



Bonnie,
Hippotherapy Grant Recipient

Committed to increasing awareness and the range of available resources dedicated to children with less-publicized physical disabilities.

From taking first steps to gaining independence and all of the milestones in between, you can help children with physical disabilities maximize their potentials and pursue their dreams:

- Volunteer (local & distance opportunities available)
- Become a Kya's Krusade General, Program or Event Sponsor
- Make a Monetary and/or In-kind Donation to Kya's Krusade
- Join our Resource Network or Share a Resource

Kya's Krusade identifies and creates innovative programs, services and tools that enable children with physical disabilities

to reach their maximum potentials at every stage and support their families throughout their special journeys.



Kya's Krusade was named after and inspired by a special young lady named Kya, who was born with a rare condition called Arthrogryposis. Although Kya's journey has been challenging with surgeries, serial casting and weekly therapy, she remains bright, optimistic and determined, as she continues to work toward her goals. In the exhaustive quest to find information, resources and support for her and her family when she was born, the felt compelled to be proactive and become a resource and source of hope and support for other children with physical disabilities and their families.

Kya's Krusade, a volunteer-based, 501 (c)(3) organization, provides all programs and services free of charge.

WHAT IS ARTHROGRYPOSIS?

Arthrogryposis (Arthrogryposis Multiplex Congenita) is a non-progressive physical disability characterized by multiple fixed joints present throughout the body at birth.

Limited movement of the fetus in the womb results in the formation of extra connective tissue, which becomes fixed around the joints. The tendons, which enable motion, either do not form or stretch out completely.

Individuals with Arthrogryposis face numerous physical challenges, including: bilaterally clubbed hands and/or feet; dislocated and rigid joints; muscle absence, malformation or atrophy and limited range of motion around the joints.

A continuous regimen of corrective surgery, casting, splinting and physical and occupational therapy is used to increase the child's range of motion and functionality.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES:

- Art Therapy Program: Inclusive art therapy classes with siblings
- Information Packet Program & Provision of Resource Information: Assistance with obtaining client-tailored resource information
- Financial Assistance Program: Adaptive equipment, hippotherapy, physical & occupational therapy grants

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"In My Dreams I Can"

When Clay was 3 or 4 years old, he took a family trip to a lake. He was lying on a chair watching the clouds go by, with a distant look in his eyes. Gloria, a friend of his grandmother, asked Clay "What are you daydreaming about?" He calmly said, "I'm thinking about running." Gloria replied, "Can you run?" Clay said to her, "In my dreams I can."

Arthrogryposis affects every joint, muscle and tendon in Clay's body. He started walking at age 4. After suffering two femur fractures, he was unable to walk. Undeterred, he continued to engage in intense physical therapy. When Clay got his driver's license, he longed for the opportunity to go places without assistance with his wheelchair.

After receiving a wheelchair lift through the Kya's Crusade Financial Assistance Program in 2008, Clay translated his dream of running. Whole-heartedly embracing his new level of freedom and independence, Clay got a job he loves and drives himself wherever he needs to go, unassisted. Bright, independent and outgoing he continues to work hard in school, at work and with his physical therapy and enjoys college.

Arthrogryposis affects
1 in every 3,000 babies born.



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Kya's Crusade
Care . Support . Growth



*A gateway to hope and support, where
family, medical and social communities converge*