

2010 Chairs Campaign for Kids

Dear Friends

I am delighted to continue my support of the **Chairs Campaign for Kids**, to raise funds for the important services the Eugene Hearing and Speech Center has provided children in our community for 55 years. The Center has helped one of my own grandchildren with speech therapy and made a significant and positive difference in her young life. I am writing today to ask for your support for the Center's pediatric programs, and the youngsters who need them.

Dodge, Thomas and Harley, ages eight, seven, and five respectively, are typical youngsters who like to have fun. What most people may not realize is that all three brothers have hearing loss. Their Audiologist, Pediatric Specialist Susan Detels at the Eugene Hearing and Speech Center, says their loss is due to Sticklers Syndrome, an inherited disorder affecting connective tissue and is characterized by eye problems and joint problems in addition to hearing loss. "The boys are severely near-sighted, a typical finding with Sticklers. They will require hearing aids and corrective lenses the rest of their lives," she says. "All three boys are using FM Systems at their school, which allows the boys to hear their teacher directly in their hearing aids when she speaks into a microphone."

The boys' mom, Tegan, who officially adopted the trio recently, says the boys are coping well. "They have a 'no big deal' kind of attitude about their hearing loss," she says. She adds that Dodge and Thomas receive speech therapy because "they struggle with pronouncing sounds like 's,' 'sh,' 'ch,' and 't,'" she says. Harley's speech wasn't affected, since he was fitted with hearing aids at a younger age. All three boys maintain active interests. Dodge loves pirates and learning how things work. Thomas is the daredevil; he loves rock climbing and will try just about anything! Harley loves the outdoors, investigating flowers and bugs of all kinds. His new favorite word is "FABULOUS!"

According to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association:

- Vocabulary develops more slowly in children who have hearing loss.
- The gap between the vocabulary of children with normal hearing and those with hearing loss widens with age.
- The level of achievement is related to parental involvement and the quantity, quality, and timing of the support services children receive.

Your gift to this year's **Chairs Campaign for Kids** will help ensure all youngsters with communication challenges will get the help they need by supporting children's programs at EHSC. EHSC is the only non-profit organization in Lane County that provides youngsters the highest-quality hearing and speech/language services regardless of ability to pay.

Please be generous--100% of your contribution is an investment in a child's potential. As you know, hearing and speech skills are critical for me in my profession and I could not imagine my life without them. Please take a moment to print this page and use the coupon below to send in a donation today. You can also use the link below to make your donation online (please make sure to designate your online donation as "Chairs"). If you have donated before, *please* consider increasing your donation. Donors who give \$500 or more will receive special recognition. I thank you for your support and for caring about kids like Dodge, Thomas and Harley.

Sincerely,



Jerry Allen
Honorary Chairperson



Donate Now!



P.S. Remember- 100% of your tax deductible contribution goes directly to help local kids. Thank you!

Yes! I want to sponsor a "Chair" for a child at the Eugene Hearing and Speech Center. Enclosed is \$500

Enclosed is a gift in the amount of ___ \$250, ___ \$150, ___ \$50, Other \$ _____

I am employed by _____ and will ask my employer to match my gift.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Tax deductible gift amount \$ _____ Check enclosed ___ or Credit card number _____ Exp. Date _____

(VISA, Mastercard, Discover)

I prefer not to have my gift publicly acknowledged. I have remembered the Eugene Hearing and Speech Center in my will or estate plan.

I would like information on planned giving to benefit programs & services at EHSC. Please remit to Eugene Hearing and Speech Center:

1500 W. 12th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97402 Phone: 541.485.8521. Thank you.

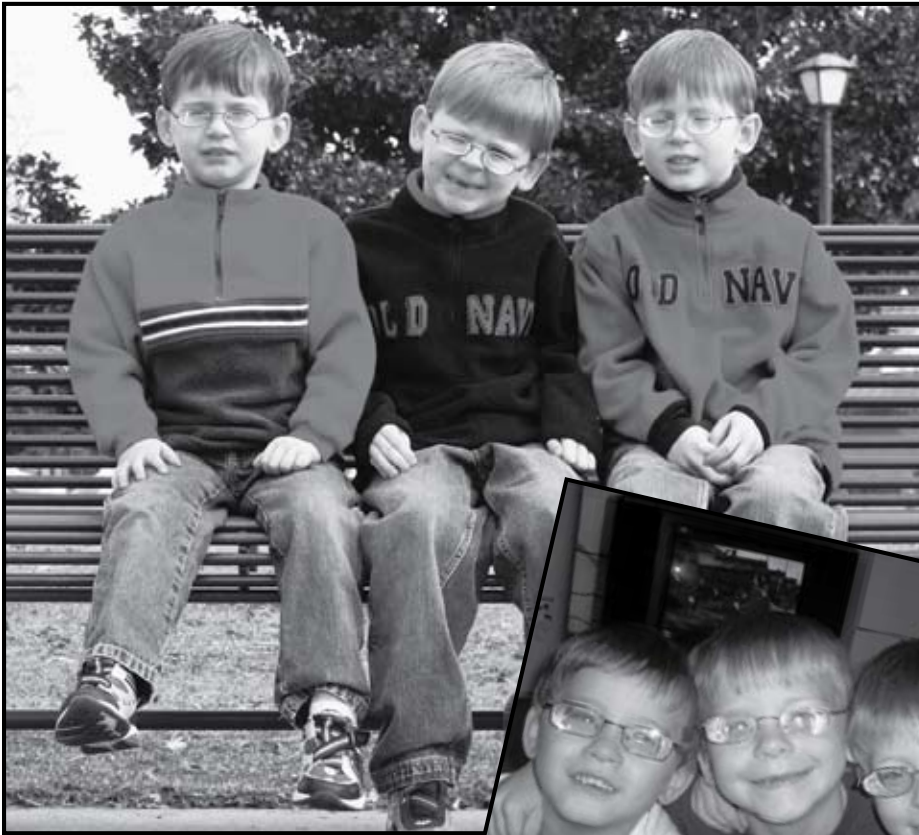
Your donation will help provide the following:

\$70 provides	30 minutes of Speech/Language Therapy
\$158 provides	One Pediatric Hearing Evaluation
\$250 provides	One Cochlear Implant Mapping Session
\$500 provides	Five Sessions in the Communication Classroom
\$1200 provides	Tuition for a child in the Summer Early Literacy Institute

Harley

Dodge

Thomas



Your gift to the 2010 Chairs Campaign will help youngsters like Harley, Dodge and Thomas. Please send in your donation today!