I made a shapeshifter. Then I made a snowflake. I used my mind and paper and pencil and scissors. I was inspired by my imagination.

—10-year-old, WestCoast’s Children’s Community Art Exhibit

We all need inspiration.
To feel that change is possible.

Children traverse the worlds of make-believe and real. And use their superpower – imagination – to become something else: a car, a bird, a dragon. Sometimes they use it to survive.

Shapeshift.

At WestCoast Children’s Clinic, imagination may be a child’s only refuge. Luis makes himself invisible by blinking 3 times when he’s afraid. School is scary so his blinking power comes in handy—especially when he’s on his 5th new school this year. Kayla’s hoodie turns into a wizard’s cloak. She says it’s all she needs, but we know it isn’t. Elena is a superhero planning to break her mom out of the deportation center, if only she knew where it was. And Michael can make a bowl of Cheerios into a 3-course meal for his little sisters.
They all use their imagination to survive.

WestCoast Children’s Clinic provides mental health services and support to over 1,500 kids each year. We help them identify their superpower and develop their minds as their most powerful tool.

We build optimism, guiding exploration through paper, pencil, and scissors—or through dialogue that might be difficult and require a different kind of shapeshifting.

Through our training, public education, research, and advocacy, we remove barriers that make it harder for children to reach their potential.

We train thousands of caregivers and professionals across the country to understand childhood signs of distress and respond earlier so kids suffer less.

We publish groundbreaking research and translate it into action. Our kids aren’t always at the mic. But we are. We change laws and protect their right to grow up with freedom and dignity.

It isn’t magic, but it is transformational. For 40 years you’ve made it possible by believing in what we do.

We are all inspired by the kids who travel universes to come through our doors, to find their superpower.

With your support, we’ve helped over 25,000 kids do just that.

Imagine what we can do next.