

Statisticians may not expect their workdays to involve superhero stickers, tiny exam gowns, or physicians who treat enthusiasm as a renewable energy source, but that's exactly what makes children's hospitals such a fun place to work. Pediatricians are full of passion, humor, and an almost legendary determination to save lives. Some dive into research because they lost a kiddo to something like peritonitis and vowed never to let it happen again; others because they saved a kiddo and realized they could save many more if they just knew what worked, and what absolutely didn't. They bring you their questions, their grit, their heartbreak, and their hope, and they actually use what the research tells them. And the ripple effect? Enormous. Your models turn into clinical pathways, your analyses shape policies, and sometimes your little t-test ends up traveling all the way to the White House as part of a policy brief (fun, right?). That's when you realize the work you do has real impact and might change a life - one life, if not many. During this talk, I aim to convince you that children's hospitals are an excellent home for statisticians, where the work can be joyful, meaningful, a little wild, and deeply rewarding.