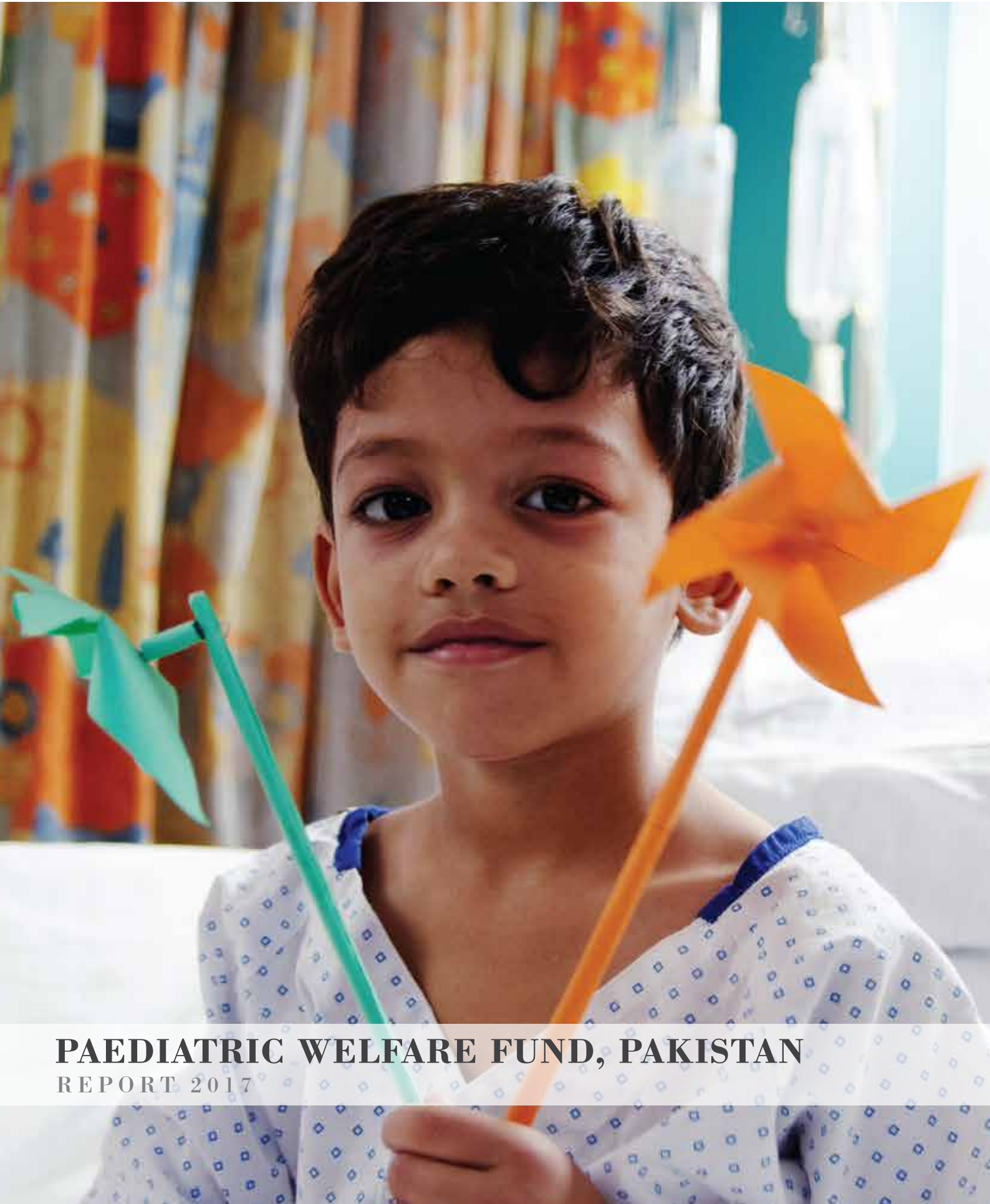




THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY



**PAEDIATRIC WELFARE FUND, PAKISTAN**  
REPORT 2017

## INTRODUCTION

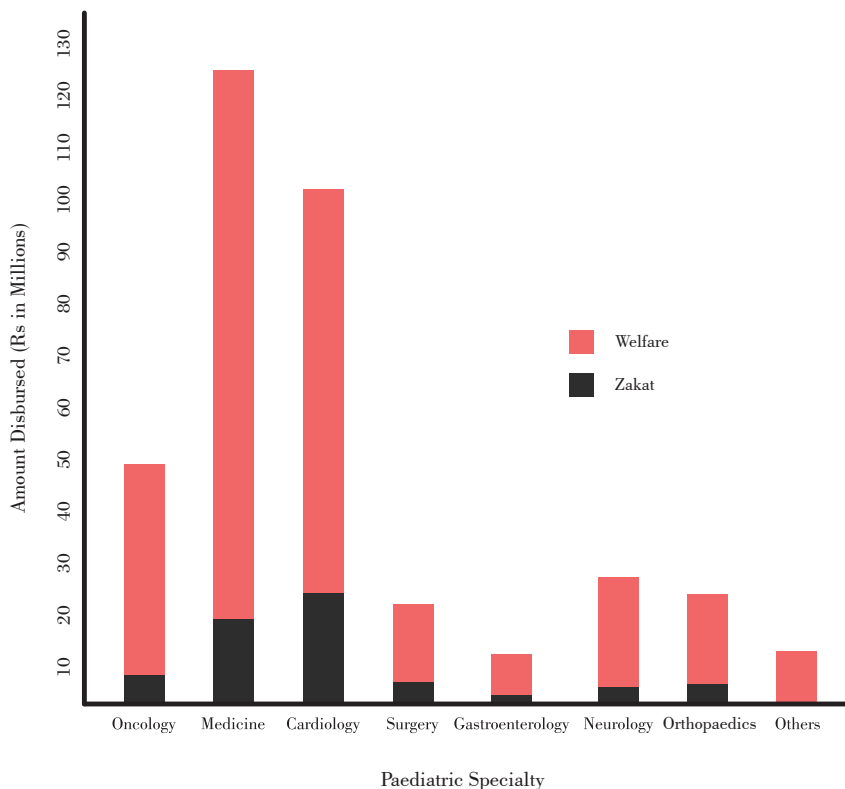
Each day, at the Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH), we deal with families who are unable to afford quality healthcare for their young children. AKUH created the Paediatric Welfare Fund to create hope for such families, and through this programme we save thousands of young lives each year. Depending largely on the support of our donors and philanthropists, and growing each year, this Fund enables us to deliver the latest, highest quality healthcare, to all children who need it, regardless of their ability to pay. We believe that every child has the right to quality healthcare and requires a healthy, nurturing environment.

In Pakistan, over 39 per cent of the population continues to live in poverty, with limited access to healthcare. Most hospitals in the country are understaffed and ill-equipped to diagnose and treat patients appropriately. AKUH is able to diagnose and treat patients that are suffering from complex

conditions; providing comprehensive care that is in line with global standards. It is among the few hospitals in the region that is accredited by the prestigious Joint Commission International - a body that applies rigorous standards for healthcare globally. This gold standard in accreditation evaluates the Hospital's patient policies, technology, facilities, as well as its diagnostic, laboratory and surgery services, to ensure that patients receive the best quality of care possible. Moreover, through its Patient Welfare Programme, AKUH ensures that access to healthcare is equitable, and everyone, regardless of their financial status, receives high quality care.

This year, through the support of our donors and the Hospital's revenue, we disbursed Rs 365 million to support 3,184 paediatric patient visits. We were also able to expand the programme by 25 per cent this year, supporting 16 per cent more children than last year.

