



MWPH HISTORY TIMELINE

1920s

- Happy Hills Convalescent Home for Children, founded by Hortense Kahn Eliasberg in 1921, welcomes its first patients in 1922, on an estate donated by Edward Morris. Happy Hills is soon filled to capacity with 8 boys and 12 girls. The most prevalent medical condition of patients at this time is malnutrition.
- Dr. William H. Welch, of one of the founding physicians of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and School of Public Health, becomes the first chairman of the MWPH Board of Trustees and serves until his death in 1934.
- Happy Hills partners with the Baltimore public school system, which provides a teacher and educational supplies for the children.
- Happy Hills has a continuing relationship with the Thomas Wilson Tuberculosis Sanitarium lasting until the 1930s.

1930s

- Happy Hills purchases the Whitelock estate on West Rogers Avenue in 1930. The property includes a large house and plenty of room for expansion.
- “Happy Hills has met a real need in Baltimore. I prophesy that the future will demand of you still further expansion,” comments Dr. Wilfred H. White, Director of Johns Hopkins Hospital.
- The Happy Hills staff expands in 1934 to three doctors, a dentist, and additional nurses. More than 1,700 children have received care in the first 12 years.
- The Max Strauss Memorial Wing opens in 1938 and houses the cardiac unit, which provides treatment for rheumatic fever and other heart ailments.

1940s

- Happy Hills celebrates its 20th anniversary in 1942. More than 2,700 children have been cared for since the 1922 opening.
- The war years place more demands on the care giving staff. The first volunteer coordinator is hired to recruit help for the nurses.

1950s

- Richard F. Cleveland, eldest son of former U.S. president Grover Cleveland and last founding member of Happy Hills, becomes Board president in 1952.
- More patients are admitted for treatment of polio.
- Happy Hills meets patients’ needs with specialty areas of medicine, therapy, nutrition, education, and recreation. Electrocardiograms and x-rays are introduced.
- Extensive treatment of lead poisoning patients begins.

1960s

- Happy Hills celebrates 40 years in 1962, having provided care for more than 6,000 children. The Baltimore Sun notes “its likeness to a specialty pediatric hospital rather than a convalescent home.”

1970s

- Happy Hills becomes Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital in 1975.
- MWPH is certified by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals in 1979.
- Location at Lake Ashburton in Baltimore opens and provides chronic care until the 1980s.

1980s

- Accreditation awarded by the Center for Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities in 1984. MWPH is the first children’s hospital in Maryland to be accredited for comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation, infant and early childhood development, and respite care.
- MWPH establishes the Home Health Agency in 1985 to bring care to patients in the Baltimore area.
- Construction of the new hospital building, named the Eliasberg Family Building, begins in 1986.
- Construction of the Pediatric Rehabilitation Center completed in 1986.

1990s

- Jack and Mae Rosenberg Center for Outpatient Care opens in 1990. Services include Developmental Education, Orthopedic, Adaptive Seating, and Down Syndrome clinics.
- Sleep Clinic launched in 1996.
- MWPH acquired by North Arundel Hospital in 1996, and a new patient unit opens at Prince George’s Hospital Center near Washington, DC.
- New programs in 1998 include Outpatient Pediatric Pulmonary Clinic, Pediatric Neuropsychology program, and Psychiatric Day Treatment program.

2000s

- Child life becomes a department under Rehabilitation in 2000.
- Sheldon Stein becomes President/CEO in 2001
- Feeding Day program opens for children with eating disorders in 2001.
- Weigh Smart® program is launched in 2005 as a multi-disciplinary and holistic approach to pediatric weight management.
- Center for Pediatric and Adolescent Rehabilitation is renovated in 2006 and offers new innovations in patient services.
- MWPH becomes a joint affiliate of the Johns Hopkins Health System and the University of Maryland Medical System in 2006.
- The in-house Grow Your Own program is launched in 2009 to provide additional education and training in specialty pediatric care to the nursing staff.
- Concussion Clinic and Balance Clinic are launched in 2010. Community Advocacy program begins with funding from the Mt. Washington Pediatric Foundation.
- Center for Neonatal Transitional Care is enlarged in 2012 to meet growing demand. Child-friendly renovated lobby welcomes patients and visitors.

2010 TO PRESENT

- In 2013, MWPH partners with Baltimore City to extend the Jones Falls Trail via an elevated boardwalk along the back of the hospital’s property. The project is completed in 2019.
- In 2015, the hospital hosts an inaugural conference to address pediatric feeding disorders featuring a diverse roster of international experts that includes MWPH clinicians and staff.
- As part of the newly-established Mt. Washington Pediatric Community Health Services, MWPH begins offering rehabilitation services in Harford County in 2016.
- The hospital celebrates the rededication of the Sheila S. and Lawrence C. Pakula Center for Infant Specialty Care in 2018.
- HOPE HEAL GROW: THE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN FOR MT. WASHINGTON PEDIATRIC HOSPITAL begins in 2018, with a goal to raise \$15 million to support capital improvements and innovative programs.
- The Learning Assessment Center begins providing psychoeducational testing in the Mount Washington Village in 2019.
- The expansion of the Rosenberg Outpatient Center is completed in 2021. The facility grows by 50%, allowing for more patient visits, as well as providing telehealth visits.
- The new University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center opens in June 2021 and Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital’s Prince George’s County services and staff relocate to the new state-of-the-art facility.
- In 2021, the hospital celebrates the rededication of the Phyllis C. Meyerhoff Center for Pediatric and Adolescent Rehabilitation.
- A campus sign is erected along I-83 in October of 2021, establishing the hospital’s location and its commitment to the community.
- 2022 marks the Centennial year of the hospital, which is commemorated with special events, staff and patient alumni moments, and the elevation of the hospital in the community.