CHARTIS
25 years of believing in better

CASE STUDY

Freestanding children's hospitals in Southern California merge to improve care for children

FEB 12, 2025

https://www.chartis.com/client-results/freestanding-childrens-hospitals-southern-california-merge-improve-care-children

The vision

Nationally recognized leaders in pediatric health, Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) and Rady Children's Hospital San Diego (RCHSD) shared a vision to do more together. Building on a decade-long collaboration, they have united under a combined nonprofit parent organization called Rady Children's Health (RCH) to transform pediatric care, research, and innovation.

Co-creating the solution

CHOC and RCHSD leaders partnered with Chartis and legal advisors to build out their vision. The team identified key strengths and opportunities, then developed the case for a meaningful union. This included designing illustrations of how a merger would uniquely improve access and outcomes; promote health equity; accelerate clinical research and innovation; and attract and develop top talent. This work communicated the proposed merger's impact to leaders and their boards, the community, and federal and state regulators.

Believe in better

Newly formed Rady Children's Health (RCH) is a premier pediatric healthcare system uniting the trusted expertise of CHOC and RCHSD. With three hospitals, a growing network of primary and specialty care centers spanning six counties, and two of the region's Level 1 pediatric trauma centers, RCH is a trusted partner for families seeking safe, high-quality care. Building on a combined legacy of more than 70 years of clinical excellence, RCH is dedicated to advancing children's health through leading-edge research, innovative treatments, and compassionate care.

We are committed to achieving unparalleled excellence in patient care, education, research, and advocacy. Our shared vision puts children and their families first. Our goal is to ensure families have access to the very best practitioners, treatments, and technology available in pediatric medicine.
”

–Kimberly Chavalas Cripe and Patrick Frias, MD, Co-Presidents and CEOs of Rady Children’s Health

Building to better

Impactfully merging two organizations requires:

- **A COMPELLING VISION**
  to jointly create more value for all stakeholders
- **MEANINGFUL, EVIDENCE-BASED STORIES**
  for communities served and regulators
- **ALIGNED LEADERS AND BOARDS**
  to champion the shared vision for better healthcare

Our services

STRATEGIC TRANSFORMATION

PERFORMANCE TRANSFORMATION

DIGITAL & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFORMATION

CHARTIS CENTERS FOR AI & STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE

PAYER TRANSFORMATION

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS & CHANGE MANAGEMENT

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Brian Thygesen
Senior Partner

Rob York
Senior Partner