Starlight Virtual Reality

Starlight Virtual Reality is a state-of-the-art technology program that delivers happiness to seriously ill kids and families through a variety of games, apps, and other experiences to help distract kids during difficult medical procedures or to help them relax, laugh, and just have fun. It is the first general use VR program for hospitals that includes a customized, thoroughly wipeable, and wireless hospital-ready headset with content that allows patients with limited mobility to sit up or lay down and control their experience using a remote or only their head.

Since 2018, over 1,300 Starlight Virtual Reality headsets have transformed the hospital experience for more than 18,000 children at 300+ healthcare facilities in 48 states.

9,216 reported sessions since 2018*  
1,846 reported hours of play since 2018*

*Numbers collected from Starlight VR headsets actually reporting when connected to the internet.

Starlight Virtual Reality has been a game changer at Children’s Hospital Colorado. Having an all-in-one system designed specifically to be used in a healthcare setting has accelerated adoption by our institution and multiplied by the number of patients exposed to virtual reality. With a diverse library of games and experiences vetted and ready to go, Starlight Virtual Reality is perfect for procedural support, distraction, mindfulness, and even just for fun!”

— Dr. James Thomas, Pediatric Anesthesiologist, Children’s Hospital of Colorado

Play
Virtual reality is a highly interactive experience that engages children through both structured and unstructured activity.

Entertainment
Immersive and stimulating content combats boredom, anxiety, and isolation.

Normalization
Providing activities kids enjoy in their everyday lives helps make an unfamiliar place feel safe and even fun.

Procedural Support
Being immersed in a virtual experience decreases anxiety and stress, making medical procedures less challenging for patients and clinicians.

Emotional Support
The ability for a child to be in control helps reduce anxiety during hospitalization and medical procedures.

Pain Management
Usage can help manage pain and distress associated with a variety of medical procedures by encouraging patients to relax and breathe through the discomfort.

Physical Therapy
Games can provide an opportunity to practice motions that can lead to reports of lower pain levels and an increased range of motion.
Hospital wear is often a source of discomfort for seriously ill children. It leaves them feeling exposed or embarrassed in an already overwhelming situation. The transition from their clothes to hospital gowns is one of the highest stress moments in a child’s hospital journey. Starlight Gowns replace uncomfortable and boring hospital gowns with ones that are comfortable and brightly colored. Plus, they’re specially designed with snaps on the sleeves and ties down the side to provide better coverage for kids and easier access for hospital staff during medical procedures.

—Kelsey Davis, MS, CCLS, John’s Hopkins Children’s Center

When kids receive a cool hospital gown, it changes their whole experience,” Kelsey explained. “I’ve seen parents moved to tears when I hand their child a Starlight Gown and they smile. They didn’t expect their child to smile at all during the hospital visit.

—Kelsey Davis, MS, CCLS, John’s Hopkins Children’s Center

92% of family survey respondents agree or strongly agree that their child feels better about how they look in a Starlight Gown than a traditional hospital gown.

86% of staff report that Starlight Gowns make it easier for medical staff to build rapport with seriously ill children and their families.

87% of staff report that the Starlight Gown’s design makes performing routine tasks easier and more efficiently for medical staff and less stressful for children.

Comfort
Starlight Gowns are softer, provide more coverage, movement, and a better fit than a regular hospital gown.

Socialization
The colorful gowns are a conversation starter with everyone from clinical staff to other patients.

Normalization
Familiar characters and kid-friendly designs remind children of comfortable pajamas from home.

Procedural Support
Clinicians can easily perform routine medical procedures with multiple points of access.

Emotional Support
Choosing an outfit provides an outlet for kids to express emotions and identity through their appearance.
Starlight Gaming

Starlight Gaming stations provide kids with hours of fun and distraction. Powered by Nintendo®, Starlight Gaming stations are designed so they can roll anywhere in the hospital. They are manufactured to meet strict infection safety protocols, and they allow children to play video games or stream their favorite movies and TV shows from the comfort of their hospital bed or in a playroom with a group of kids. Starlight Gaming provides hours of entertainment and a sense of normalcy to hospitalized kids.

