

# STEPPING STONES

Midland Children's Rehabilitation Center

## Changing Lives...One Step at A Time



**Did you know?**

in 1977 the first aquatic therapy session was performed at MCRC!

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Spring 2016**

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TAKE THE MONEY &  
**RUN!**

Midland Children's Rehabilitation Center

## Meet Sweet Reese!

Reese, twenty-two months old, began speech therapy at MCRC in May 2015. She came to MCRC with a speech delay, she was not babbling, imitating words or sounds, or using any communication attempt (sign, gestures, verbalizations) because of developmental delays. During her therapy sessions, Reese works on labeling pictures, increasing her vocabulary and putting two words together.

Now, Reese can sign "please" and "More" in order to interact and make requests at home and during therapy sessions! She had also gained ten vocabulary words! Her expressive language is continuing to emerge quickly. She can interact appropriately with her therapist. Way to go, Reese!

Her favorite therapy is aquatic and hippotherapy with her Speech Therapist. During her aquatics session she loves to play with bubbles and saying "1-2-3...GO!" She has made so many of her milestones in the past year, and will continue to become stronger in her words each week.

See back for Save the Date and event info!

Midland  
**CHILDREN'S**  
rehabilitation center

**60**  
ANNIVERSARY  
1956 2016

# Stay Connected with MCRC

## Mark your Calendars!

- May 14: Bikefest
- June 9: Life Balance Seminar
- June 27- July 14: Camp
- July 4: Closed for Holiday
- September 22: TMR 60th Anniversary Celebration

Join us for our annual Basin Bikefest event Saturday, May 14th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Basin Bikefest is a fun-filled family event! The morning starts with a parade through Opportunity Park and is followed by races and other competitions. But that is just a small part of it! In the backyard you will find games of all kinds, face painting, clowns, balloon art and the best petting zoo in Texas!

The \$10 registration fee gets you access to all the activities. Parents and kids 2 and under are free. It's the best entertainment deal in the Basin.

YES – you can register the day of the event – still the same \$10 however your child will not get the free t-shirt.



## Life Balance for Families with a Special Needs Child

A seminar geared toward parents facing the daily challenges of raising a special needs child or children.

Led by Doctoral Student

**Tiffany Stange**

**Thursday, June 9**

**6:00 - 8:30 pm**

**MCRC - 802 Ventura - Midland**

- Factors causing stress in the family
- Coping Mechanism
- Available support systems
- What a balanced life style looks like
- Resources

**\$15 per family includes handouts and snacks**

Presented by

Midland **CHILDREN'S** rehabilitation center

and

**CSL**  
CHILDREN'S SERVICE LEAGUE

REGISTER AT  
**MIDLANDCHILDRENS.ORG**



Hasel is having a BLAST dancing with her Physical Therapist, Elizabeth! Who says therapy can't be fun, too?!

# Steers & Stars Donations at work...

## Deciphering Dysphagia with Ampcare's Effective Swallowing Protocol

Continued Education Course Funded through Steers & Stars



On April 20th 2016, MCRC hosted a certification course for Speech Language Pathologists and Occupational Therapists. The course was entitled "Deciphering Dysphagia with Ampcare's Effective Swallowing Protocol (ESP). Seven Speech Language Pathologists including 4 from MCRC attended as well as 2 Occupational Therapists from MCRC. Rick McAdoo, MS CCC/SLP traveled from DFW to teach the certification course. A generous MCRC donor purchased the Ampcare ESP to use with the children at MCRC that experience dysphagia or other facial weakness. MCRC therapists look forward to using the ESP in the treatment of Dysphagia.

"As a speech therapist, I was so excited to become certified in Ampcare and learn about the benefits it could bring to children we serve here at MCRC. Ampcare is a tool that we will be able to use with not only our patients with dysphagia, but also our patients with severe motor speech deficits. Our hope is that by strengthening the muscles of the swallowing mechanism, we will help many of our kids transition to age appropriate diets."

*Juliana Wright, M.S, CCC-SLP*

## Hippotherapy Updates...

The Hippotherapy team was excited to receive funding from Steers & Stars for a sound system within the arena!

**Why is a sound system in equine therapy sessions helpful?** It helps children follow directions and work on listening skills, not only will it add a fun atmosphere, it will be a distraction for a child who is having a hard time with their tasks.

From a sensory standpoint, stimulating the auditory sense along with the vestibular/proprioceptive and tactile just creates an increased multisensory experience. It can be calming for those children who are struggling with sensory defensiveness but can also be used to increase attention to tasks. It can be used for activities that require the rider to listen for the music to stop and start (similar to a red light, green light type game).



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Online donations now available  
on our website.

TAKE THE MONEY &  
**RUN!**

Midland Children's Rehabilitation Center

A special encore event in honor of our

**60th Anniversary!**

*invitations to follow*

*save the date*  
**Thursday**  
**September 22, 2016**



For more information

Gail Heathington 432-498-2053 or [gheathington@midlandchildrens.org](mailto:gheathington@midlandchildrens.org)