

MIDLAND CHILDREN'S REHABILITATION CENTER

2023 APRIL

UNLIMITED DANCE COMPANY: TAEKWONDO



Taekwondo was introduced in the summer of 2021 as an addition to the Unlimited Dance Company at MCRC. The martial arts group led by our instructor, Laura Buzbee, has provided both therapeutic and social gains for the boys involved. The group has grown to include six martial artists with different backgrounds and diagnoses from our therapy programs. Taekwondo serves as an additional therapeutic activity for those in one of our therapy programs or for those who have graduated but still benefit from the physical and social interaction. This extracurricular at MCRC has provided an inclusive outlet for boys who may not otherwise be able to participate in traditional martial arts programs.

Taekwondo is a martial art derived from the Korean art of punching and kicking for self-defense. The physical benefits involved in learning taekwondo are many including improving flexibility, balance, posture, strength, motor planning, and endurance. In addition, martial arts can improve mental health by increasing self-esteem, focus, confidence, concentration, and self-discipline. Laura has seen firsthand how the use of this martial art form has benefited the physical, mental, behavioral, and social abilities of each of the participants. Laura shared, "MCRC is an incredible place, and we are fortunate to be able to provide this outlet within a program where students learn to know as well as show their own mental and physical strength and capabilities. They are all strong, competent, kind, and respectful young men and they are learning with every taekwondo lesson how to achieve their goals. We're so proud of our students!"

The martial artists in the group recently earned their yellow belts after mastering the tasks in their belt test. Each of the boys involved has seen a direct benefit from the program, but one has shown remarkable progress.



CONTINUED INSIDE...



"Each of the students in our taekwondo program has shown such strength and growth in so many ways, and I feel very honored and humbled to be part of such a unique and forward-thinking program." - Taekwondo Instructor, Laura Buzbee

VISIT MIDLANDCHILDRENS.ORG FOR
MCRC MISSION MOMENTS!

PUMPJACK PARADISE



Pumpjack Paradise was held on March 4th, 2023. The day began with the Montie Watson Memorial Golf Tournament at the Midland Country Club and was followed by an evening party.

The theme was "Come fly with me, let's fly, let's fly away." The evening featured dinner, a program, and live and silent auctions. The live auction included unique packages such as a VIP trip to Vegas and Sunday tickets to the Masters in Augusta. The event supported several vendors including catering from Midland Meat Company Half-Acre, Hops and Bubbles, and the Current Nine band. We were thrilled to also have Epic Western Cocktail Co. and photography by Melanie Julian.



We would like to thank the generous underwriters, sponsors, committee members, vendors, and attendees for making this event a soaring success! A special thanks to our presenting and premier underwriters: Anonymous Donor, ConocoPhillips, Permian Resources, and Cliffy and BJ Beal.

If you are interested in attending a future event, please visit our website, contact Cecelia at 432-498-2053, or by email at cgoebel@midlandchildrens.org

PUMPJACK PARADISE 2023 COMMITTEE



Pictured left to right: John M. Hillman, Jr., Addie Hillman, Cecelia Goebel, Trey Fuqua, Katie McPherrren, Liz Hutt, Molly O'Donnel, Callie Fuqua, Bonnie Strickling, Chris Blonkvist.

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

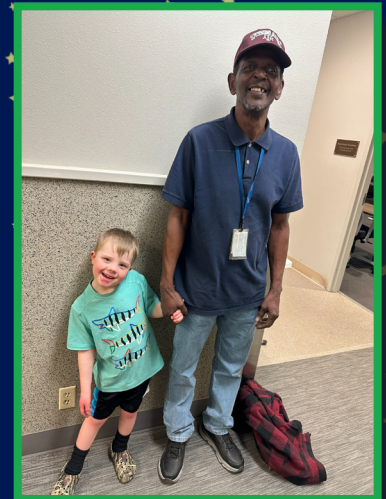
Beverly has been a devoted volunteer in our Unlimited Dance Program since 2021. She has consistently been teaching dance every Tuesday evening while in school and working. Beverly has a background in dance and has brought her love for dance to the girls in our program. Her energy and knowledge of dance brings the right amount of challenge to the program that allows the girls to continue to grow and advance to new heights. Unlimited Dance Co. coordinator, Jessica Neves shared, “she is not only willing to take on any challenge we throw at her but she thanks us for allowing her to help! Beverly is just so kind and patient with the kids, and they love her.” We are so fortunate to have her as a volunteer at MCRC, thank you, Beverly, for your dedication to our mission!



FROM THE HEART



The McKee family has served MCRC's maintenance and housekeeping needs since the center's inception. Elnora McKee began working at the center in the 1960s and retired in 2016 and another family member followed suit. Elnora's son, Jasper, recently retired after serving the center for 20 years. They both worked hard to ensure that the building was in the best condition for the children to do therapy. Their family has shown dedication and love for the center and we are grateful for their many years of service!



CONTINUED FROM FRONT...



LJ, who began therapy at MCRC in 2015 to address socialization skills important to his diagnosis, has continued to grow because of his time in taekwondo. Laura shared, “He has increased in his confidence, the martial art form has just come naturally to him. I can see that he has learned respect and important social skills from being in the group.”

We are proud that we are able to provide this inclusive program at MCRC thanks to the generosity of our community. We hope to see many more successes like LJ's because of this program.

<COMPANY NAME>
<SALUTATION>
<ADDRESS>
<CITY>, <STATE> <ZIP>

HELP US FULFILL OUR THERAPY PROGRAM'S WISH LISTS!



SCAN THE QR CODE USING THE CAMERA ON YOUR PHONE TO VIEW THE LIST AND SUPPORT OUR THERAPY PROGRAMS BY PURCHASING WISH-LIST ITEMS!

WISH-LIST ITEMS INCLUDE:

- SADDLES FOR HIPPO THERAPY
- A WHEELCHAIR FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY
- A DESK FOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
- DRY ERASE BOARDS FOR DYSLEXIA
- GAMES AND PUZZLES FOR SPEECH THERAPY