Commitment Statement

Seattle Children’s is guided by its mission to provide hope, care and cures to help every child live the healthiest and most fulfilling life possible. Comprised of hospital, research and foundation, together we deliver superior patient care, identify new discoveries and treatments and raise funds to create better futures for our patients. Our founding promise to the community is as valid today as it was over a century ago: we will care for all children, regardless of the families’ ability to pay.

 Ranked as one of the top children’s hospitals in the country by U.S. News & World Report, Seattle Children’s serves as the pediatric and adolescent academic medical center for Washington, Alaska, Montana and Idaho – the largest region of any children’s hospital in the country. As one of the nation’s top five pediatric research centers, Seattle Children’s Research Institute is internationally recognized for its work in neurosciences, immunology, cancer, infectious disease, injury prevention and much more.

 As a long-time leader and a believer in healthy environments for children and families, Seattle Children’s is aware of the climate impacts of the organization’s operations and has built and launched a sustainability program to minimize that impact. Seattle Children’s is proud of the work already accomplished, especially in climate, waste diversion, alternative transportation and green building.

 Seattle Children’s is working to be carbon neutral by 2025 at the Seattle hospital campus. This drives the organization’s climate work across several areas, including health care delivery, supply chain and infrastructure and education. Both the award-winning transportation program for workforce and expanded telemedicine options for patients have worked to reduce the carbon footprint of our operations due to staff commutes. Efforts to reduce energy usage and electrify are underway as we continually evaluate how we deliver care.

 As a member of the Health Care Climate Council, we are starting work to decarbonize our supply chain, while currently working on decarbonizing Scope 3 indirect emissions including business travel, paper, meat, purchasing, staff commuting and waste reduction. Seattle Children’s sustainability program provides ongoing education, such as Grand Rounds and Earth Day lectures, to nurses, physicians, staff and leadership on the organization’s climate goals, and the journey to get there. Support and essential leadership are also provided by faculty and resident climate champions.

 Seattle Children’s has been recognized by external organizations focused on measuring environmental stewardship and commitment to sustainability. This includes being awarded the Top 25 Environmental Excellence Award by Practice Greenhealth (2015-2020). Additionally, Seattle Children’s was the first hospital in the U.S. to receive Salmon Safe certification for its campus in northeast Seattle in 2017.

 As an organization, Seattle Children’s is steadfast in its commitment to the environment and eager to do even more to build on the foundational programs and efforts underway.