WHY SUPPORT TINY TICKERS?

Thank you for deciding to fundraise for Tiny Tickers in the fight for a better start for tiny hearts. Your fundraising will make a huge difference!

OUR AREAS OF WORK

We’ll help every baby with congenital heart disease in the UK have equal access to the highest quality detection, diagnosis, treatment and care.

1. We will train and support sonographers and other health professionals working to help patients with CHD.

2. We will fund equipment and support new technologies to improve detection, diagnosis and treatment.

3. We will influence service standards and be a voice for patients and families.

4. We will provide families with information, advice and access to support.

Tiny Tickers is a small national charity that works to improve the detection, care and treatment of babies with congenital heart defects. We want every baby with a serious heart condition to have the best chance of survival and quality of life. Founded in 1999 by world-renowned fetal cardiologist Dr Helena Gardiner, she realised many of the babies she was caring for could have been helped earlier.

One in every 125 babies is born with a heart problem but fewer than half of those are spotted during pregnancy. And over 1,000 newborns leave hospitals in the UK every year with no one realising they have a potentially life-threatening heart condition. Babies with undetected heart defects will often fall into the early stages of heart failure. Some will die before anyone realises they have a poorly heart, or before having the surgery that would save them. We want to increase early detection rates of cardiac conditions thus improving a baby’s chances of survival and long-term quality of life.

All the money you raise will help give babies with heart defects a better start in life.
We were followed up constantly throughout the pregnancy and at our next scans doctors confirmed the VSD was getting smaller and the pulmonary artery was now growing at the same rate as the aorta.

At 39 weeks and 5 days, following an induction, Colt was born. They whisked him off after a brief hold immediately after birth and we weren’t able to see him for hours whilst they completed all checks on him.

When we were able to see him, he only needed Prostin and so the keyhole surgery to assist in the blood flow of oxygenated blood was unnecessary. The next day we were transferred to the children’s hospital in Birmingham ready to continue the journey.

Soon after, Colt was taken down for his surgery. It was the longest and worst seven hours of our lives. When we got to see him, he looked so fragile, covered in wires, but fighting all the way.

Less than 24 hours later, his breathing tube was removed, and his oxygen tube was at a low percentage just for a small boost. After 46 hours and at at seven days old, we were transferred back to the ward from PICU.

A few days later all tubes and lines were removed and, when Colt was 13 days old, we were discharged to go home.'

"We have constant check-ups but we know that without Tiny Tickers’ training, we could have had a much worse situation with our baby.'
- Jade, Colt's mum
Celebrate & Donate!

Planning a baby shower

8 - 10 weeks before
Decide on date and venue!
Saturday and Sunday afternoons are the most popular for baby shower but, if you are doing it in your office, any time the boss will let you works!
Are you going to host the shower at your house or at the home of mum-to-be? Consider your budget!

Order your Tiny Tickers materials. Contact fundraising@tinytickers.org and we can send you balloons, leaflets, collection tins and t-shirts! Whatever you need to celebrate in style!

4 - 6 weeks before
Send out your invitations
Use our special Tiny Tickers invitations or you can send free e-invites online.

Plan the food and drink for your guests – remember, it doesn’t have to be elaborate and ask for help!

1 - 2 weeks before
Ring round any guests who haven’t RSVP’d so you know how many to cater for. Organise those who have offered to help with food and games.

On the day
Prepare the food, plates, napkins, cutlery. Decorate the room with your Tiny Tickers balloons and put out collecting tin and leaflets so your guests understand the importance of their support.
Party Games!

Every baby shower needs a game or two - here are some ideas...

**Who's the baby?** Ask guests to bring a photo of themselves as a baby and everyone has to guess who is who.

**Baby bucket list** - Before the shower, decorate a bucket or jar. Ask each guest to write something they wish for the baby.

**Baby food** - Blindfold your guests and get them to try some baby food. Can they guess the flavours?!

**You can't say that!** - At the start of the baby shower, decide on a word that no one is allowed to say (you could choose 'baby' though that would be difficult!) Whoever says the word is out and the last person gets a prize!

**Organise a sweepstake** – how much will baby weigh? How long will it be? What date will it be born? What sex will it be? Guests pay £1 for a guess in each category and donate the proceeds to Tiny Tickers!

**Nappy challenge** - Blindfold your guests and ask them to change a nappy on a doll. The first to do it wins!

**Animal babies** - Find photographs of baby animals and see if your guests know what they are called - did you know that a baby alpaca is called a cria? Or a baby ant is an antling?!
Although the second half of my pregnancy was incredibly hard, we feel phenomenally grateful that Angus was diagnosed antenatally. He was in the best possible hands when he came into this world and needed care most. It is thanks to the work of your charity that this is possible. We know you’ve done training at Peterborough City Hospital and that may be the reason our sonographer decided to get a second opinion. So thank you. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Your work saved his life and we are eternally grateful.’ - Jane, Angus’ mum
Spreading the Word

Social Media
You could create a Facebook event to keep all your guests updated. Tag us @tinytickers or send us your photos and we can shout about your efforts.

Don't forget to Gift Aid!
For all donations collected in a collecting tin, we can claim gift aid on the total amount received, as long as no single donation is over £30. Please advise us when sending in your donations. For any individual donations made on the day - please do remind the donor that we can claim 25% extra if they fill out a gift aid form.

Talk to us!
Facebook: /tinytickers
Twitter: @tinytickers
Instagram: tinytickers
Website: www.tinytickers.org
Thank you!

For helping us give babies with heart conditions a better start!

Tiny Tickers is a small UK charity that aims to improve the detection, care and treatment of serious heart conditions in babies. It is thanks to people like you that we can continue our vital work for tiny hearts. It’s only possible because you care.

There are a number of ways that you can pay in the money you have raised:

1. Do a BACS transfer to our bank account. Please email fundraising@tinytickers.org for our bank details
2. Pay in via the donate button on our website
3. Send a cheque made payable to Tiny Tickers to our address: 76 Chiswick Lane, London, W4 2LA and let us know that it’s on the way!

'Sebastian is now doing brilliantly. If it wasn’t for the sonographer who picked up his heart defect, he probably wouldn’t be here today. I wrote to the sonographer to say thank you. We feel so, so lucky. We’re very aware of how different it could have been. Tiny Tickers’ work is so important.’

- Ruth, Sebastian’s mum