Journey to 1,000 Transplants
Milestones for the Children’s Transplant Program

1980 Kidney Transplant Program established
1990 Liver Transplant Program established
1988 Heart Transplant Program established
1994 TiAna’s Story
TiAna was rushed from the delivery room to Children’s where she received a pacemaker that supported her tiny heart for a few years. At age 3, when heart disease had taken its toll, TiAna underwent a successful heart transplant.

1998 Carina’s Story
Carina was born in New Mexico with a life-threatening liver disease. Carina’s only hope for survival was a liver transplant. Carina’s family relocated to Atlanta, where a unique living donor transplant technique pioneered at Children’s allowed her mom, Anna, to donate part of her liver to Carina.

1998 Georgia’s first pediatric split-liver transplant for two unrelated recipients

1997 Georgia’s first pediatric split-liver transplant
First meso-shunt procedure in the U.S.

1999 First living donor right lobe liver transplant in the U.S.

2000 Three heart transplants in 24 hours
Georgia’s first pediatric ABO-incompatible heart transplant

2003 Sam’s Story
At a checkup when he was 10, Sam started showing signs of kidney failure. Three years later while in surgery, he went into cardiac arrest. Doctors at Children’s saved his life, but a kidney transplant was his only hope. Sam’s aunt, Ginny, proved to be a successful match.

2005 Stanley’s Story
Stanley was born into foster care with postural-thrathral damage—a condition where the valves from the bladder become blocked. He was adopted at age 6 months. His health continued to decline, and doctors suggested a living donor transplant. Both of his adoptive parents were tested, and his new mother was a match.

2008 Georgia’s first Berlin Heart surgery

2008 Yasir’s Story
Shortly after moving from Ethiopia to Atlanta, Yasir, suffering from severe heart failure, was admitted to Children’s. In December 2008, surgeons performed the first pediatric Berlin Heart surgery in Georgia as a bridge to transplant for Yasir. The Berlin Heart functioned as Yasir’s failing heart could not.

2009 300th pediatric liver transplant
1,000th pediatric transplant

2008 Georgia’s first triple organ transplant
400th pediatric kidney transplant

How it all began...