

Darrien Does It All, Compassionate Care and Comfort, and More!

Patient Updates

Darrien Does It All



welling up with tears, Ashiea smiles at her son, Darrien, as his eyes light up with excitement. Darrien has a new set of coins to add to his collection – a thoughtful gift from Diane, K. his radiologist. "It's who they are. It's the essence of what

December 2025. Overcome with emotion,

it means to be at La Rabida," says Ashiea. "The people who take care of us, look after our children, my child, they make us feel secure." At La Rabida, we provide a comprehensive, holistic approach based on the child and

their family, not just their condition. Through interdisciplinary collaboration,

Darrien's care team helps him navigate living with cerebral palsy, developmental delays, behavioral health, and prediabetes concerns. Outpatient Care Coordinator, Andrea M., says from serial casting and rehabilitation sessions to after-school tutoring, she's seen the ways our mission has helped

our patients build a sense of identity.

"He's such a good and smart kid," says Andrea. "He comes off shy at first, but once you get him started talking about his interests... you get to really see Darrien's personality." Darrien is 13 years old, adventurous, creative, and feels empowered to explore

more hobbies, like drawing. Our pediatric expertise goes beyond our hospital walls. We provide wraparound services to our families to help where they may need support. "When I feel like lost in the darkness, not knowing what to do next, I know

all I have to do is go to La Rabida," says Ashiea. "I come with Darrien and all I have to do is just be mom, be a parent. That's the best thing about this place. Darrien gets to be a kid, too."

at La Rabida's newest program

Read more about Darrien's journey

The Lioness Roars to New Heights



She radiates confidence with an ear-toear smile while meeting yet another milestone. Our rehabilitation team has started incorporating the "Spider Cage" into our patients' personalized care plans. The three-sided device is equipped with belts, weights, and bungee cords to help patients develop balance, strength, and coordination. Thank you to the **Philly Baer Foundation** for generously

From a kneeling position to standing upright, Layoni is taller and stronger.

supporting the equipment needed to help our children develop!

Compassionate Care and Comfort

La Rabida News





for the support this season and all year long. Holidays at La Rabida





Patients channeled their passion for fashion during La Rabida's 2025 Dress Event. We kicked off the holiday season by turning our Child Life Pavilion into a showroom of dazzling dresses generously donated by Frankie's on the Park. Patients picked out their own special outfits, and volunteers provided them with mini manicures. Thank you, Frankie's on the Park, for bringing the boutique and an afternoon of fun to La Rabida!

S.S. La Rabida! We are grateful for their kindness and generosity, brightening our halls every year, showing their commitment to our mission.

The holiday spirit kept shining with an

annual visit from Governor J.B. Pritzker

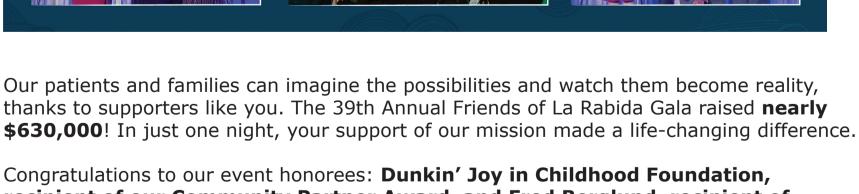
and First Lady MK Pritzker, who visited

patients and their families aboard the

Support Our Mission

Supporting Our Patients with our

Friends of La Rabida



recipient of our Community Partner Award, and Fred Berglund, recipient of our Lifetime of Service Award.

We captured our mission in action during the 2025 Friends of La Rabida Gala! Check out some of the memorable moments by visiting our Flickr album!

Life at La Rabida









