



Rare Disease Day

at Nationwide Children's Hospital

Saturday, March 1, 2025

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 2025 Rare Disease Day celebration.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Date | Saturday, March 1, 2025 |
| Time | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. |
| Place | Nationwide Children's Hospital Education Center 575 South 18th St, Columbus, OH 43205 |
| Fee | Free, but registration required. |
| Audience | Patients, families and those with rare diseases. Separate, fun sessions for kids. |
| Confirmation | Registrants will receive an email confirmation with driving and parking details. |

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Agenda

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

Adult Program

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| 9 a.m. | Welcome National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) Video |
| 9:30 a.m. | Keynote Address Kara Ayers, PhD |
| 10 a.m. | Questions and Answers with Kara Ayers, PhD |
| 10:15 a.m. | Break |
| 10:30 a.m. | Patient Panel Moderator: Elizabeth Varga, MS, CGC, CCRP |
| 11:15 a.m. | Wrap Up |
| 11:30 a.m. | Exhibits |
| 12 p.m. | Program Ends |

Youth Program

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 9 a.m. | Experiment: Getting DNA from a strawberry! |
| 9:30 a.m. | Fun with Flying Horse Farms (songs, games and giggles) Face painting and photo booth too! |

Child care provided for potty-trained children between the ages of three and five.

.....
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.*



Keynote Speaker



Kara Ayers, PhD

Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati. As the Associate Director of the University of Cincinnati Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Dr. Ayers applies her professional knowledge, research experience, and personal perspective to make systemic changes to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Her areas of interest and research include disability policy, parenting with a disability, self-advocacy, psychosocial development with a disability, and disability in the media.



Patient Panel Moderator Elizabeth Varga, MS, CGC, CCRP

Administrative Director Patient and Family Experience at Nationwide Children's Hospital. Liz is a licensed genetic counselor with over 20 years of experience in advocacy, healthcare, research, and industry. In her current role, she provides strategic leadership to develop, implement, and coordinate programs and services that promote positive patient and family experiences.



Exhibitors (as of January 2025):

Nationwide Children's Hospital

- Bone Clinic
- Connecting Families Program
- Genetics Clinic
- Grateful Families Program
- Prader Willi Syndrome Clinic
- Rheumatology Clinic

A Kid Again

Arthritis Foundation

Flying Horse Farms

Prader Willi Syndrome Association. (PWSA)

NORD

National Scleroderma Foundation

Registration Form
Rare Disease Day at Nationwide Children's Hospital
March 1, 2025

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)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime phone (____) _____

Email _____

Please mark if you need:

____ Gluten free snack ____ Vegetarian Snack ____ Vegan Snack

____ Dairy free snack ____ Other _____

Mail to

Community Education

Nationwide Children's Hospital 700 Children's Drive

Columbus, OH 43205

Or register online at [Rare Disease Day 2025](#)

or www.nationwidechildrens.org/edu

FAX: 614-355-0670



Questions? Call Community Education at (614) 355-0662 or email
RareDiseaseDay@NationwideChildrens.org.



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

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