

BEST PLACES TO WORK 2012



MT. WASHINGTON PEDIATRIC HOSPITAL

Location: Baltimore **Employees:** 509 **What they do:** A comprehensive, sub-acute-care facility serving children with special medical and rehabilitative needs. **Why we like them:** The mission is to care for children, many on medical assistance. **Best benefits:** 403b retirement plan with employer contribution; cash balance pension plan; tuition assistance up to \$3,000 per year; free flu shots.

Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital is a small, nonprofit children's hospital located off a quiet, verdant street in one of the city's nicest neighborhoods. From this enclave, the hospital provides rehabilitation and medical care for patients from neonatal to young adult. Many children are from financially disadvantaged families. This is a home away from home for patients. In addition to getting well, children learn to eat, dress themselves, or use a wheelchair. Depending on their length of stay, they can even go to school here.

"People work here because they believe in the cause," explains Dr. Richard Katz, medical director, *pictured below*. "In an acute-care hospital, children come and go quickly. Here, staff get to know them and their families."

"I like that this is a small hospital so you aren't running all over the place," says Diana Silk, a nurse, "and I like that here, we work as a team and support each other."

Absolutely everyone is invested in the well-being of these tiny patients. Darryl Kane is a security guard who started part-time and understands the mission. "I'm really a kid who never grew up," he says. "I like seeing how they treat kids. I can see how they come in and it's rewarding to see how they leave. They come in and aren't even moving and then they walk out of here."

For a small, nonprofit hospital, Mt. Washington Pediatric offers very good benefits. Some of that is thanks to its unique co-ownership by University of Maryland and The Johns Hopkins Hospital. For employees, that means access to affordable health insurance and access to things like education.



"We have enormous competition for staff, so we have to be competitive with our salaries and benefits," says president and CEO Sheldon Stein, acknowledging the crowded marketplace for health-care workers in Baltimore. "We provide an atmosphere for people to work where they can really make a difference in the life of a child and a family."

The hospital will work with your schedule if you have kids of your own, and they've got attractive vacation and sick-leave policies. But if you ask anyone here why they love their job, they'll sound like Fran German, a respiratory therapist: "It's the fulfillment of knowing you've done something to better the life of a child, to help them reach their fullest potential."

PHOTOGRAPHY: CHRISTOPHER MYERS

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