

Support Brings Healing and Harmony, Books Drive the Magic of Reading, and More!

Patient Updates

Support Brings Healing and Harmony



May 2026 - Nevaeh has a playlist she listens to after her visits to La Rabida. The Beatles are her favorite band. When she listens to the songs, she feels calm and like she can take on the world. Her grandmother, Gloria, gets to see this side of Nevaeh after her weekly appointment with Dr. Guadalupe Barrios, a pediatric psychologist at La Rabida.

“She goes in, and you can tell; she feels comfortable talking about her feelings and what’s going on in her mind,” says Gloria. “It’s so good for her because she comes out as the best version of herself.”

Nevaeh has anxiety and depression, some of which stem from traumatic experiences. La Rabida’s Behavioral Health department provides mental health and emotional support focused on a child’s well-being. Dr. Barrios takes time during therapy sessions to educate our patients and their families, like Nevaeh and her guardian and grandmother, Gloria.

“We meet our families where they are,” says Dr. Barrios. “It’s important to show our patients there’s a clear connection between a diagnosis and getting help.”

The family-oriented approach is the foundation of pediatric care at La Rabida. It’s essential to every facet of a child’s medical care. Our behavioral health therapists work with patients to provide holistic care, including long-term outpatient services using evidence-based treatments.

“The communication, our relationship, it’s all gotten so much better since she started coming here,” says Gloria. “I’ve learned a lot about what I need to do as her grandmother and now as her guardian.”

Nevaeh says she has the confidence and support to take her passion for music to the next level.

Did you know?

Mental Health Awareness Month

- The Behavioral Health staff at La Rabida Children’s Hospital has conducted nearly 5,000 therapy sessions in 2025.

[Read more about Nevaeh’s plans for her future](#)



Do you have a comment or story to share? **Contact Jerrica Valtierra, Communications Specialist at jvaltierra@larabida.org.**

La Rabida News

Celebrating Resilient Children



La Rabida Children’s Advocacy Center celebrated 40 years of hope and healing for victims of child abuse and trauma. During Child Abuse Prevention Month in April, the CAC hosted a Community Safety Block Party to recognize more than 10,000 children and families who have been supported by our trauma-informed experts since 1986.

Save the Date FORE the Annual La Rabida Golf Classic

SAVE THE DATE

La Rabida’s 37TH Annual Golf Classic

August 3, 2026
Harborside International

Click [here](#) to reserve your spot and sponsorship!

For more information, contact Anne Mullen at (773)256-5955 or amullen@larabida.org

La Rabida Celebrating 130 Years

Support Our Mission

Books Drive the Magic of Reading



The excitement of opening a new book never gets old. Thanks to a recent book drive, our patients will continue to experience the magic of discovering new stories.

Thank you to our Corporate Advisory Board member, **Caroline Flaherty**, and the **PwC** Cross Deals team for hosting a book drive and donating 120 books to stock the shelves of our La Rabida Lighthouse Library.

La Rabida Board of Trustees member **Paul Tenuta** helped hand out the books to our patients and families.



If you’re interested in supporting our mission through an event or activity, **contact La Rabida Individual Giving Manager, Mary Kruse, at mkruse@larabida.org.**

Hopping in to Visit



Patients and families at La Rabida Children’s Hospital were surprised by a special visitor on Easter morning in April. Long-time hospital supporter and trustee **Allen Kutchins**, dressed as the Easter Bunny, delivered baskets to children who spent the holiday in the hospital, bringing smiles and creating cherished family memories.

Thank you to our **Corporate Advisory Board** for donating the baskets and to our volunteers and community partners, **who to Glory Family Christian Center**, who packaged the special gifts!

[Watch the news coverage here.](#)

Life at La Rabida

Earth Day at La Rabida was a sweeping success! Clinicians, administration, and support staff geared up to clean up our lakefront campus. Check out our [Flickr album](#) to see our commitment to the community and our patients’ futures by caring for the environment.



Follow us on all social platforms!

