



**Shriners
Children's™**
Erie

Temple Newsletter

An update for our
Temple Affiliates



Dear Temple Affiliates,

We are thrilled to connect with you and share exciting updates from Shriners Children's Erie! Our dedicated team has been hard at work and we have many wonderful stories and developments to share with you. Thank you, for your continued support and dedication to changing the lives of children. Let's dive into the latest news!

If you plan to feature any of our content and need adjusted files, please contact **Izzy Spires** at ispires@shrinenet.org or (814) 875-8761.

Extraordinary Erie Gives Day

The community came together with the support of the Erie Community Foundation in an incredible way on Erie Gives Day, raising **\$185,694** to benefit children receiving care at Shriners Children's Erie. Thanks to this generosity, more children will continue to receive *The Most Amazing Care Anywhere*, that will help them heal, grow and thrive.

Special recognition goes to David Schumacher and Nicole Vommaro for their outstanding contributions to philanthropy, ensuring that donor relationships remain strong and impactful.

Shriners Children's Erie expresses sincere gratitude to everyone who participated in this year's Erie Gives Day.

Grand Opening of the New Food Kiosk

Shriners Children's Erie is pleased to announce the official opening of its new food kiosk on Tuesday, September 2.

The kiosk will be available throughout the day, providing nutritious food and beverage options for staff, ENT staff, patient families and Shriner Drivers.

After much planning and anticipation, the new kiosk is being introduced to better serve the Shriners Children's Erie community.



Car Seat Technicians – A Resource for Shriner Drivers

Car seat safety plays a vital role in protecting patients and their families. Shriners Children's Erie is fortunate to have two certified car seat technicians on site: Ryan Berndt and Kristie Gunn. Both are specially trained to ensure car seats are properly installed and used correctly.

If Shriner Drivers notice a concern with a patient's car seat or if a parent or guardian has questions, they are encouraged to connect the family with Ryan or Kristie for guidance and support.

Contact Information:

- Ryan Berndt: rberndt@shrinenet.org | (814) 875-8845
- Kristie Gunn: kgunn@shrinenet.org | (814) 875-8844

Shriners Children's Erie thanks all drivers for their commitment to keeping patients safe.



Save the Date – Trunk or Treat at Shriners Children's Erie! 🎃

Shriners Children's Erie will be hosting its annual Trunk or Treat on Tuesday, October 14 and planning is already underway to make this year's event the best one yet!

Volunteers needed: trunk decorators - get creative and have fun passing out candy to kids.

Those interested in volunteering or designing a trunk should contact **Izzy Spires** at 814-875-8761 or ispires@shrinenet.org.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO...

SPRIT OF CHILDREN

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

SAVE THE DATE

TRUNK OR TREAT

5:30-7:00PM

1645 WEST 8TH STREET-REAR PARKING LOT, BEHIND THE BUILDING

.....

WEAR YOUR BEST COSTUME AND STOP BY FOR A SPOOKY TIME

IN THE EVENT OF RAIN, TRUNK OR TREAT WILL BE MOVED INSIDE

ALL PATIENT FAMILIES WELCOME!

 **Shriners Children's**
Erie

Spirit of Children Coupon

Use this coupon at any participating Spirit Halloween stores and save 10%! When you use this coupon, Spirit of Children donates 10% of your Spirit Halloween purchase total to support local child life programs, including Shriners Children's Erie! Use promo code **Caring25** when ordering online.

Participating locations include:

Millcreek Mall Complex - 2082 Interchange Blvd. Erie PA, 16509

Ashtabula Towne Sq - 3315 North Ridge Road East, Ashtabula OH, 44004

Millcreek Mall - 345 Millcreek Mall Boulevard, Erie PA, 16565

Peach St - 1908 Keystone Drive, Erie PA, 16509

Lakewood NY - 318 E Fairmount Ave, Lakewood NY, 14750



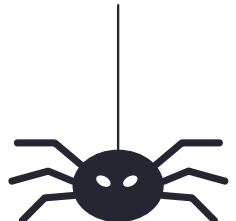
SAVE 10% OFF
YOUR ENTIRE ORDER
SPIRIT GIVES 10%
TO YOUR LOCAL PARTNER HOSPITAL

Present coupon in any Spirit Halloween or enter promo code **CARING25** at checkout when shopping on SpiritHalloween.com

SPIRIT
OF
CHILDREN
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Offer valid through 10/31/2025 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. ©2025 Spirit Halloween Superstores, LLC.



