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# BASIN BIKEFEST

MIDLAND CHILDREN'S REHABILITATION CENTER

Presented by:



Thanks to our sponsors: SM Energy, Encana Oil, Jim Brimer, M&T, Children's Dental Center, Graham Pharmacy, Texas Country Eye Care

*Parents' Note: If your child is currently enrolled in therapy, please keep attendance at 85%. If you are planning a vacation and miss 3 consecutive weeks or more, your therapy slot will not be held for you.*

Register at [www.midlandchildrens.org](http://www.midlandchildrens.org) or stop by MCRC.

Call us for more information

# STEPPING STONES

Spring 2018

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

## Meet Julian!



Midland  
**CHILDREN'S**  
rehabilitation center



## Taking Smart Steps to Walking

For most of us walking across the room is pretty easy to do. It's something that hasn't come as easy for Julian, but he's worked hard to get where he is now.

Julian has a diagnosis of arthrogryposis with clubbed feet. However, he's mostly known for how smart he is.

MCRC Executive Director, Brooke Mueller, P.T., M.Ed., has been seeing Julian for therapy for almost three years, since before he was a year old.

When Julian started therapy he had very little movement in his elbows and knees, didn't have any muscle strength in his shoulders and moved around by scooting on the floor.

After having surgery on his feet, Julian is wearing specialized braces to help keep his ankles at a 90-degree angle and hold his feet in a healthy position, until they heal. With the help of physical therapy, Julian is walking. What helped jump-start his progress, was his intelligence.

"Oh, he's so bright, so perceptive. I would show him how to do something or I would take him through a motion and he would pick it up in a heartbeat," said Brooke. "He has great muscle memory and he's a very precocious little boy."

Just a couple months ago, Julian was primarily using a walker. Now his walker only comes out when he is in crowded, unfamiliar places. After having surgery on both of his elbows and wrists, the next step, is learning how to incorporate the new movement of his arms into walking.

"It's all a part of our movement as human beings," said Brooke. "Using our arms to help shift our weight or to help us with that balance as we walk."

Julian has made impressive headway being put on an intensive program, adding occupational, aquatic and hippotherapy while keeping his traditional physical therapy treatment. Brooke attributes a lot of Julian's success to his mother.

"Mom carries through just about everything we do during therapy," said Brooke. "She's so smart and really understands how to work out his body at home, making sure he's always getting stronger."

Julian's family is excited to see how much more progress he will make before he starts school in the Fall.

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### Did you know?

By the first grade,  
roughly 5% of  
children have  
noticeable speech  
disorders

# Spring Trail & Riding Show



Thank you for making our Spring Trail & Riding Show a success! Children in Therapeutic Riding got to show off their skills in front of their families. Some led their horses, many went for a ride and even showed us some special skills, like doing a full 360 in a box. Keep up the great job!



# Honoring Our Volunteers



All of our successes wouldn't be possible without the precious time of our volunteers. MCRC volunteers are active with equine therapy, fundraisers, therapeutic dance and much more. Thank you to everyone who has given their time!



# Make a big impact! There's more than one way to give!

Without a doubt, donations are what keep MCRC going. We are funded 100% from foundations, individual and corporate donations, and our fundraising events. But sometimes a donation can come in forms other than a check. With recent changes to the charitable tax deductions, you might be looking for some new or additional ways to support MCRC.

A legacy gift, a gift made through your will, is a wonderful way to give a gift to MCRC, or other nonprofit organizations you support. Your financial or legal advisor can help you with this. The gift can be made as a specific dollar amount, a percentage, or other options. There are many ways to design a bequest in order to best meet family priorities and your charitable objectives.

Did you know you can make a gift to MCRC and save capital gain taxes by giving appreciated securities (owned for more than one year)? Or perhaps you would name MCRC as the beneficiary of your retirement plan. While loved ones are subject to paying income tax on retirement-plan gifts they receive, charities are not. For folks over the age of 70 ½ who have not yet taken the required distribution from their IRA, you can make a direct tax-free transfer to a charity.

Gifts of stocks or royalties are another option with potential tax benefits for you.

Your financial and legal advisors are your best resource when trying to decide what will best suit your individual situation, but it is great to know there are so many different ways to support our community. If you have already named MCRC, we would love to know. It helps us assure we have the proper documentation ready.

Regardless of the type of donation you make to MCRC, know it is appreciated and the funds are utilized to provide the greatest possible amount of therapy to the children we serve. Every gift makes a difference in a child's life – and their entire family.

# Unsung Heros, thank you!

Every contribution to MCRC is an integral part of keeping our mission and vision alive. Each of you are so important to our community, our staff and of course, the children we serve.

This season we'd like to say a special thank you to Pee Wee Dalton's boots and Hilliard Office Solutions.

