Resilience through Diabetes, **AAC Clinc, and More!**

Patient Updates

Resilience through Diabetes

November 2025. Daaronal spent months going in and out of doctors' offices, but he still couldn't get the answers he needed until he arrived at La Rabida's Chicago Children's Diabetes Clinic (CCDC) with dangerously high blood sugar levels.

"I almost was in a diabetic coma because my sugar was so high," said Daaronal. "It's been seven years since then, and I've learned a lot." The education process started with a

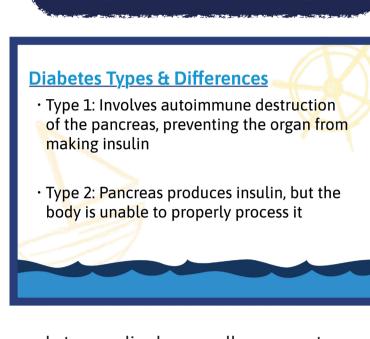
Type 1 Diabetes diagnosis.

Dr. Anita Swamy, La Rabida CCDC Medical Director explains the complexities of diabetes requires the right tools, support, and guidance. "When our patients and families have a deep understanding of the condition, we overcome barriers together." Patients meet with their care team every three months. These consistent visits

allow our clinicians to check in, monitor progress and keep patients on track with their medical needs. "La Rabida and my doctors have been a great second family. They're always

looking out for the best options to help me," said Daaronal. Managing diabetes requires a lot of strength and support. La Rabida's holistic approach to medical care allows our teams





to have meaningful conversations focused on the patient and family's emotional and psychological wellness. Patient care teams are comprised of endocrinologists and a behavioral health team made up of psychologists and social workers. "I remember coming to the clinic, and instead of spending time in the doctor's office, we went outside to play basketball," said Daaronal.

"I can still do the things I enjoy with diabetes, but now, I know my body, my health, and who I am." Daaronal's diabetes journey demanded

lifestyle changes, read more here!

AAC Clinic



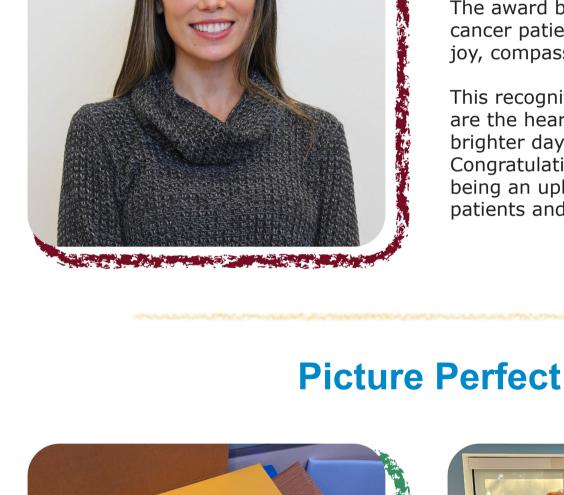
and Alternative Communication (AAC) device. Our AAC clinic team have gone through extensive training to make sure patients, who are on the autism spectrum or have complex physical needs, are taking steps toward connection, independence and empowerment. At La Rabida, a lifetime of possibilities begins with giving our children a voice. La Rabida News

After months of practice, he's able to express himself through an Augmentative

Recognizing a Brighter, Lighter,

and Playful Spirit

Megan C., Child Life Specialist, has been named the 2025 Billy Award



This recognition is awarded to those who are the heart behind healing and build brighter days with every moment of care. Congratulations, Megan! Thank you for being an uplifting presence for our patients and families.

Winner by the Bricks of Hope organization. The award bears the name of a childhood cancer patient who embodied unwavering

joy, compassion, and energy.



help ease anxiety and lift spirits.

"If it weren't

my son wouldn't

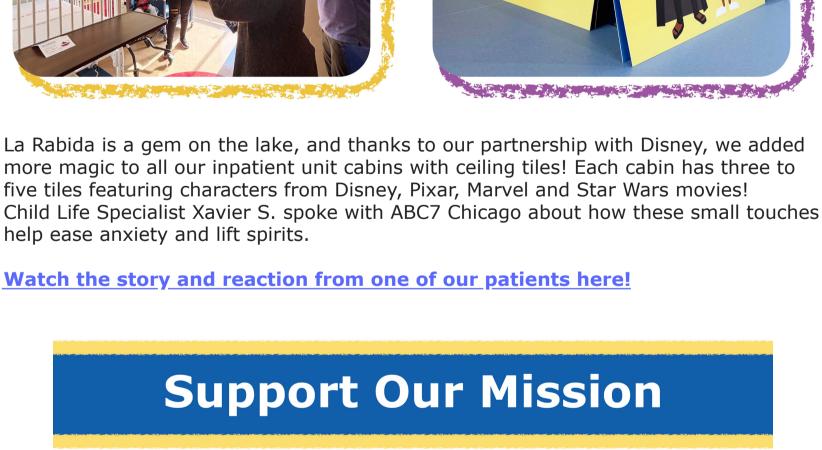
Kairo's mom

be where he is

today."

-- Javiel,





Providing hope and healing are the

building blocks of our mission. It's our

Join us on Thursday, November 20th at

the Ritz Carlton Chicago for the **2025**

celebrate Kairo's remarkable journey

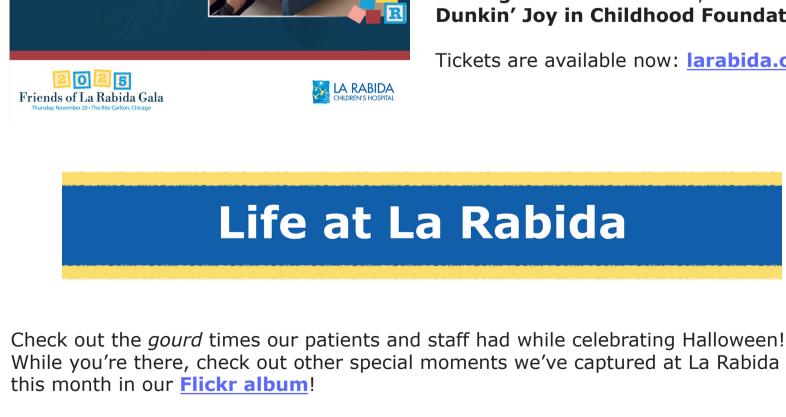
of Berglund Construction, and the

and recognize our honorees Fred Berglund

Friends of La Rabida Gala as we

patients, like Kairo, who rise up against for La Rabida's all odds to show the world the possibilities care and support, with patient-centered care.

Gala Tickets Available Now



Tickets are available now: larabida.org/gala

Dunkin' Joy in Childhood Foundation.









