

Kairo Walks Out of La Rabida, ASCEND Program Open to All, and More!

Patient Updates

Kairo Walks Out of La Rabida



Two year old Kairo first arrived at La Rabida's Acute Care Clinic in December after his mother found him nearly unresponsive at daycare. After stabilizing him, Kairo was transferred by EMS for higher-level care for seizures and non-responsiveness. He was intubated, had a ventricular hemorrhage caused by a ruptured AVM with 8mm aneurysm, and eventually became trach-dependent with a g-tube (for feeding) and a shunt to drain fluid from his brain. Kairo was very sick.

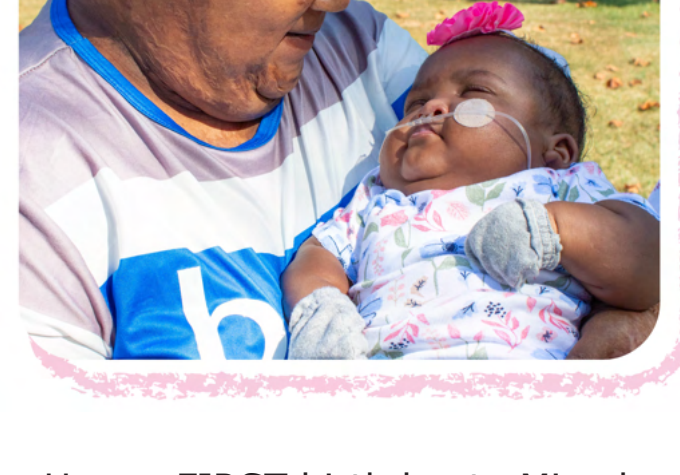
After spending a month and a half in the pediatric intensive care unit, Kairo returned to La Rabida still on ventilator support, had very little movement, and could not speak. But, the first thing his dad said was "When Kairo is discharged, I want to see him walk out on his own." And this month, that is exactly what he did.

Read more about Kairo's journey here!

More to Celebrate



Cesar graduated from his feeding program this month! Cesar's mom and his team even presented him with a graduation certificate. His new favorite fruit: Kiwis! Congratulations Cesar!



Happy FIRST birthday to Miracle, who celebrated with her FIRST walk and her FIRST time outside with her mom. Something so simple means so much to our patients when they're staying with us.

La Rabida News

La Rabida's VP of Finance Makes Crain's Notable Black Leaders List



Congratulations to Anthony McWhorter, VP of Finance, on being selected as one of *Crain's Chicago Business' Notable Black Leaders!* The 100+ list includes leaders from all industries and communities. We're very proud that Anthony was selected.

McWhorter's expertise in strategic planning and analysis is impressive. His professionalism lets him steer teams through complex projects like annual budgeting and address financial challenges with authority and grace. He combines compassion and empathy with financial prowess, understanding and prioritizing our core mission.

- Rolla T. Sweis, President and CEO

See the full list here: <https://www.chicagobusiness.com/awards/notable-black-leaders-2024>

