FACT SHEET: UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland

- UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland (formerly Children’s Hospital & Research Center Oakland) was founded in 1912 by nurse Bertha Wright and social worker Mabel Weed, who both shared a conviction that they could build an institution to provide special care for babies. While much has changed in health care over the past one hundred years, our mission remains constant: no child has ever been turned away because of a family’s inability to pay for services.

- Today, our more than 2,600 staff and 550 physicians care for more than 10,000 inpatients and 250,000 outpatients each year.

- Over 76% of the East Bay pediatricians on the "Best Doctors in America" list work at UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland.

- UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland has experts 43 distinct pediatric specialties, including one of the nation’s leading pediatric cancer treatment centers.

- UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland has the only pediatric hospital-based Federally Qualified Health Center in California, providing outpatient care to underserved children and addressing the social determinants of disease.

- The hospital is one of only two solely designated Level 1 Pediatric Trauma centers in California, and has one of largest pediatric intensive care units in Northern California.

- UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland has a consolidated annual operating budget of more than $500 million. Our total Charity Care and Community Benefit in 2012 was $139 million.

- UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland provides therapeutic intervention and child development services for more than 700 families with infants and young children with developmental, medical, and social-emotional delay

- UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland provides medical care, psychotherapy, and/or social services to approximately 3,000 children who are homeless, in foster care, or with a history of abuse, neglect, or exposure to drugs.

- In addition to our Main Hospital and Outpatient Center Campus in Oakland and adjacent clinics, UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland has 5 satellite locations stretching from Larkspur to Pleasanton. Our emergency department receives patients airlifted from across northern and central California and Nevada. Children’s doctors visit patients in locations as far away as Reno, San Luis Obispo and Eureka.
• The largest pediatric inpatient rehabilitation unit in Northern California.

• UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland Sports Medicine Center for Young Athletes is the first sports medicine program in Northern California to work exclusively with young athletes.

• We established the first not-for-profit sibling donor cord blood bank, leading to children being cured of sickle cell disease and other blood diseases.

• UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland offers the largest and most comprehensive sickle cell and thalassemia program in the Western United States.

• In 2013, UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland was named one of the nation’s “Top Performers on Key Quality Measures” for its asthma care program – one of only seven pediatric hospitals to receive the designation – by the Joint Commission, the leading accreditation agency for U.S. healthcare organizations.

• UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland is a nationally recognized teaching hospital with an outstanding pediatric residency program and a number of unique pediatric subspecialty fellowship programs.

Research at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland

• More than 300 research studies advancing treatment for children.

• Children’s research arm, UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland Research Institute (CHORI), develops treatments and cures using emerging techniques that impact children worldwide.

• CHORI has more 250 staff, a budget of over $40 million, and is ranked among the nation’s top independent research centers for National Institutes of Health funding to children’s hospitals.

• Research at CHORI demonstrated that early diagnosis and treatment of sickle cell anemia decreases mortality and improves the quality of life. This work lead to mandatory screening for sickle cell anemia in all California newborns, and eventually, for newborns in all 50 states.

• CHORI scientists developed a vaccine for meningococcal “B” disease, a cause of meningitis worldwide. CHORI worked also with other researchers to develop a meningococcal “A” vaccine, helping eradicate the disease from sub-Saharan Africa.

• CHORI provided over 85% of the DNA used for the Human Genome Project.