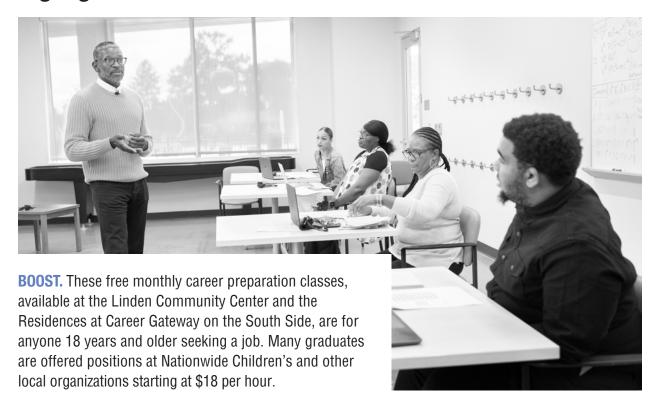
Neighborhood and family health depend on good jobs, living wages and long-term financial stability. So, Nationwide Children's has put a special focus on helping South Side and Linden residents achieve those goals.



More than 2,000 employees hired from South Side and Linden.



Highlights





Summer Youth Employment.

Approximately 100 young people come to Nationwide Children's every summer to learn about health care careers, and to work for eight weeks in a field of their choosing — medical, research, community development and many others. This workforce pipeline often leads to permanent employment for youth who otherwise would have no exposure to health care as a career.

My Bridge 2 Success. Residents of Linden and the South Side who are living near or below the poverty line are linked with a Nationwide Children's mentor to set financial goals and create a path for self-sufficiently. Ultimately, Nationwide Children's helps participants set up bank accounts and provides funds to reach certain crucial goals, such as purchasing vehicles. More than \$50,000 has been matched to help participants find stable housing, pay off debt and create emergency savings accounts.

Health Happens in the Neighborhood

Free Tax Prep Clinics. Nationwide Children's free tax preparation effort is the largest of its kind in the United States run by a health care organization, in partnership with the United Way of Central Ohio.

Since 2020: 1,661 total returns, \$4 million total refunds, \$1.4 million Child Tax Credits, \$978,000 in Earned Income Tax Credits.



Nationwide Children's also worked with United Way of Muskingum, Perry and Morgan Counties to set up VITA Tax Clinics in 2023 through an Ohio Department of Health grant. **These tax clinics helped 350 families file returns resulting in \$387,111 in refunds.**



"The various workforce programs and the amount of growth by Nationwide Children's has brought forth plenty of job opportunities for the inhabitants of this community."

— Kathy Green, Zoning Chair,

Columbus South Side Area Commission and Immediate Past President of Parsons Area Merchants Association

Community Enrichment

A neighborhood should feel like a neighborhood — with meaningful social connections, supportive local resources and welcoming places to gather. Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families strives to nurture all of that and more.

Free Fresh Food. The All People's Fresh Market is now the largest point of free food distribution in Ohio. The Linden Fresh Market, created in 2021 and run by the Community Caring Corporation, includes the Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio.



South Side Neighborhood Leadership Academy and Leadership Linden. These leadership training programs give them the tools to strengthen their communities. More than 100 residents have completed the six-month South Side course since 2015. Leadership Linden launched in January 2024.



PlayStreets and the Linden Fall Festival. PlayStreets events allow attendees to enjoy free food and activities and get to know their neighbors. The 11 events held in 2023 had 2,230 attendees. More than 800 residents attended the Linden Fall Festival, which celebrates all things Linden.



Proud Linden Parent Program. This effort from the Nationwide Children's Linden Primary Care Center brings parents together to talk through their challenges and learn parenting strategies, with an emphasis on issues that are specific to Linden.



Health and Wellness

Beyond school-based health centers, Nationwide Children's operates 14 Primary Care Centers in Franklin County, allowing communities across the area to easily access pediatric care. The hospital also has 25 Close To Home® Centers throughout central Ohio, which include specialty care services like neurology, radiology and outpatient surgery.



"I am pleased with the initiative taken to make our community better for all residents and I look forward to working with the organization in the future and believe there is much more to offer."

— Carol Perkins, Chair, North Linden Area Commission

Highlights

Community Health Workers. Nationwide Children's is implementing a large-scale pilot to embed health care navigators, or coaches, into Primary Care Centers. The navigators are full-time staff members who come from the community and work with families to educate, advocate and connect families to important community resources.

Home Visiting. Since 2006, Nationwide Children's Hospital's Center for Family Safety and Healing has sent specially trained nurses and social workers to visit expectant parents in their homes. These team members then continue with home visits up to the child's second or third birthday. This program serves roughly 1,000 families annually and has recently expanded to four additional counties in southeastern Ohio: Athens, Guernsey, Morgan and Muskingum.



"The challenge for Columbus is how we get better as we get bigger. That takes partners coming together around our greatest needs, like affordable housing and wealth-building opportunities for folks in underserved neighborhoods. Nationwide Children's Hospital's Healthy Homes project does both. I am thrilled the city and others could stack hands to expand it from the South Side to Linden, too. That's The Columbus Way in action."