## PAEDIATRIC WELFARE DISBURSEMENT



**3,184**  
TOTAL PATIENT VISITS

| PAEDIATRIC SPECIALTY | PATIENT VISITS |
|----------------------|----------------|
| ONCOLOGY             | 1,092          |
| MEDICINE             | 978            |
| CARDIOLOGY           | 367            |
| SURGERY              | 221            |
| GASTROENTEROLOGY     | 141            |
| NEUROLOGY            | 133            |
| ORTHOPAEDICS         | 128            |
| OTHERS               | 124            |

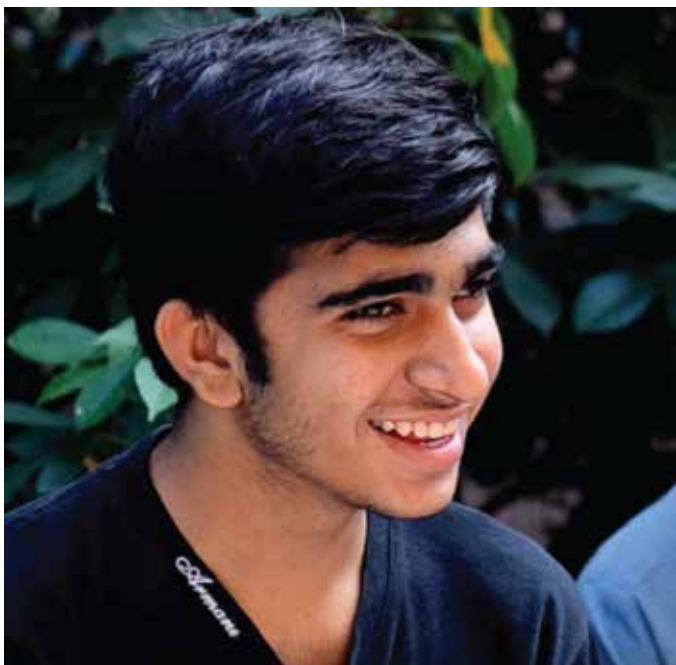


## **GIFT A BEAR, SHOW YOU CARE**

The Gift-a-Bear programme was launched in June 2017, to raise awareness in Pakistan about AKUH's Paediatric Welfare Fund (PWF). The programme began with a focus on Faculty and Staff giving, to inculcate a culture of philanthropy within our own institution. The goal is to expand the Fund across the country, allowing us to reach more patients.

Gift-a-Bear enables donors to help young children admitted at our Hospital by contributing to PWF. With each donation, a sick child at AKUH receives a teddy bear as a gift on behalf of the donor. In 2017, we were able to raise Rs 1.19 million for PWF, and all proceeds supported underserved children on welfare.

## ZAFAR ALI CHANDIO



*"This was a very successful outcome for the family and the medical team; a child whose condition was critical was able to return home a few days after surgery and return to school a few weeks later...the welfare department provided financial assistance, we provided the technical expertise and as a result of this collaboration, the patient is healthy again."*

**Dr Rashid Jooma**  
Neurosurgeon, AKUH

Zafar is the son of a painter and household worker. A hardworking and ambitious teenager, Zafar dreams to become an engineer. One day, while he was on his way back from tuitions on a motorbike, a car collided into his bike. Zafar flung off and crashed into the curb and was severely injured.

As Zafar lay on the ground, suffering from a serious head wound, a few people passing by contacted his family. His family rushed to him, moving him from hospital to hospital with no luck; his condition was too critical for the hospitals to manage.

"My son was in pain and we wanted to save his life, so we finally brought him to Aga Khan University Hospital, although we could not really afford the treatment here," explains Zafar's father.

Zafar was finally brought to AKUH, where he found hope and a chance for recovery. The neurosurgery team immediately assessed the damage to Zafar's brain through x-rays and CT scans, and concluded that they could treat his condition successfully.

Zafar's father was concerned that he would not be able to pay for his treatment, but the staff at AKUH assured him that it would be fine, and he was referred to the Patient Welfare Office. Through the support of the Paediatric Welfare Fund, the family was able to afford high quality, complex care. A surgery was performed to clean the excess clotted blood from Zafar's brain. Soon after, he regained consciousness; the surgery was a complete success. Once his stitches were removed, Zafar was able to go back to being a healthy and active teenager.

**Through the support of donors like you, we are able to provide care to children like Zafar. Thank you for your support!**