



## Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Signatures Program

Our January 17, 2018 LEAD Learning Session featured the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Signatures Program. Dr. Giselle Sholler and her team shared the amazing work they are doing for our pediatric cancer patients. Dr. Sholler gave us an in-depth look at how the Signatures Program works for our pediatric cancer patients, shared a few incredible stories of kiddos who have had their lives saved because of the program and gave LEAD members a fantastic behind-the-scenes tour of the lab where this very important work is being done.

The Signatures Program uses “personalized medicine” to analyze the tumor of each patient along with their genomic sequencing to provide the best individualized treatment for children battling cancer. This leads to a better understanding of each child's tumor in order to discover the most accurate and least toxic treatment available.

Another component of this program is the building of a database. The impact of this database allows many types of analysis. These include genomic analysis of particular tumor types, validation of genomic rules using high throughput screening, identification of new pathways important in cancers, and identification of genetically similar patients (“patients like me”) so we can find similar patients based on genomics to make predictions on disease behavior.



Because Signatures is not the standard of care for this difficult diagnosis, it is not reimbursable through insurance. **Signatures is only possible because of philanthropy.** Please consider allocating your LEAD gift for 2018 to the Signatures Program, and help us **reach our goal of \$1.6 million. Your gift will help patients and their families find another path to cancer treatment.**