

Dr Charlie Beardmore  
President and Chair  
Penguins Against Cancer

21<sup>st</sup> December 2021

Dear Mr Beardmore and Mr Gush,

On behalf of all the families, staff and volunteers at Richard House, I want to personally echo Anthea's reply and to say a big thank you for the recent donation as a result of our Penguin Waddle. The support has come at the perfect time! The last 18 months have been the hardest of our family's lives, but they would have been so much harder without our nurses, who have continued to deliver services throughout the pandemic.

From the moment the Covid-19 threat reached us, the nurses of Richard House have gone above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that we could continue to deliver palliative care to East London's most unwell children. Our nurses put Richard House families above their own, they put the lives of the children they care for above their own, turning up every single day, even when it was physically exhausting and emotionally draining. As one nurse put it "this is our calling. This is what we have to do".

Without our nurses Richard House simply could not exist. And yet after the toughest time in their career we are now facing the very real prospect of cutting services – leaving families without support and unable to reach those who are desperate for our care.

You have been there for Richard House in our time of need, and I would like to thank you again. This gift will help use through the next few months as we continue to care for those most vulnerable in our community.

The Penguin Waddle is something we are hoping to make an annual event – it would be wonderful to have you join us in person next year!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe New Year,

*Charlie Grey*

**Charlie Grey – Head of Community & Events Fundraising**  
Richard House Children's Hospice | [charlieg@richardhouse.org.uk](mailto:charlieg@richardhouse.org.uk)

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