



Geisinger Health System Foundation
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Spring 2011

miracles

A newsletter for supporters of Children's Miracle Network at Geisinger

Inside:

2011 Miracle Kids • Care for moms, babies • New option for MRI • AEDs added • Goodbye to a friend • Make your donation



Double doses

They are twins. Friends. Siblings. And their stories are multi-layered.

Many of the Miracle stories you will see and hear this year involve not just one child's battle, but two struggles — each with their own challenges and victories. They remind us that every child is different, but each deserves a chance at a healthy future.

*2011 Miracle Kids
Evan and Alex*

How do we look?

Most of you probably have seen our new logo, which incorporates the updated branding efforts of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals — the national organization with 170 member hospitals, including Geisinger's Janet Weis Children's Hospital.

The new look debuted in January. Since then, we have started to phase out the prior Children's Miracle Network logo, the balloon image that many of you are familiar with. We will continue to make the transition in the upcoming months. But even though our look has changed, our commitment to help local kids remains the

GEISINGER

 Janet Weis
Children's Hospital®

 Children's
Miracle Network Hospitals

same, and — as always — the funds we raise stay in our region to help those kids.

What do you think of the new look?

Let us know your thoughts. Send an e-mail message to childrensmiraclenetwork@geisinger.edu.

Good-bye to a dear friend

We all were saddened by the passing of Janet Weis in January. Mrs. Weis, for whom the children's hospital is named, was a champion for children's healthcare and supported many worthy causes throughout our region.

"Her legacy will live on in the thousands of area children who receive the most advanced and compassionate care at the nation's first rural children's hospital," said Glenn Steele Jr., MD, PhD, President and CEO of Geisinger Health System. "The Geisinger family is truly saddened by her passing."



Your Children's Miracle Network donations at work...



Specialized care for moms, babies

When mothers and their babies need specialized treatment before and during birth, the Center for Prenatal Pediatrics team at Geisinger is ready. In large part, that is thanks to Children's Miracle Network donors, whose generous donations allowed the program to launch and grow.

Coordinated by a licensed social worker and including an obstetrician, a neonatologist, a Childbirth Center representative, pastoral care and any necessary pediatric specialists (cardiologists and gastroenterologists, for example), the Center for Prenatal Pediatrics offers the most effective and personalized care.

Thank you for bringing this important service to our area through your gifts.

New option for MRI

Critically ill babies and young children regularly need specialized testing such as MRIs, and many of them also need life-saving ventilation. But often, the ventilators that are helping them breathe are not compatible with testing equipment.

You've helped to solve that problem, however. Donations to Children's Miracle Network at Geisinger allowed Respiratory Care Services to recently add an MRI-safe ventilator system for infants and other pediatric patients. Thank you!

Life-saving equipment in outreach offices

No one wants to be caught in an emergency situation without life-saving equipment. That's why Children's Miracle Network funds were approved for Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in the Janet Weis Children's Hospital Pediatric Outreach offices throughout the region, from East Stroudsburg to Altoona.

AEDs assess heart rhythm and administer shocks when necessary. They have proven beneficial in many public places, and now, thanks to Children's Miracle Network donors, these devices will be available in case of sudden, serious heart issues among our pediatric patients.

For more information about Children's Miracle Network at Geisinger funding — how your generosity makes a difference for local children — visit us online at geisinger.org/cmnl/funded.

Amazing kids ... with amazing stories

They may sound unbelievable, but these are true stories of kids from right here in our region — the 2011 Miracle Kids. We'll bring their full stories to you as part of this year's Celebration Weekend. For a sneak peek, read on.

Miracle Kids who will be featured on the WYOU (Wilkes-Barre) broadcast are

Tanner, 5, Selinsgrove

Tanner was pale and listless when he was born, and immediately needed advanced care. A variety of treatments helped him overcome many obstacles, including an inability to feed and seizures. *Your donations provided NICU equipment that Tanner and many other children have benefited from, including*

monitors, ventilators and medication pumps.