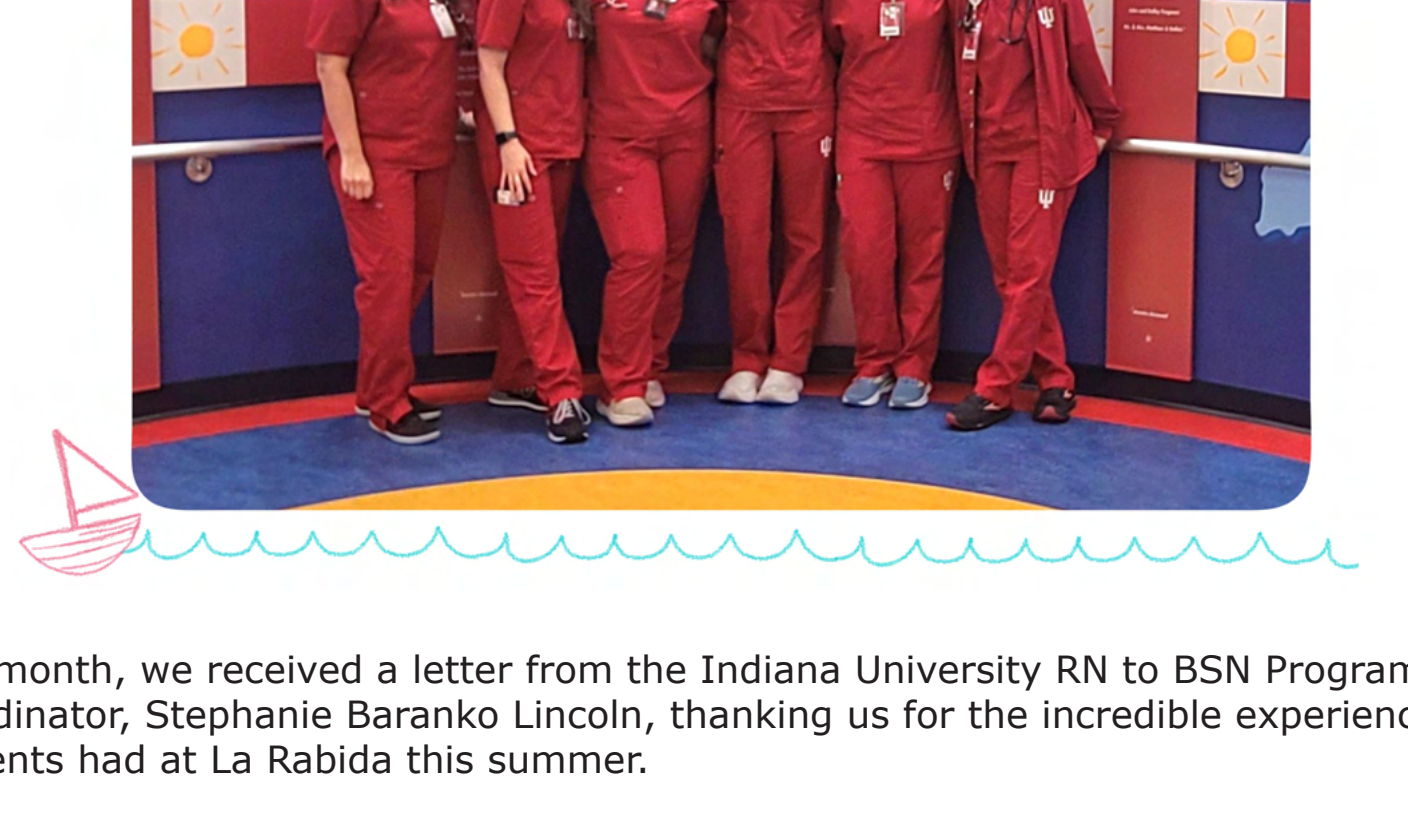
ASCEND Program Now Open to All

La Rabida ASCEND Group

For parents and caregivers of teens and adolescents with disabilities navigating guardianship and transitioning to adult care can feel overwhelming. But you don't have to do it alone!

For the first time La Rabida's ASCEND (Assistance and Support for Caregivers as they Embark in New Healthcare Directions) program is being offered to the public. This free support program helps parents and caregivers of teens and adolescents with disabilities navigate the overwhelming process of guardianship and transitioning to adult care. ASCEND provides essential guidance on guardianship and the shift to adult healthcare and services, including a packet of printed materials, presentations, and four evening Zoom sessions on topics like transition readiness, Social Security changes, school transitions, guardianship, and community resources with our director of Inpatient Case Management & Outpatient Care Coordination Services & Social Work. Christina's passion for this type of work led her to relaunch the ASCEND program in a virtual format during COVID. She continues to host it online to make it more accessible for caregivers. Now, we're proud to extend this program to those in the community who are facing these challenges as well.

Creating Tomorrow's Pediatric Care Leaders



This month, we received a letter from the Indiana University RN to BSN Program Coordinator, Stephanie Baranko Lincoln, thanking us for the incredible experience her students had at La Rabida this summer.

We hosted six students this summer for their summer clinical, and Stephanie and the students expressed their appreciation of our staff and how willing they were to work with the students and make them feel welcome, calling it "by far one of the best (experiences) they have had so far."

