



# Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital

*Where Children Go to Heal and Grow*

*Est. 1922*

An affiliate of University of Maryland Medical System and Johns Hopkins Medicine

HB1376

Favorable

**To:** The Honorable Heather Bagnall, Chair  
House Health Committee

**From:** Ajoke Ajayi-Akintade, MD, FAAP  
Assistant Medical Director, Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital

**Date:** March 5, 2026

**Re:** HB1376: Maryland Medical Assistance Program, Maryland Children's Health Program, and Health Insurance – Transfers to Special Pediatric Hospitals – Requirements

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My name is Ajoke Ajayi Akintade. I am a Developmental Pediatrician and the Assistant Medical Director at MWPH.

Caring for children who are tracheostomy and ventilator dependent, on peritoneal dialysis for kidney failure, IV nutrition for short gut syndrome, recovering from complex cardiac, genetic and neurological conditions is what we have been doing for over 100 years

We provide individualized medical care that optimizes the child's physical and emotional well-being. We maximize developmental potential during critical growth stages. Our intensive therapies improve function and enhance quality of life

Occupational, physical and speech therapists work on augmenting communication, and promoting gross and fine motor skills. This multidisciplinary approach to care treats the whole child

Child Life therapists work with siblings and parents, provide in-person teachers and community re-entry programs that support successful transition back to home and the society

Accredited by The Joint Commission  
and by Commission on Accreditation  
of Rehabilitation Facilities

[mwph.org](http://mwph.org)

**Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital**  
1708 West Rogers Avenue  
Baltimore, Maryland 21209  
410-578-8600

**Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital  
at UM Capital Region Medical Center**  
901 North Harry S. Truman Drive,  
8th Floor, Largo, Maryland 20774  
240-677-1800 (inpatient)  
240-677-1850 (outpatient)

We empower parents through extensive training in our state-of-the-art Simulation Lab, to take that first step on the bridge to home. We want these children to go home, AND stay home to continue their journey of healing and growth. At Mt Wash, we make miracles happen...on a daily basis

The care we provide does not stop at discharge. Our world class Ability Center provides out-patient rehab therapies to strengthen the gains these children make during their in-patient stay. We also provide hard-to-find primary care for medically complex children.

We are here today to ask for your help to keep these crucial and cost-saving services available to Maryland's children, to ask that fee-for-service Medicaid work with us to make sure the right children are cared for in the right place at the right time, and to do so without unnecessary financial risk to this very special hospital.