Kaylana, 6, Throop

Kaylana had been deaf in one ear for a year with seemingly no cause. After tests revealed a rare brain malformation, Kaylana underwent surgery and immediately regained her hearing. *Children's Miracle Network funded surgical equipment to help children like Kaylana, as well as TVs and DVD players in each inpatient room.*

Ashlyn, 6, Olyphant

Ashlyn needed extensive treatment after a rare – nearly unbelievable – sled-riding accident that caused injury to her brain and eye. She went home after only five days and made a complete recovery. *Gifts to Children's Miracle Network at Geisinger brought recliners to the PICU rooms and provided monitoring equipment to help children like Ashlyn.*

Sienna, 3, Mahanoy City

Sienna was only 2 months old when a tumor was found in her abdomen. Chemotherapy and surgery, including the removal of her right kidney, eliminated the cancerous mass. *Both the Janet Weis Children's Hospital Oncology depart-*



Geisinger-Pottsville Pediatrician
Dr. Pat Kane with 2011
Miracle Kid Sienna

For more information about all of the 2011 Miracle Kids, visit geisinger.org/cmnm and tune in to the Celebration broadcasts June 1 on WBNG, and June 4 and 5 on WYOU and WTAJ.

ment and Geisinger-Pottsville have received Children's Miracle Network funds for equipment to help kids like Sienna.

Evan and Alexander, 5, Scranton

Evan and Alexander were born more than three months early and faced significant medical challenges. After 82 days in the neonatal intensive care unit, the brothers finally were able to go home. *Donations have added equipment that Evan, Alexander and many other children have benefited from, including Life Flight® isolettes and an oscillator in the NICU.*

Ross, 17, and Alex, 18, Danville

Ross and Alex were in a head-on car crash that left them with extensive injuries. Both required lengthy hospital stays and thorough rehabilitation. *Equipment such as transport monitors and even bedside tables were made possible through Children's Miracle Network funds, helping critically injured kids like Ross and Alex.*

Miracle Kids who will be featured on the WTAJ (Altoona) broadcast are:

Caleb, 2, and Liam, infant, State College

Both Caleb and Liam were born early and battled through a number of difficulties related to prematurity. The family feared the

worst — and had faced the worst two times before. *Your gifts allowed the NICU to add equipment that Caleb, Liam and many other children have benefited from, including infant warmers and neonatal cribs.*

Alicia, 11, and Jeffrey, 15, Beech Creek
Alicia and Jeffrey both faced kidney transplants — but each waged a battle at different times and had individualized, unique needs and complications. *Children's Miracle Network funds provided medical equipment to help doctors treat kids like Alicia and Jeffrey, and help to fund Camp Kydnie, a specialized summer camp designed for kids with kidney disease.*



2011 Miracle Kids Ashlyn (left) and Tanner (right)

Contact us

CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK AT GEISINGER
100 N. Academy Ave., Danville, PA 17822-5020
570.271.6188 / 1.800.322.KIDS
geisinger.org/cmnm

Help make miracles happen

Enclosed, please find my donation of:

\$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

\$12x12 (credit card only; \$12 per month for 12 months)

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Phone _____ E-mail _____

Payment: Check/money order (*payable to "Geisinger Health System Foundation"*)

MasterCard Visa Discover Am. Express

Account number _____

Exp. date _____ Signature _____

Please send completed form with payment to:

Children's Miracle Network at Geisinger
100 N. Academy Ave. MC 50-20
Danville, PA 17822-5020

*Want to make your donation in honor of or memory of someone special?
Visit geisinger.org/cmn to print out a donation form or make your gift online.*

Charitable organizations that solicit contributions are required by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to provide the following statement: "A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement." You may obtain a copy of the Geisinger Foundation's financial report by contacting either Geisinger, Tax Department, 100 N. Academy Ave., Danville, PA 17822-3023 or the NY Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271-0332.

M-0511

Ready to celebrate?

Celebration Weekend is June 3-5

Join in the fun and help make miracles happen!

Your favorite events are back for Celebration Weekend 2011, including the Motorcycle Miracle Tour, Breakfast Buffet, Miracle 5K Walk/Run, Miracle Fest, Bids for Kids Celebration Auction and more! Visit our online events calendar at

geisinger.org/cmn for the complete list of Celebration Weekend activities. You also can look there for printable registration forms — or even submit your contribution through our secure online donation form, any time, day or night. (You don't need to wait until Celebration Weekend!)

And don't forget to watch your local Celebration broadcast June 1 on WBNG, and June 4 and 5 on WYOU and WTAJ.

Thank you for your continued support!