

October 5, 2023

The Shrine Vine



5th Annual Shriners Children's Charity Cup Scores Big for Our Kids

Team Shriners took back the Charity Cup trophy with a 42-24 win over Team Highmark Health in the 5th annual Shriners Children's Charity Cup that took place Saturday, September 23 at LECOM Sports Park. This year's signature fundraising event featured over 220 participants playing nine games of hockey to determine the champion. As we know, the real champions are all the additional kids who will benefit from the care they receive at Shriners Children's Erie, thanks to the **\$40,241** raised!

A special thanks to all the MVPs who volunteered their time! An event such as this cannot happen without the help of volunteers. Thank you to: Jon Albert, Lorrie Baney, Ryan Berndt, Rebecca Bowman, Michelle DeRooy (and family), Laurie Hudson, Julie Kohler and Darren Mackowski. Thank you as well to our Board of Governor's Vice Chairman, Mike Kerns, who volunteered for the duration of the event, patient ambassadors Jessica Molczan and Henry Moss, and to the staff of MacDonald, Illig, Jones & Britton, LLP for sending additional volunteers.

This year's event awards went to:

- Top Fundraiser - Eric Lewkowicz - \$3,140
- Event MVP - Howard Merritt, Shriners Children's Erie Board of Governors
- Volunteer MVP - Kayla Fatica - MacDonald, Illig, Jones & Britton, LLP
- Top Team - Penalty Box Brawlers - \$4,789

Happy Birthday

Darren Mackowski - October 1
Lorrie Baney - October 6
Lynne' Weyand - October 14
Jim Merva - October 17
Lizzie Wyant - October 19
Jeremy Evans - October 28



Open Enrollment

Open enrollment will take place November 1-22. More information to follow.



Trunk or Treat

Shriners Children's Erie is hosting a Trunk or Treat on Thursday, October 19 from 5:30-7pm in our rear parking lot. Thank you to the staff members who will be participating by decorating a trunk and passing out candy. There are a ton of ideas online if you are in need of a little inspiration to get started. Feel free to make your trunk design as simple or elaborate as you wish. Just have fun with it! To add to the fun, we will host a contest allowing kids to vote for their favorite display.

Shriners Children's Erie will provide candy to distribute as well as a light dinner of pizza for staff who participate.

We are excited to get spooky with our patients and families! If you did not previously indicate your interest, but would like to set up a trunk or volunteer, please let Micheal Widrig know by email at mwidrig@shrinenet.org.

Holidays

Shriners Children's Erie will be closed the following days throughout the holiday season. Please plan your PTO accordingly. Your PTO balance cannot drop below zero, except during the first three months of employment for a scheduled holiday.

- Wednesday, November 22 - Closing early (12-2:30) as Convenience Day
- Thursday, November 23 - Thanksgiving - Closed
- Friday, November 24 - Black Friday - Closed
- Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day - Closed
- Tuesday, December 26 - Convenience Day - Closed
- Monday, January 1 - New Year's Day - Closed

Help Desk Support

Over the next 60 days the Shriners Children's Philadelphia IS Support team will be available to help with any IS related issues. The MIS speed dial has been re-routed to go directly to their team and any calls to our local help desk will go directly to their team.

This temporary coverage will allow Ken Williams to focus on a few key IS initiatives for Shriners Children's Erie that need completed by the end of the year.



Magellan - National Depression and Mental Health Awareness and Screening Month



National Depression and Mental Health Awareness and Screening Month

Depression is a complex condition that can affect people no matter their age, gender, race or life situation. It's a chemical imbalance that needs immediate medical attention.

Help is available. Your Employee Assistance Program is completely confidential and available 24/7/365. Give us a call at 1-800-424-4056 (TTY 711) or visit Member.MagellanHealthcare.com to get started.



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Sharing Stories of Care

Patient ambassador, Ava, shared her Shriners Children's story at a regional mini-conference for Daughters of the Nile on Saturday, September 23 at the Ambassador Conference Center. Ava has been a Shriners Children's Erie ambassador for over five years and has participated in various events, but sharing her story with this large audience of women was a new experience for her. Ava's mom, Amy said "I can't even tell you what this experience did for Ava's confidence and desire to be even more involved. It was for sure what we call in our house a lightning in a bottle moment!!!!"

We are so lucky to have Ava and our other ambassadors to share stories of the care and love they receive from Shriners Children's Erie!



Current Open Positions

We are currently hiring for the following open positions:

- Certified Medical Assistant - 1.0 FTE
- Executive Assistant - 1.0 FTE
- Occupational Therapist - PRN
- Rehab Aide - 1.0 FTE



Spirit of Children Coupon

As you shop for spooky costumes or accessories this year, use the coupon below at our supporting Spirit Halloween stores or online. Spirit Halloween gives back to our community by offering shoppers 10% off their total purchase with the coupon below. They also match that 10% with a donation to our child life department. It's a win-win for everyone! Please feel free to share the coupon with your friends and family and encourage them to share in the Spirit of Halloween and the Spirit of Children!

