

LORIGRAM

Inspiring minds and encouraging hearts-one child at a time.



A VERY HAPPY FAMILY



We did it again! Another new van and another happy family. This new van, like the others we've given away went to a family that, after being randomly picked, was carefully selected from those finalists.

What a life changer for Kennett, who at nearly eight years old is growing and wants to get out and about. Since he loves to read one of his favorite destinations is the library. But as Mom explains it, loading him and his brother up can be a 15-minute process - one nobody enjoys. He is also eager to go to the beach, even a harder time prepping, which speaks to the positive ripple effect such a gift brings to the entire family.

Kennett's parents are his primary caregivers and having a dependable vehicle with a wheelchair loading ramp will save them the backbreaking effort of loading and unloading. While Lori's Voice does not deliver miracles - Mom says we answered her prayers.

A Board members attached a fake "Lori's Gift" license plate to the van. Fun, but not really accurate, it should read "from the Faithful Lori's Voice Donors". Without your support we would not have been able to answer the prayers.



WELCOME RACHAEL

Rachael Ruiz, a person familiar to many of you, has joined the Lori's Voice Board. Rachael is a reporter and host of the popular "eightWest" program on WOOD TV. In addition to being a fixture on television, Rachael can also be spotted at all kinds of local events, fundraising for charities and supporting the arts community.

Her experiences have taken her flying, hot-air ballooning, skydiving with the US Army Golden Knights, skating with the GR Roller Girls and cooking with local chefs. She is always on the go traveling throughout Michigan in search of the next interesting and generally offbeat story.



Rachael is married with two daughters but despite her busy schedule she has always taken the time to support Lori's Voice. She emceed and walked with her daughters at our Walk for the Challenged, interviewed us on eightWest multiple times, and speaks about our kids regularly. She truly has a heart for our Lori's Voice kids. Her participation on the Board is another way she is giving back to the community and helping children with special needs. Welcome Rachael.

LIFE'S UPS AND DOWNS



We take so many things for granted and certainly navigating steps is one of them. Kosie's bi-level home made it hard for her to utilize its spaces and, despite it not accommodating her needs, a new house was not an option. A lift is not something insurance covers, even though it's a pretty obvious necessity for someone in a wheelchair, so the family reached out to Lori's Voice for assistance. And look who's smiling now!

Kosie is clearly delighted with the new freedom her lift brings and her parents no longer have to carry her up and down the steps for her to fully participate in family functions.

New freedom for Kosie and no more back pain for Mom and Dad - the whole family wins. Thanks to our faithful donors, you have made a difference again.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW



Nathan

Nathan, a nine-year-old, had lots of obstacles, lots of needs and lots of potential. We learned of him then when he needed a ramp to get into his home. That was the first of many times we assisted the family. A van came next along with out of state travel costs and a beach wheelchair. We even helped arrange a regifted power chair - lots of items over lots of years, but at Lori's Voice we don't forget.

And neither has Nathan, he quickly and easily recounts what we have done for him and his family. Today, at 18, he recognizes the impact we have had on his life - in his words "Lori's Voice has enabled me to have complete freedom to get to school and out in the community and enjoy life to the fullest, without them it would not have been possible".

Kylee

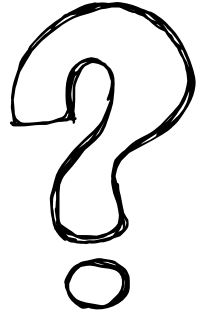


At two years old, with low muscle tone, Kylee needed a variety of things. Mom was overwhelmed when she discovered what insurance simply failed to cover. She learned of Lori's Voice at the doctor's office and over a few years we have helped Kylee with her orthotics, a walker, therapy and a communication device. Our assistance provided help to insure she had the right equipment at the right time in her life to inspire her to be her best.

So, it's been a few years - where is Kylee now? She's in Physical and Occupational therapy at Mary Free Bed and in the words of her Mother "she shows everyone, every day, how strong she is". Our help was instrumental in bringing her to where she is today - and with such a start who knows where she is headed.

WHAT DOES IT DO?

Medical breakthroughs happen regularly and for that we are thankful. But sometimes we have to ask - "what is it again that you need for your child"? We get requests from time to time that despite how long we have been helping children they are still firsts for us. Little Jolene needed a Bioness System of braces. This system makes it easier for her to clear her foot at different walking speeds, on stairs, ramps and uneven ground. Utilizing this system has enabled her to walk barefoot with correct foot positioning, lifting, heel striking and keeping her legs straight. Testing it initially at her therapy session it enabled her to build strength and endurance. Helping her purchase this system for daily use has, in the words of her Mother "change her life dramatically" Even though a bit unusual we were glad to help.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE - TODAY AND TOMORROW

Most donors share a common desire - to see their contributions have a lasting and meaningful impact. Your support of Lori's Voice does just that. Our assistance to children with special needs actually changes the lives of entire families. Often our support allows families and caregivers new freedom and can make new opportunities and experiences reachable. To say this is meaningful to them is an understatement.

In addition to envisioning the impact of your monthly gift, also consider the legacy of help you can deliver by remembering Lori's Voice in your estate plan.



Scan QR code to donate

Board of Directors

Janice Allen
Joanie Host
Duane Kluting
Jena Krueger
Rachael Ruiz
Michelle Vlug
Chris Weatherford

Lori's Voice, PO Box 66, Coopersville, MI 49404
www.lorisvoice.org