— Shannon Hardin, President, Columbus City Council



Safety City. With the City of Columbus, Nationwide Children's reintroduced Safety City for the first time in more than 30 years. Safety City teaches kids about bike safety, firearm safety and more, dependent on their neighborhood's most common causes of injury. Behavioral health and nutrition elements are included in the program curriculum, which takes place on the East Side, South Side, Franklinton/Hilltop and Linden areas.



A Good Home Provides a Foundation for a Healthy Life

Too many families struggle to find high-quality places they can afford — or the homes they live in need repairs that they can't perform.

So, housing has been the cornerstone of Nationwide Children's work in neighborhoods since 2008. Healthy Homes is the affordable housing arm of Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families and is a joint effort of Nationwide Children's and Community Development for All People.

Healthy Homes is now the largest children's hospital-backed housing effort in the United States.





800 homes improved

33% lower rent than market rates



44% less in sales price than median Columbus sale















Highlights

Home Repairs. One of Healthy Homes' key efforts since 2008 has been making grants to residents so they can make repairs and continue to enrich their home communities.

Families aren't the only ones who benefit from Healthy Homes' efforts. Karimah Homes, owned by Kevin Bolding, is one of the businesses completing renovations and repairs in Linden — including for a home across the street from Mr. Bolden's childhood church. Healthy Homes and Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families prioritize contracting with minority-owned businesses to improve neighborhoods.

"As a minority business owner, it's wonderful that we can give back to the community, which has needed attention and improvement for so long. I know the long-term benefits of renovating and the upkeep of maintenance on a family's home. To educate and share that information with the Linden community is such a blessing," Mr. Bolding says.





Homeownership. Healthy Homes builds high-quality homes and sells them at below-market rates — the average Healthy Home in Linden cost \$270,000 to develop in 2023 but was sold at \$140,000. An innovative, shared equity model with the Central Ohio Community Land Trust keeps homes affordable for decades into the future.

Rentals. Healthy Homes began work in 2008 focused on homeownership, but residents soon let the partnership know that families also needed more rental options on the South Side and in Linden. Since 2017, Healthy Homes has put an emphasis on developing both single-family rental homes and multifamily units.



"There were many households that needed a facelift, and it has been phenomenal. Nationwide Children's has improved the housing stock greatly. You have also done a great job in keeping the houses affordable and allowing us to keep people in the neighborhood."

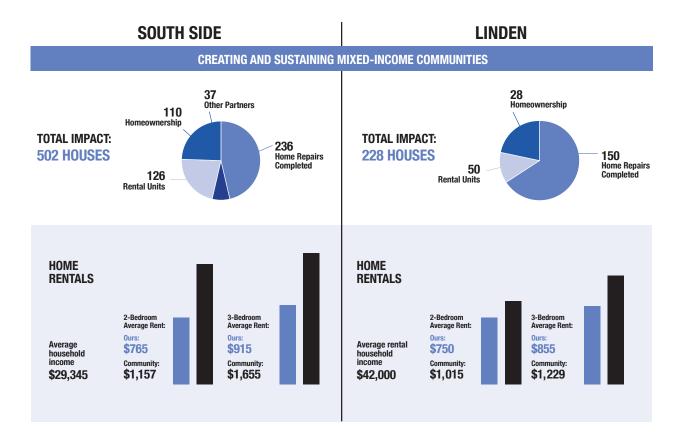
— Lois Ferguson,
Chair, South Linden Area Commission



The Residences at Career Gateway. This 58-unit development on the South Side is intended for individuals and families who make less than the average income, but who are looking for high-quality housing — the maximum income limit for a family of four is \$59,520 in 2024. This facility is also designed for workforce training and is a host of Nationwide Children's BOOST program.



By the Numbers: To Date



Healthy Homes Accomplishments: 2023



\$50 million fund to support long-term affordable rental development in Linden.

56 new families signed leases with Healthy Homes.



4.

\$49,280 of emergency rental assistance provided to 29 households.



80 home repair grants provided to homeowners in South Side and Linden.



\$27.7 million in contracts awarded 35.5% of construction contracts awarded to minority-owned firms.





"Nationwide Children's had already demonstrated its history and connection through the Primary Care Center located at 11th and Cleveland and with housing work demonstrated by Healthy Homes. With that track record and the demonstration of Nationwide Children's being willing to work 'beyond the walls,' it has been a great partnership."

— Adam Troy, Chief Engagement Officer, Community of Caring Development Foundation



"In 2005, Community Development for All People began on a small scale renovating vacant blighted properties to revive the neighborhood and provide quality houses for families. Three years later, Nationwide Children's Hospital joined forces with CD4AP to create Healthy Homes. This dynamic partnership set in motion an amazing trajectory of transforming life on the South Side by steadily improving housing as the primary social determinant of health. Today, hundreds of families have safe, decent, affordable places to call home, while the plague of vacant blighted properties has been eliminated."

- Rev. John Edgar, Founding Executive Director, emeritus, Community Development for All People



"Safe and affordable housing, access to health care, healthy foods, jobs and education all have a profound impact on a child's health. Nationwide Children's is a national leader not only in addressing the unique medical needs of children, but in all of the factors that contribute to children's health outcomes and quality of life. Nationwide Children's leadership, commitment and innovative efforts are building healthier children, families and communities."

— Dr. Mysheika Roberts, Columbus Public Health Commissioner



Learn more at NationwideChildrens.org/HealthyKids

