

STEPPING STONES

Spring 2017

Midland Children's Rehabilitation Center

Changing Lives...One Step at a Time



Meet Kevin!

In this Issue

Calendar Updates
Pancake Breakfast
Board Updates
Sweet Reese
Ways to Give

Did you know?

The average lifetime cost for a person with cerebral palsy totals nearly \$1 million over and above the costs experienced by a person without the disability.

Kevin, age 12, has been attending physical therapy, occupational therapy, and hippotherapy sessions at MCRC since he moved here with his family five years ago. Kevin has cerebral palsy and cannot walk without the use of his walker.

In early January, Kevin did something amazing—Kevin stood up by himself for the first time! When Kevin first began coming to MCRC for treatment, Kevin was very crouched over and he could walk with his walker, but could not change direction. Some of his first goals were sitting independently and standing for one minute.

Now, Kevin walks, changes direction, and he has the strength and ability to hoist himself out of his chair and stand independently for a short amount of time. His posture, balance, strength, and coordination have all improved significantly due to his time in therapy. Kevin has come such a long way in five years! When asked if he knew that he had it within himself to stand up independently, he gave a resounding "Yes!"

Kevin's ability to stand up independently has given him a great amount of autonomy, especially at school. Before, he needed assistance to stand from his chair to use his walker. Now Kevin can sit and stand on his own! We are so proud of how far Kevin has come, and we can't wait to see more big achievements!

Midland
CHILDREN'S
rehabilitation center

Stay Connected with MCRC

2017 Board Members

Board of Directors

Richard Howard
President

Cameron Kelly
Vice President

Apryl McDonald
Treasurer

Amy Lawler
Asst. Treasurer

Stephanie Sirgo
Secretary

John Dean MD
Medical Director

Erin Davis
CSL President

Brooke Mueller
Executive Director

Sophie Counts

Jim Crawford

James Flatt

Jill Ham

Becca Heidelberg

Dallin Holt

Heidi Krueger

Lana Lewis

Adrian Milton

Scott Nelson

Tim O'Reilly

Roy Shrode

Cecily Shull

Diane Wright

Board of Governors

Mikell Abney

B.J. Beal

Laurie Boldrick

Mary Lou Cassidy

Cheryl Cotner

Ferrell Davis

Don Evans

Lyn Ford

Janet Hanson

Jack Harper

Virginia Jones

Shan Moon

Van Pearcy

Douglas Prieto

Chris Renaud

Jay Reynolds

Dean Rucker

Bonnie Squire

Stirling Warren

Dorise Watson

Charles Younger, M.D.

Mark your Calendars!

- April 6—Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- April 8—Spring Riding and Trail Show
- April 14—MCRC closed for Holiday
- April 22—Pumpjack Paradise 2017
- May 6—Basin Bike Fest
- May 29—MCRC closed for Holiday
- July 4—MCRC closed for Holiday

We are pleased to welcome our new board members, who joined us at the start of 2017. We would like to welcome Amy Lawler, Stephanie Sirgo, Dallin Holt, and Tim O'Reilly as incoming members to our 2017 Board of Directors. MCRC is so incredibly grateful for the amazing people who have previously served and who currently serve on our Board. Thank you for all that you do for MCRC!

The MCRC Sweetheart Family Pancake Breakfast



On February 11, we had over 125 community supporters at our first ever Sweetheart Family Pancake Breakfast! We loved seeing our kiddos and their families enjoy big stacks of pancakes and leave with full bellies and smiles! Thank you to all who came, our donors, and a big thank you to our volunteers!



Reaching for the Stars...



An Update on Sweet Reese!

Last Spring, we brought you a story about Reese, who was rapidly meeting milestones in developing her speech and communication skills after coming to the Center with developmental delays. Upon her arrival at MCRC at 19 months old, Reese was not babbling, imitating words or sounds, or using any communication attempt such as signing or gestures.

We are happy to share that one and a half years later, Reese has graduated from speech therapy at MCRC because of her great success. Reese was motivated to communicate when she was placed in different environments, so hippotherapy and aquatic therapy were very effective. Within in a year, Reese went from having 3-5 words to over 1000 words in her vocabulary, from saying 1 word phrases to 3-4 word phrases.

So much of Reese's success had to do with her parents' involvement in her program. Reese's mom Kanji attended two parent education programs hosted here at MCRC: Motor Mouth and Hanen's "It Takes Two to Talk." Kanji really plugged in to what she learned in those classes about communicating with her daughter, so a lot of the therapy continued in the home.



8 Big Ways to Give to MCRC

Include MCRC in your living will or trust

Make MCRC a beneficiary of your retirement account

Make MCRC a beneficiary of your life insurance policy

Set up a charitable remainder annuity trust

Establish a charitable gift annuity

Make a gift of publicly traded equities

Make a gift of minerals or royalties

Make a cash gift

While several corporations and foundations give to Midland Children's Rehabilitation Center, it's everyday individuals who keep the Center afloat. By contributing to MCRC, you are directly impacting the day-to-day lives of children by giving them the opportunity to reach their goals for independence and contribution to the community as adults. You can make an enormous impact by giving in these special ways.

Midland
CHILDREN'S
rehabilitation center

802 VENTURA AVE
MIDLAND, TX 79705

PHONE: 432.498.2053
FAX: 432.682.4478

WWW.MIDLANDCHILDRENS.ORG

VISIT OUR WEBSITE WHERE
YOU CAN GIVE ONLINE.



NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
MIDLAND, TX 79711
PERMIT NO. 73

Save the Date



Spread the word about the Permian Basin's best bike parade and backyard play time at the Basin Bikefest!

Contact Gail Heathington to see how you can be a part of the fun!

- Serve on the Bikefest committee
- Set up a vendor booth at the event
- Sponsor the event
- Donate raffle items

If you or someone you know owns a small, local business, this is a great event to sponsor or make donations to and be involved in a big way!