—Anthony Scaduto, M.D., Orthopedic Institute for Children

The Starlight Gaming Stations are an incredible and unique tool that helps turn a sick or injured child’s pain, fear and stress into smiles and laughter by providing them with the best in entertainment, education, and one-of-a-kind experiences. We are thrilled and thankful to Starlight Children’s Foundation for this generous gift.

—Anthony Scaduto, M.D., Orthopedic Institute for Children

Since 1992, 7,200 Starlight Gaming Stations have delivered happiness to over 11.6 million children at more than 800 children’s hospitals & pediatric units in all 50 States and Puerto Rico.

The Starlight Gaming Stations are an incredible and unique tool that helps turn a sick or injured child’s pain, fear and stress into smiles and laughter by providing them with the best in entertainment, education, and one-of-a-kind experiences. We are thrilled and thankful to Starlight Children’s Foundation for this generous gift.

—Anthony Scaduto, M.D., Orthopedic Institute for Children

Play
Highly interactive experiences engage children through mastery and achievement.

Entertainment
Playing popular games provides children a much-needed sense of relief and distraction from stressful situations.

Socialization
Gaming gives pediatric patients an opportunity to connect with their siblings, peers, and clinicians.

Normalization
Playing video games provides structure, familiarity, and security during hospitalization.

Emotional Support
Video games redirect a child’s focus, resulting in reduced anxiety and improved mood.

Pain Management
Engaging with games that require user participation leads to less perception of pain at the central brain level.

Physical Therapy
Unique features of the gaming units allow physical therapists to capitalize on their patients’ functional abilities in a fun way.
Starlight Spaces

Since 1990, Starlight has been transforming hospital spaces into state-of-the-art, interactive, and relaxing environments that can be enjoyed by children and their families. Starlight Spaces improve the psycho-social and emotional wellness of hospitalized kids, teens, and their families by providing a treatment-free space for play, social interaction, and meaningful activities. These playrooms, teen lounges, therapy gyms, healing gardens, and playgrounds offer a variety of diversions, including video games, computers, toys, crafts, music, and best of all, the company of other children.

- **Play**: Having a central location for a variety of toys and games allow children to gather and engage in developmental, therapeutic, and medical play for self-expression and experience processing.
- **Entertainment**: The spaces create a positive experience by combating boredom, enriching choice, and reducing isolation.
- **Comfort**: A medical-free zone allows kids to feel a sense of security and ease in an otherwise stressful environment.
- **Socialization**: Patients and families have an opportunity to connect with each other, their visitors, and other families facing similar circumstances.
- **Normalization**: Environments are specially designed to give structure, familiarity, and security to an unfamiliar, overwhelming, and potentially scary place.
- **Emotional Support**: Fear and anxiety around environmental stressors are reduced when children are allowed a medical-free outlet for their emotions.
- **Physical Therapy**: Clinicians capitalize on motivational therapy by encouraging walks to and from the communal space.

Since 2003, over 100 Starlight Spaces have transformed the hospital experience for more than 3.2 million children at more than 90+ children’s hospitals & pediatric units in 27 states.

Starlight will unveil ten Starlight Spaces by the end of 2020.
Starlight Deliveries

Starlight Deliveries sends hundreds of thousands of books, toys, games, arts & crafts, and other items directly to seriously ill and hospitalized kids. Thanks to the generosity of our corporate partners, individual donors, foundations, and other groups and organizations, we’re able to deliver these products at no cost to our network of more than 800 hospitals across the US.

Each Starlight hospital can order exactly what they need, exactly when they need it, and in exactly the amount they want. Our custom, easy-to-use, and secure platform makes it simple and fun to request Starlight Deliveries.

Since 2015, Starlight has shipped almost $13 million in deliveries that have been distributed to over 1.6 million children at more than 700 children’s hospitals & pediatric units in all 50 States and Puerto Rico.

Starlight will continue to expand the product offering on the Starlight Hub so that more and more seriously ill children can enjoy the highest quality items from world-class brands and companies.

Play
Playing with toys has a high therapeutic value and can help children learn and adapt to the hospital setting.

Entertainment
Toys, books, movies, and arts & crafts provide children a sense of relief from stressful situations through enjoyable, relaxing activities.

Normalization
Access to books, toys, and games brings children closer to what is familiar and reconnects them to their home life.

Starlight
delivering happiness