Our supporting locations:

- Ashtabula, OH - 3315 North Ridge Road East, Ashtabula, OH
- Erie, PA - 6714 Peach Street, Erie, PA
- Lakewood, NY - 318 E. Fairmount Ave, Lakewood, NY
- Millcreek Plaza - 345 Millcreek Mall, Erie, PA



SPIRIT
OF
CHILDREN
For a store near you
visit SpiritHalloween.com



Offer valid through 10/31/23 at Spirit Halloween and SpiritHalloween.com. Coupons that are forged or altered in any way will not be accepted. Not valid on prior purchases, associate discount or taxes. If merchandise is returned, coupon discount will be deducted from items prior to refund/ credit. Limit one per customer. Shipping offers cannot be combined with other discounts at store kiosks or online. No cash value. Spirit Halloween may cancel promotion at any time. Exclusions may apply. ©2023 Spirit Halloween Superstores, LLC.

Caught Reading

You've been caught reading the Shrine Vine! To be entered into a drawing for a special gift box from Vigo Importing Company, please email David Schumacher at daschumacher@shrinenet.org and let him know you were "caught reading the Vine."

Congratulations



Congratulations to Christine Betancourt, PAC, MPAS, for presenting at the Pennsylvania Orthopedic Society's 2023 annual meeting in Pittsburgh last Wednesday, September 27. Her lecture, titled "The Limping Child," discussed the most probable diagnoses suggested by history and physical examination of children presenting to clinic with a limp, the appropriate use of laboratory tests and imaging to confirm the diagnosis and recommended treatment plans for various conditions.

Way to go, Christine! We are proud to have you on our team!

Special Supporters



Barnhart Transportation held a check presentation to distribute donations from their annual Charity Golf Outing. Their outing, held in July, raised \$70,132 which is split between Shriners Children's Erie and Barber National Institute. Since 2017, Barnhart Transportation has donated \$148,223 to Shriners Children's Erie.

*Truly
Grateful
for you.*

2023 Flu Vaccines

Annual flu vaccination is mandatory for all Shriners Children's Erie employees and contracted staff to protect each other, our families and our patients from acquiring a potentially deadly illness. There are two options for employees to obtain a flu vaccination at no cost:

- Shriners Children's insurance carriers Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) or United Health Care (UHC) cover flu vaccines at your primary care provider's office.
- Express Scripts is accepted at your local pharmacy, such as CVS, Giant Eagle, Walgreens, etc.

Please note: If you use your BCBS or UHC card at a pharmacy, you may incur a copay.

All employees and contracted staff must present a copy of their vaccine record and sign an attestation form when they receive the flu vaccine. For those staff that elect to not receive a flu vaccine for the season, a declination form must be signed. Staff choosing to not receive a flu vaccine must wear a mask while in the building from November 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024 to prevent flu transmission at all times, with the exception of lunch and approved breaks.


Attestation and declination forms are available from Emily Madder. Please remember to submit a copy of your flu vaccine record along with your attestation by October 31.



Donors, David and Claudia Yax visited our medical center on Wednesday, September 20. They had a wonderful visit that included meeting our Board of Governors and touring our facility. Claudia enjoyed reminiscing about visiting as a child with her father, who was a driver for Ismailia Shriners. To complete their visit, we took some photos by a new plaque on the donor wall that commemorates their \$350,000 in donations. We are so grateful for donors like the Yaxes and their continued support of our mission.

Staff Shout Outs

As a new feature in the Shrine Vine, we will be sharing shout outs. This is a perfect place to recognize a coworker who helped you out or someone who went above and beyond in their day to day. Let's get shouting!



"I was recently approached by a guardian who wanted to offer kudos and recognition to Rachel Mauro. She said Rachel was able to develop a great rapport with the patient and that the child has progressed further with Rachel than anyone in the past."

-Kristin Maguire

"Shout out to child life for supplying patient prizes for rehab week!"

-Rebecca Bowman

"Thank you to Robby Lindemann for cleaning up the floor tiles in the clinic hallway by POPS. I thought they would need replaced, but he was able to bring them back to looking new."

-Debbie Miller

"Thank you to Tammy Muller for going above and beyond on a recent busy clinic day. She stepped up, like she is always willing to do, to make sure our cast rooms were flowing smoothly. Thank you Tammy for all you do!"

-Ryan Berndt

The following comment was directed to Sandy Veiheffer, Ken Williams and Dale Cubitt, in regards to badges they produced recently for ENT.

"They were good enough to print them right there and right then. Your team downstairs is amazing!"

