



Shriners
Children's™
Erie

Temple Newsletter

An update for our
Temple Affiliates



Dear Temple Affiliates,

As summer brings longer days, new adventures and opportunities to make lasting memories, we're pleased to share inspiring updates and meaningful news from Shriners Children's Erie. Throughout this season, our dedicated team continues to grow, care and inspire, delivering exceptional treatment while bringing hope, healing and smiles to the children and families we serve.

Thank you for your continued support. As we embrace the warmth and energy of summer, we look forward to creating an even greater impact together and helping more children reach their full potential. If you plan to feature any of our content and need adjusted files, please contact us.

Izzy Spires at ispires@shrinenet.org or (814) 875-8761.



Shriners Children's Erie Celebrates Back In Action: Scoliosis Event

On Saturday, June 27, Shriners Children's Erie hosted its first Back in Action scoliosis event at Asbury Woods. The special gathering provided patients undergoing scoliosis bracing with an opportunity to connect with others facing similar challenges, share experiences and enjoy a day of fun and friendship in a supportive environment.

While the children participated in activities and built new friendships, parents had the chance to network, exchange helpful tips and begin building a community of support with families on similar journeys.

Members of the Zem Zem Cycle Corps were proud to assist with the event by preparing and serving a picnic meal for attendees. They were joined by several dedicated volunteers, including Zem Zem Treasurer Tim Barnhart, Recorder Rick Kraus and Past Potentate Jim Richardson, whose efforts helped make the day a success.

Events like Back in Action demonstrate the life-changing impact of Shriners Children's Erie and the important role our Shriners and volunteers play in supporting the patients and families we serve. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time and talents to make this memorable day possible.

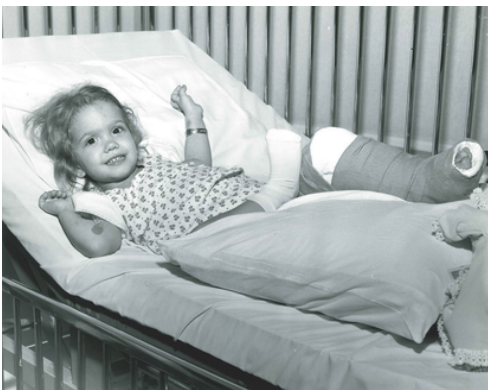


Happy 99th Birthday Shriners Children's Erie!

On June 26, Shriners Children's Erie celebrated its 99th birthday, marking nearly a century of providing exceptional orthopedic care to children and families.

For 99 years, the facility's mission has continued to grow while remaining unwavering in its commitment to delivering the very best care to children who need it most. The impact made over the decades is a reflection of the dedication, compassion and excellence demonstrated by physicians, nurses, therapists, staff, members of Shriners International and supporters whose work has changed countless lives.

As this remarkable milestone is celebrated, there is great excitement for the future. With so much positivity and inspiration guiding the organization forward, Shriners Children's Erie looks ahead to its 100th anniversary celebration next year. The past 99 years have created a lasting legacy of hope and healing, and the next chapter promises to be just as meaningful.



Daughters of the Nile Supreme Queen Visits Shriners Children's Erie

On Tuesday, June 16, Supreme Queen Kathy Rafter of Daughters of the Nile, visited Shriners Children's Erie along with other Daughters of the Nile members. Kathy, who hails from Vancouver, British Columbia from Zarah Temple No. 72 is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of children and plans to visit every location in the healthcare system this year during her reign as Supreme Queen. Thank you, to Kathy and the Daughters of the Nile for all the incredible work they do to make Shriners Children's a place where children receive the best medical care and compassionate support.



Your Generosity Goes Further With Erie Gives 2026

The 16th annual Erie Gives Day is set for Tuesday, August 11 from 12:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. This 24-hour day of giving invites thousands of donors from across the country to support their favorite charity. All donations given during this campaign will receive a pro-rated match from the Erie Community Foundation and its sponsors, ensuring that your gift can make an even greater impact on the lives of children and families at Shriners Children's Erie!

