

Psi Iota Xi and Riley Hospital

In 1922, Psi Iota Xi was asked to contribute to help establish a children's hospital in honor of Indiana's foremost author, James Whitcomb Riley. Our organization, now 25 years old, was the first women's organization to contribute to Riley, donating \$5000.00 to equip a hospital ward. This pledge was a huge amount of money for the members of our 50 chapters. In 1926, when the hospital was opened and dedicated, our donation was in place and a ward was equipped. Thus began a long history of co-operation between Psi Iota Xi and Indiana's world class Children's Hospital.

1931 saw a \$10,000.00 donation to purchase an oxygen chamber for Riley, bringing oxygen therapy to Indiana. Individual chapters purchased 35 oxygenaires and 25 insufflators for their communities between 1932 and 1936, continuing this important therapy throughout the state.

Over time, Psi Iota Xi continued the association with Riley, donating an Evoked Response Audiometer, establishing a fellow in Speech Pathology at the Indiana University Medical Center Audiology and Speech Clinic, and funding the Riley Audiology and Speech Clinic. Individual chapters continue to assist both Riley Hospital and their own communities, serving children with special speech and hearing needs. In 1982, our sorority began to support the Riley Cochlear Ear Implant Research Team, resulting in major success in the procedure under the leadership of Dr. Richard Miyamoto, upon whom the title of Honorary Conferred Member has been bestowed.

At the 1993 Convention, delegates voted to establish the Psi Iota Xi Professorship in Pediatric Speech and Hearing. This project was completed sometime later, guaranteeing this professorship into the future years.

Our sorority has been rewarded with special recognition for contributions exceeding \$1,000,000.00 to Riley Hospital. Both individuals and chapters have been involved in ongoing support of what has become a source of pride for both Riley and many members of Psi Iota Xi, past and present.