-Dennis Bee, Operations Mgr, ENT Specialists of Erie

"Hello and thank you again to that very sweet girl from Tonawanda, NY." (Rebecca Bowman)

-Claudia Yax, donor

Upcoming Town Hall Meetings

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us at one of the following upcoming town hall meetings, which will all take place in the auditorium:

- Tuesday, November 7 - 8:30am
- Wednesday, November 8 - 1pm
- Thursday, November 9 - 4pm

Agenda items include:

- Employee Engagement and Recognition
- Campus Revitalization
- Safety Huddles

Please also bring along any questions you may have.



Car Seat Check

Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians Kristie Gunn and Ryan Berndt hosted a car seat check at Shriners Children's Erie, on Saturday, September 23, as part of National Child Passenger Safety Week. The goal was to help bring awareness to parents, grandparents and caregivers about the importance of safety seats. They checked each seat to make sure it was the correct seat for the age, height and weight of the child, the installation and the harness placement. They also reviewed the history of the seat and expiration dates and answered any questions that families had.

During the event, they were able to inspect eight car seats and reschedule two for a later date.



Mission Minute



Patient ambassador, Sarah, recently had a wonderful news feature in her local newspaper: <https://www.theintelligencer.net/news/top-headlines/2023/09/youre-right-i-can-do-anything/>

‘You’re Right. I Can Do Anything’

Czapp Inspires on Corpus Christi Girls Basketball Team

Kim North, staff writer

WHEELING - Sarah Czapp inspires others in myriad ways.

The sixth-grader at Corpus Christi School in Warwood was born without her left leg. She also has scoliosis and has undergone numerous treatments and surgeries while serving as an ambassador for Shriners Children’s Hospital.

Yet she hasn’t let that determine what she wants to, or can, do with her life, including when it comes to the basketball court.

Sarah, who turns 12 on October 6, is a member of Corpus Christi’s girls basketball team, using a crutch with her left arm to get up and down the floor.

“I wanted to do something new. I knew basketball was coming up and a lot of my classmates were playing. I saw them practicing one day,” she said. Now I like it a lot.”

Sarah is the Crusaders’ point guard, dribbling the ball up the floor while starting and playing two full quarters. Corpus Christi head coach Bill Wycherley got a glimpse of Sarah’s athleticism and determination before she ever took to the court. He saw her playing flag football one day and said he was amazed.

“I watched her with a group of kids in the gym one day,” he recalled. “I went to her mom and asked why she wasn’t playing. Her mom, Jocelyn, said maybe she could be the manager, but I told her ‘she’s going to play.’” Jocelyn Czapp had some reservations.

“Honestly, I didn’t know how it was going to work,” she admitted. “But we’ve never stopped her from doing what she wants to try. We let her go her own way. She’s a very determined girl. I’m so inspired by her. I’m amazed at how determined she is.”

Corpus Christi principal Shannon Wall is very familiar with Sarah’s story. She isn’t just Sarah’s principal, she’s also her godmother.

“Sarah came to me and asked if I thought she could be the basketball team’s manager,” I told her ‘why not play?’ She said, ‘can I? You’re right. I can do anything.’”

“She’s been proving us right ever since.”

Wall said Sarah always has a positive attitude.

“When she puts her mind to do something, she does it,” Wall added. “She’s never let anything stop her. She’s always smiling and happy. I’m proud she’s a part of our family at Corpus Christi.”



Mission Minute contd.



Wycherley said he's glad to have her on his team.

"She is a ball of energy. It's a lot of fun to have her on our team," he noted. "She brings an attitude to the team. She plays hard and has even scored a couple of baskets. She'll get a rebound or two, as well. As long as she is happy, I'm happy."

He recalled that after she made a basket, her teammates went crazy.

"You would have thought we had won a championship," Wycherley said. "I love having her on my team. She is very inspirational."

Sarah said using the crutch instead of her prosthetic leg makes her faster.

"Using the crutch isn't hard at all. Actually, it's easier than the prosthetic," she said. "I can move faster."

"I'm pretty proud of myself for what I've been able to accomplish," Sarah added. "Everyone has been really supportive of me."

Sarah isn't just found on the basketball court. She's also a cheerleader and volleyball player and participates in dance. Her teammates are very moved by what she has achieved.

"I don't even think of her as not having a leg," teammate Giulana Blake said. "There are times that I even forget she has one leg. But we push each other to the fullest. She's very helpful and a good basketball player."

"She's really nice and fun to be around," teammate Paisley Kleeh said. "She's also a really good basketball player. She makes me want to work harder."

Lindley Blow, who said she has known Sarah since before pre-school, added, "She is so independent. She is amazing and so inspirational. No matter what, she is always kind."

Sarah is the daughter of Jocelyn and George Czapp and has two older brothers, Eli a freshman at Wheeling Central, and Garrett, a senior.