How to Support Shriners Children's Erie During Erie Gives

Donate by Check

- Mail checks to The Erie Community Foundation at 459 West 6th Street by Tuesday, August 4, 2026
- Must be made out to The Erie Community Foundation (minimum donation = \$25)
- Please reach out to Nicole Vommaro at 814-875-8746 or nvommaro@shrinenet.org for check donation form

Donate by Gifts of Stock or IRA

- Consult your advisor and initiate your stock transfer or IRA distribution to The Erie Community Foundation by Tuesday, August 4.
- Please reach out to Nicole Vommaro at 814-875-8746 or nvommaro@shrinenet.org for check donation form

Donate Online on Tuesday, August 11

- Gifts will be accepted on August 11 beginning at midnight (minimum donation = \$25)
- Online donations can be made via credit card (American Express, Discover, Mastercard, or Visa)
- All fees (transaction, platform and processing) are completely covered! This means that 100% of your donation goes directly to Shriners Children's Erie!

By Phone on August 11

- Call The Erie Community Foundation at 814-454-0843 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

If you have any questions please reach out to **Nicole Vommaro** at **814-875-8746** or nvommaro@shrinenet.org



Save
The
Date



Enter for a Chance to Win a \$5,000 Vacation!

Proceeds benefit Shriners Children's Erie! As part of the Barnhart Gives initiative, a vacation package valued at \$5,000—planned in partnership with Cappabianca Travel Agency—is being raffled off.

Ticket prices:

- \$10 each
- 3 for \$20

Tickets are available now. Please contact **David Schumacher** at daschumacher@shrinenet.org or **Nicole Vommaro** at nvommaro@shrinenet.org to purchase tickets.

The raffle drawing will close July 26. Don't miss your chance to win the getaway of a lifetime, all while supporting a great cause!



BARNHART GIVES

Win a Trip!

Winner Receives:

- \$5,000 vacation planned with Cappabianca Travel Agency
- Alternatively, you can walk away with \$4,500 in cash!
- Check off your bucket-list destination!

Benefits:

-  **Shriners Children's Erie**
-  **Barber National Institute**
Making dreams come true.

Drawing: July 26th

Tickets: \$10 Each or 3 for \$20

18+ Years + To Purchase

Buy online: barnhartgives.com/events or contact Hilary at hilary.helsley@barnhartinc.com

Teamster Horsemen and Zem Zem Cycle Corps Ride to Support Kids

On Saturday, June 20, the Teamster Horsemen Motorcycle Association 40NW hosted their 6th Annual Ride for Kids Poker Run, bringing together riders and supporters for a meaningful day of fundraising and awareness.

Before the ride began, Patient Ambassador LeeAnn shared her personal story with participants, helping the group understand how their dedication and generosity directly impact children and families who rely on specialized care. Her heartfelt message highlighted the life-changing difference community support makes for kids who visit Shriners Children's Erie for care. The event was made even more special by the participation of the Zem Zem Cycle Corps, whose members joined fellow riders in supporting this important cause.

We are incredibly grateful to the Teamster Horsemen Motorcycle Association 40NW, the Zem Zem Cycle Corps and everyone who participated in this year's ride. Their continued commitment and generosity help make life-changing care possible for children in our community.





Thank you Fathers, Stepfathers, Uncles, Grandpas and Father Figures

In recognition of Father's Day, Shriners Children's Erie celebrated the dedicated fathers and father figures who make a difference in the lives of children every day through their strength, love and unwavering support. Patient ambassador Sarah shared this about her dad, George:

"I'm proud of him cause he goes to work all day and then comes home and helps us. He tries so hard to help us and make us laugh even when he is having a bad day.

He's special to me because of how strong he is. I love that he became a Shriner all because of what he saw the Shriners do to help me and he wanted to be a part of that to continue to support me and help other kids! He's the best dad ever and I love him very much."

Stories like Sarah and George's remind us that being a father is about more than what you do it's about the love, resilience and compassion you bring to others.

To all the dads, grandfathers and father figures, thank you for all that you do!