This was Stephanie's first time working with us, and she fell in love with our hospital, our staff, and (of course) our kids.

She shared, "the students also became passionate advocates for La Rabida, sharing their stories and experiences with IU's Student Nurses Association that were so impactful the group is starting a donation program for our kids!"

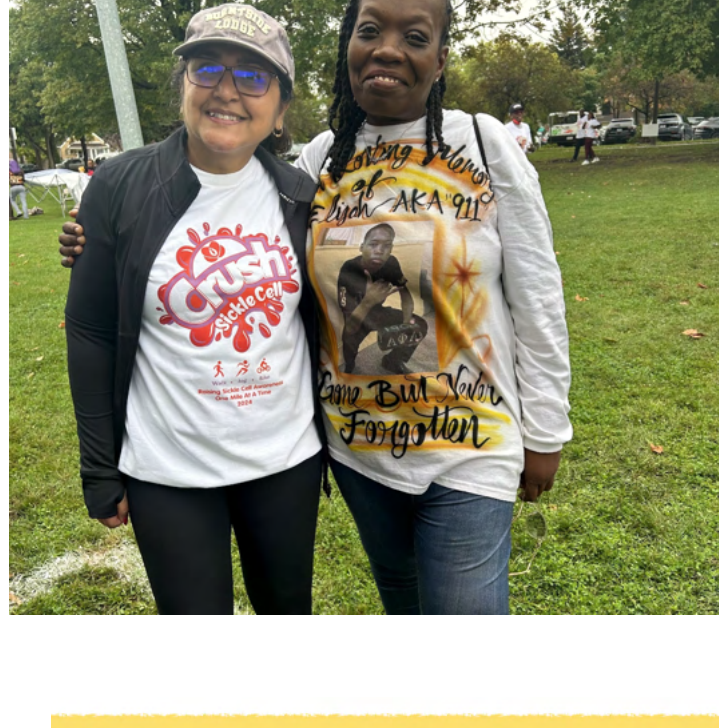
We're continuing to work together to offer more IU students the opportunity to have pediatric clinicals here. Sharing our knowledge and experiences with those that will keep our mission going in the future is imperative to our success and our staff go above and beyond to make the students' experience beneficial and rewarding.

"I look forward to a longstanding partnership with La Rabida and supporting the mission of your organization."

La Rabida in the Community

Our providers and staff love to get out in the community and support our patients and families. Last weekend was a big one for both our Diabetes and Sickle Cell teams. On Saturday, our team was out at the Sickle Cell Disease Association of IL Walk/Bike/Run, of which we were a proud sponsor (left), and on Sunday we were at Montrose Harbor for the Breakthrough TD1 Walk (right). Congratulations to all!

Sickle Cell Disease Association of IL Walk/Bike/Run



Breakthrough TD1 Walk



Support Our Mission

Get Your Tickets for Our 2024 Friends of La Rabida Gala Today!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION OF FRIENDS!

Reception 6 p.m. | Dinner 7 p.m.
The Ritz-Carlton, Chicago
160 East Pearson Street at Water Tower Place
Business Attire | Valet Parking Available

GALA HONOREES

Lifetime of Service
Brian Gaspardo

Community Support
Polk Bros. Foundation



Costume Shopping?

La Rabida is again a local hospital partner for Spirit Halloween's Spirit of Children campaign. Use the coupon below, or code CARING24 online, to receive 10% off your purchase AND get 10% donated back to La Rabida - WIN WIN!

SAVE 10% OFF

YOUR ENTIRE ORDER

SPIRIT GIVES 10%

TO YOUR LOCAL PARTNER HOSPITAL

Present coupon in any Spirit Halloween or enter promo code CARING24 at checkout when shopping on SpiritHalloween.com

Offer valid through 10/31/24 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 for 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, kiosk or online. No cash value. Spirit Halloween may cancel promotion at any time. Excludes may apply ©2024 Spirit Halloween Superforms, LLC.

Life at La Rabida

Love seeing photos from La Rabida? We've created a new Flickr album so we can share even more special moments with you. Take a look at what's been happening so far in 2024, and come back regularly for new photos, too!



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