



David's Recipe for Recovery, Parade for the Fourth, and More!

Patient Updates

David's Recipe for Recovery



July 2026 – David, 17, has the best views from his "classroom", where he works on his finance class project with Leola, a home/hospital teacher at La Rabida Children's Hospital.

The assignment is to develop a business plan, and David has it all measured out. He's an aspiring chef who hopes to open his own diabetes-friendly restaurant.

"One thing I'm really good at is cooking," says David. "It's really calming and helps me feel like I'm in control."

In September 2025, David started his journey toward recovery from organ failure and severe type 1 diabetes. As part of his medical management plan, David couldn't eat any food at all, but it still didn't deter his passion for cooking and sharing his creations with others.

"He came in with a complex injury that damaged his intestines and muscles, and was TPN dependent, and only getting IV fluids," says Dr. Tulsi Patel, our inpatient hospitalist. "La Rabida is a unique place, and we're able to provide continuity of care and acute medicine. Our goal was to get David strong enough mentally and physically so he could have the ostomy reconnection to restore his normal digestive process."

From the moment David came to La Rabida through months of rehabilitation and education, his optimism about his future continues to grow.

"I remember the first day I met him in our session," says Megan, physical therapist. "He's a tough kid. He is motivated to get back to walking and living his life. He was the one who asked to walk with the walker for the first time a few months ago, even though he was only able to stand for a little bit."

[Read more about David's recipe for recovery here](#)

La Rabida News

Celebrating 130 Years of Serving Our Children



What an honor it was to kick off our 130th anniversary with our trustees, community partners, and supporters, who have experienced or witnessed the life-changing care we provide to our patients.

La Rabida's 130-year celebration will always have a special place in the history of Illinois and Cook County. Governor JB Pritzker presented a proclamation, and Commissioner Donna Miller presented a resolution recognizing La Rabida's anniversary and dedication to providing specialized care to children, regardless of financial circumstances.

Our legacy of care would not be possible without the generations of physicians, nurses, therapists, administrative and support staff, and volunteers, past and present, who have given their time and talents to our patients and families.

Thank you to all who came to our campus for this special event! We look forward to continuing our celebrations with our patients, families, and staff in the months ahead.

La Rabida on Parade for the Fourth of July



Sunshine and bright smiles led the way at the 4th on 53rd Parade for the holiday weekend! For the second time, we proudly participated in the Hyde Park neighborhood parade with our La Rabida family, wearing red, white, and blue. We had a great time celebrating our nation's independence together with the community we serve.

We introduced our mascot to the masses too! Stay tuned for the official name reveal in next month's edition of Currents.

Support Our Mission

Book Your Spot Today



Drive, chip, and putt toward one goal: supporting our mission.

Book your spot to play a round at Harborside International Golf Center. Don't miss out on the opportunity to make an impact on a child's life.

Foursome and individual registration also include a post-outing cocktail and dinner reception.

Visit larabida.org/golf-classic to sign up, as availability is limited!



For more information, contact Director of Special Events and Corporate Development Anne Mullen at (773) 256-5955 or amullen@larabida.org.

Anchor Your Support for Generations



Kaini is looking at her reflection, but what we really see is a support system that always has her back.

La Rabida is anchored in supporting our patients and their families with the best possible pediatric care.

We specialize in family-oriented care that spans generations. Kaini's mom, Sade, was treated for type 1 diabetes at La Rabida Chicago Children's Diabetes Center as a child.

"After all these years, I ran into my diabetes doctor at the store, and she remembered me and my name," says Sade. "Everyone really cares here; that's why I knew my daughter would get the best care and feel the love and warmth."

You can be anchored in our mission and support our patients and their families for generations by making a monthly gift.



Visit our [giving page](#) and select "Make this a recurring gift," or contact La Rabida Annual Giving Manager, Mary Kruse, at mkruse@larabida.org.

Life at La Rabida

Reveals, resolutions, and proclamations are all captured moments from our 130th anniversary celebration event that you can relive! Check out our [Flickr albums](#)!



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