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# STEPPING STONES

**Fall 2017**

Midland Children's Rehabilitation Center  
Changing Lives... One Step at a Time

## Meet Samantha!



**Sarah & Samantha Kimbrough**



**Samantha Practicing Tying Her Shoes**

## Using Therapy at Home to Make Greater Progress

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**S**amantha comes to MCRC every Thursday with a smile, ready to work hard for 45 minutes. She's wise beyond her 6 years and doesn't let her monoplegic spastic cerebral palsy define her. Just six months ago, Samantha didn't use her left hand and arm in daily functions, she couldn't even uncurl them. Samantha's mom, Sarah Kimbrough, knew they had to be proactive and started coming to MCRC.

### Did you know?

Children diagnosed with autism generally have better math skills than non-autistic children with the same IQ.

"Her hand would turn in and her whole arm would turn to the center of her body. If she was cold or tired, the more it would curl," said Sarah. "She couldn't put on a sock, couldn't pull up her pants or underwear." Samantha and her mom drive to MCRC from Iraan once a week for occupational therapy. The 45 minutes of therapy per week isn't enough to make big strides, that's why doing "homework" is so important the other six days.

"Sammy has made incredible progress! At first, she hardly used the left side and now she can complete everyday functions for herself using both arms instead of one," said Leigha Foote, Director of Occupational Therapy.

# Using Therapy at Home... cont'd



Leigha Foote, M.O.T., Samantha Kimbrough & intern Julie Whitfield

**"One of the reasons for Samantha's amazing progress is the work put in at home. Carry over at home during the week is pivotal in making big leaps toward success," said Leigha.**

**Thanks to Samantha's hard work during therapy and at home this holiday season she'll have a different experience as she has gained the most mobility she's ever had in her left hand and arm.**

**"We can have any goal we want now and I feel like nothing is beyond her limits; maybe one day she'll be able to ride a bike," said Sarah. "It has given me hope when it has felt very hopeless."**

**As Samantha continues occupational therapy, physical therapy is something Sarah hopes to start soon.**

## Stay Connected with MCRC

### Monthly Gift A Great Way To Help MCRC

The Midland Children's Rehabilitation Center is blessed to have wonderful donors who each year make substantial gifts to assure the children continue to receive the very best therapy services possible. But not everyone is in a position to write a large check once or twice a year, or to purchase a table at the major fund raisers. Why not consider a monthly gift?

Even \$10 or \$25 a month can have a real impact. The donation tab on the MCRC website ([midlandchildrens.org](http://midlandchildrens.org)) will automatically set up a monthly gift, making it very easy for the donor. Just visit our website and go to the donate button at the bottom of our page. It is a simple form with the option for one time or MONTHLY gift. When you sign up for a monthly gift, we will send you a letter confirming our receipt of your pledge. In January of each year we will send you your tax letter showing your total annual donation to the center – which is tax deductible!

Why a monthly gift? Because these are gifts we can count on each and every month. Of course, you can stop the donation at any time, but those monthly gifts add up! If every parent at MCRC made a \$25 a month gift it would provide well over \$100,000 a year to the Center income. Considering we are funded 100% through donations, that is amazing! Additionally, we currently have a matching grant which will match all new dollars up to a grand total of \$20,000. That basically means your monthly gift just got doubled!

Would you be part of our monthly gift group? We call them Champions for Children– and we would love to have you be a part of the group!! Even those who buy a table at our annual events can also give a monthly gift! So why wait– go to the MCRC website now and sign up to be a Champion for Children with your monthly gift.

Thank you in advance– for helping us change lives... one step at a time.

### Mark your Calendars!

November 22-24: Offices Closed for Thanksgiving

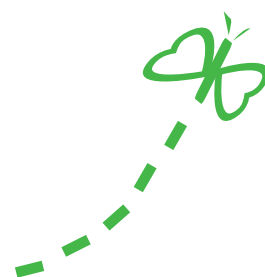
December 5: Dance Recital

December 25-29: Offices Closed for Christmas

January 1: Offices Closed for New Year

February 10: Sweetheart Pancake Breakfast

February 24: Steers and Stars



# Grand Opening!!

*October 24, 2017 marked the grand re-opening of MCRC. With a new expanded waiting room and 1200 sq. feet of additional dedicated therapy space, the Center is poised for the future. Over 150 people attended the event. If you missed the Grand Opening stop in and see all the changes!*

