



# Rare Disease Day

at Nationwide Children's Hospital

**Saturday, February 28, 2026**  
**9 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

**What makes us unique, makes us beautiful.**



**NATIONWIDE  
CHILDREN'S®**

*When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.*

# Rare Disease Day

at Nationwide Children's Hospital

Join us for a morning of fun, friendship and learning at the 2026 Rare Disease Day celebration.

<b>Date</b>	Saturday, February 28, 2026
<b>Time</b>	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
<b>Place</b>	Nationwide Children's Hospital Education Center 575 South 18th St, Columbus, OH 43205
<b>Fee</b>	Free, but registration required.
<b>Audience</b>	Patients, families and those with rare diseases. <b>Separate, fun sessions for kids.</b>
<b>Confirmation</b>	Registrants will receive an email confirmation with driving and parking details.

---

Butterflies can't see their wings.  
They can't see how truly beautiful they are.  
But everyone else can.  
People are like that too.  
– *Author unknown.*



# Agenda

- 8 a.m. Doors Open/Check-in Begins
- 8:30 a.m. Exhibits Open

## Adult Program

- 9 a.m. Welcome
- 9:15 a.m. Decreasing the Diagnostic Journey through Genome Testing  
Tara Wenger, MD, PhD
- 10 a.m. Questions and Answers
- 10:15 a.m. Break and Exhibits
- 10:30 a.m. Parent/Patient Panel  
Moderator: Dawn Allain, MS, CGC
- 11:30 a.m. Questions and Answers
- 12 p.m. Wrap up/Evaluation/Adjourn

## Youth Program

Includes:

Learning how to get DNA from a strawberry, face painting, magician, musical petting zoo, life size operation game, Flying Horse Farms activities, photo booth.

# Keynote Speaker



## ***Tara Wenger, MD, PhD***

*Tara Wenger, became Chief, Genetics, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in the Fall of 2025. Previously she served as an Associate Professor in Genetic Medicine at Seattle Children's Hospital. She obtained both her MD and her PhD from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. She was named one of the top doctors in Pediatric Clinical Genetics for 3 years in a row by Seattle Magazine, is author of multiple publications and a popular speaker.*



## ***Patient Panel Moderator Dawn Allain, MS, CGC***

*The Ohio State University College of Medicine Professor, Clinical Internal Medicine, Director, Genetic Counseling Graduate Program, Associate Director, Division of Human Genetics*



## **Exhibitors as (11/20/2026):**

### **Nationwide Children's Hospital**

- Gene Therapy
- Genetics Clinic
- IGM
- NF1/NF2 Clinics
- Patient Experience
- Rheumatology-Autoinflammatory Clinic and Research
- Williams Clinic

### **Community Exhibitors**

- Children's Tumor Foundation
- Flying Horse Farms
- NORD
- Ohio Parent to Parent (P2P)
- National Scleroderma Foundation
- Students for Rare at OSU
- Vasculitis Foundation

**Registration Form**  
**Rare Disease Day at Nationwide Children's Hospital**  
**February 28, 2026**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_\_

Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Adult \_\_\_\_\_

(Teens may join adults or go to youth sessions)

Teen \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Teen \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

School age child \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

School age child \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Child care \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Child care \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

(children must be potty trained for child care)

Diagnosis of child with rare disease \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mark if you need:**

\_\_\_\_ Gluten free

\_\_\_\_ Dairy free      \_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to**

Community Education

Nationwide Children's Hospital 700 Children's Drive

Columbus, OH 43205

Or register online at [www.nationwidechildrens.org/edu](http://www.nationwidechildrens.org/edu)

FAX: 614-355-0670



**Questions?** Call Community Education at (614) 355-0662 or email  
[RareDiseaseDay@NationwideChildrens.org](mailto:RareDiseaseDay@NationwideChildrens.org).





*When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.*

Nationwide Children's Hospital  
700 Children's Drive  
Columbus, Ohio 43205

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
COLUMBUS, OH  
PERMIT NO. 777