

Dear Child Life Supporter,

Child life services are an integral part of the pediatric patient experience. No other healthcare professional is solely dedicated to ensuring that children's social, emotional, and developmental needs are met during hospitalization and other healthcare experiences while also providing honest, accurate education and coping support for diagnoses, treatments, and procedures. Child life specialists not only improve the healthcare experience for pediatric patients and their families, they also improve overall efficiencies by increasing pediatric patient compliance and coping, oftentimes reducing the need for anesthesia.^{1, 2, 3}

Your hospital's child life program is already a testament to your commitment to creating a high-quality pediatric patient and family experience. The dedicated professionals on your child life team have pursued specialized education and training experiences in order to qualify for the Certified Child Life Specialist credential. **We'd now like to invite you to build on their dedication by investing in your child life team and the patients and families they serve.**

Child life program membership allows organizations to provide Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP) membership to their entire child life team at once. Through membership, your child life specialists are connected to their colleagues across the country and around the world for learning, sharing best practices, and networking. Like all other professions, the child life field is evolving to meet the changing healthcare landscape – ACLP membership ensures that your team is up to date on all the latest trends and practices within child life and the broader patient experience movement.

In addition to all the benefits for individual members, child life program membership offers some unique advantages. Program membership allows non-child life specialists to join ACLP under the group membership – ideally hospital staff who regularly interact with or supervise child life specialists and would benefit from a deeper understanding of the child life role. Group membership also provides discounts that benefit the entire child life program, such as reduced cost group webinar registration and conference registrations. Ongoing professional development is crucial for your child life team to continue performing at the highest level and maintain their certifications.

Beyond the tangible benefits, hospitals with group memberships also receive recognition as "Child Life Supporters" because of their investment in both their own child life programs and the child life profession and psychosocial care of hospitalized children overall.

I hope you take the time to review the enclosed materials – they contain more details about what you can expect with group membership and how to purchase membership for your child life team. If you have any questions, please reach out to the ACLP Membership Team at membership@childlife.org or 571-483-4500. Thank you for everything you do to improve the health of pediatric patients. I look forward to what we can do together to elevate the pediatric patient experience!

Best,



Jennifer Lipsey
Chief Executive Officer
Association of Child Life Professionals

¹ Durand, D. J., Young, M., Nagy, P., Tekes, A., & Huisman, T. A. (2015). Mandatory child life consultation and its impact on pediatric MRI workflow in an academic medical center. *Journal of the American College of Radiology*, 12(6), 594-598. doi:10.1016/j.jacr.2014.12.015

² Farrell, M. A., Parrish, K., Ziemer, K., Scarlett, W. G., Parker, S., Marin, K. J., Ahmed, M. I. (2013). The effects of child life intervention on reducing pediatric patients' anxiety and increasing cooperation in perioperative settings. *Child Life Focus*, 31(2), 1-8.

³ Grissom, S., Boles, J., Bailey, K., Cantrell, K., Kennedy, A., Sykes, A., & Mandrell, B. N. (2015). Play-based procedural preparation and support intervention for cranial radiation. *Support Care Cancer Supportive Care in Cancer*, 24(6), 2421-2427. doi:10.1007/s00520-015-3040-y