Making a Difference One Pull at a Time

Shriners Children's Erie is excited to share that this year marks the 8th annual Champions Pullin' for Children fundraiser in support of the hospital. Over the past seven years, the event has raised an outstanding \$144,700 to benefit the Shriners mission.

The organization is grateful to the Champions Pullin' for Children team and everyone who participates for their continued commitment. Their generosity and hard work make a lasting difference in the lives of the kids and families served at Shriners Children's Erie.

Don't miss your chance to be part of this year's event. Your support is needed now more than ever to help change lives!



Champions PULLIN'
FOR CHILDREN

SEPTEMBER 6
4:00 PM START TIME
GENERAL ADMISSION: \$20
KIDS 10 & UNDER: FREE







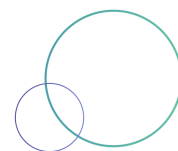
SATURDAY CLASSES:
UNLIMITED STREET DIESEL TRUCKS - \$800
3.0 LIMITED PRO DIESEL TRUCKS - \$4000
CLASSIC SUPER STOCK TRACTORS - \$3500
LIMITED PRO TRACTORS - \$3500
PRO STREET SEMI - \$1200
SUPER SEMI - \$8000
PRO MODIFIED TRUCKS - \$4000
650 IN.³ MODIFIED TRUCKS - \$5000
410 SUPER STOCK TRUCKS - \$3500
PRO STOCK TRUCKS - \$2500



PINE LAKE RACEWAY
3796 MAPLE RD. JEFFERSON, OH 44047



Positive Press Ganey Comments



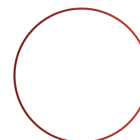
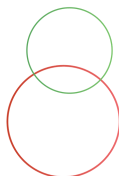
See what patients and families have to say about Shriners Children's Erie.

Everybody at Shriners Children's Erie the day of the appointment was amazing. So helpful and kind, going over the top to make our entire family feel welcome.

Grateful Parent
2025 Press Ganey survey

I could not believe how quickly my son received x-rays. The woman who x-rayed his arm was the first procedure we had while there and she was so nice, very speedy and accurate.

Grateful Parent
2025 Press Ganey survey



Sarah Spreads Kindness

Shriners Children's Erie patient ambassador Sarah has made it her mission to teach kindness, inclusion and understanding by sharing her journey of being born without a leg. What began as a classroom visit to her mother's first-grade class in 2020 has grown into a heartfelt campaign that has touched students across multiple schools and gained the attention of media outlets throughout the county.

Now in her fifth year of school visits, Sarah engages young audiences through story time, open Q&A sessions and hands-on activities designed to encourage acceptance of differences. She helps students understand that physical differences do not define a person or their abilities. During her visits, Sarah reads to children, talks about kindness, and leads interactive projects such as building assistive devices. Many of these visits also coincide with school Spirit Days, where students raise funds for both Special Olympics programs and Shriners Children's Erie.

Having faced adversity and unkind remarks herself, Sarah is determined to show others that limb differences do not limit possibilities. She emphasizes that kindness matters and reminds children that no one is ever truly alone.

Her growing confidence shines not only through her presentations but also in her activities outside the classroom, from golfing and cheering at football games to trying new challenges like flying in cheer.

Recently, Sarah's message of inclusion caught the attention of a regional university professor, who reached out to her mother, Jocelyn, about incorporating Sarah's story into a collegiate curriculum. This development will expand her impact, inspiring not only young children but also future educators and leaders.

When asked what advice she would share with other children who feel different, Sarah responded simply: "Keep your head up. Don't let mean people bring you down. You're amazing just the way you are." Her parents, her parents, Jocelyn and George, express immense pride in her journey, noting how her mission has evolved. "As she's grown, her message has grown too," Jocelyn said. "It's no longer just about her story, but about spreading kindness, inclusivity and equality. And that's something the world really needs."

