



# LOTS OF THINGS HAPPENING







Summer is looking busy. We have three major events happening and you can show your support for Lori's Voice by being part of them. Coming up quickly is our annual Walk for the Challenged to be held on June 15th at the Berlin Raceway and Entertainment Complex. We are expecting a big crowd to take advantage of the unique opportunity to get on the racetrack itself, and if so inclined join those making their way around the oval. Lots of activities and things to see including a new accessible van that could be yours!

Coming up on September 13th is our annual golf outing at Western Greens. You don't want to miss the chance to spend a day filled with golf, contests, raffles, dinner and a great time. We have attracted quite a crowd the last couple of years so sign up quickly. See our web site for details.

Last, and by no means least, we are giving away another fully accessible brandnew van. It will be parked at the Walk so you can get a chance to glimpse this beauty. Enter online and as a bonus you can double your chances of being the lucky family that gets it by also entering your name at the Walk. The van winner will be driving away with a big smile in August.

See our web site www.lorisvoice.org for details on these summer events.

### WALK AMBASSADORS

Every year at our Walk for the Challenged we have a goodwill ambassador. This young person is someone we have assisted in the past that acts as our spokesperson, appearing at media events and interviews. He or she represents us and explains what we do and the purpose of our Walk. This year is a bit different as we have two ambassadors. We've known these brothers. who are now young men, for many years. Lori's Voice has assisted them in acquiring a variety of items including travel for medical appointments, a ramp, an accessible van, a beach wheelchair and a power wheelchair. Many of the things that have made their lives easier were made possible through the generosity of our donors.

Representing us is their way of giving back join them on June 15th for the Walk.



# **MOM'S PULLING FOR YOU**





You can't really add to the smile on Annistyn's face, it pretty much tells the whole story. She loves getting out despite the temperature (note the blanket). Mom didn't have a nice stroller but had spotted wagons that she was certain would be perfect for a little girl in need of transport. She turned to us to help with the purchase and Mom tells us that she is always wanting to go - and Mom is eager to pull her around in the fresh air. Lori's Voice helps pay for many big, expensive, life altering items but sometimes the smaller things that bring a smile to a little face are the ones to remember.

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### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?





We first met Isiah at the Miracle League when he was five years old, a little guy just starting to get involved. That was nine years ago and since then we have helped him get into an accessible van as well as a cooling vest. But we don't hear from him only when he needs something - he gives back, always telling people what we have done for him and his family. In fact, one year he was our Walk for the Challenged ambassador. Always giving Lori's Voice credit, to anyone who will listen, for making his life much easier.

So where is he now? At 14 he will be starting high school this year - a whole new chapter in his life and one we are continuing to be part of. At the moment he is in need of a ramp to get in and out of his house and we will participate in funding the project. Come to the Walk and meet Isiah - he'll tell you all about it.

## **TECHNOLOGY ALLOWS YOU TO SPEAK**

Ethan needed a remarkable high-tech innovation, an eye gaze communication system. This eye tracking capability allows the user to browse the web, e-mail, call, text and speak. These methods of communication are often not possible to those with differing abilities, this kind of device levels the playing field.

We have helped with these systems in the past, but the capability has continued to improve and



Isiah

expand. Minute eye movements are tracked and converted to tablet commands allowing the user a variety of options. Nothing is attached to the child's head or body, but eye movement alone is processed and analyzed up to sixty times per second. This system has opened up a new world for Ethan and since he now has the capability of actually saying so - he wants to thank the Lori's Voice donors.

# **AGAIN SOMETHING NEW**

We received another one of those requests for something we've never heard of before. Joey routinely used a set of Blaze Pods during his sessions at physical therapy. His family thought they were really making a difference and the therapist recommended he get a set and begin using them at home.

Thinking that having them at home would be an easy way to extend his therapy time, his parents applied to us for assistance. That seems reasonable but - OK what in the world is a Blaze Pod?

Turns out Blaze Pods are training lights that boost reaction time and performance. As the user hits the strategically placed pods the user builds strength in their extremities and sharpens their focus. This exercise combines cognitive and physical training and is easily used at home. In a very short time Joey's parents feel he has made progress they believe is driven by this simple but effective product.

# **ALWAYS LOOKING FOR HELP**



At Lori's Voice, we want you to be part of our group. We are, at our core, a volunteer organization. We welcome your willingness to help us with a variety of task - particularly with the upcoming walk - contact us at info@lorisvoice.org to sign up. We also have the paid position of Executive Director open. This position will take on leadership of the organization. Again contact us if you are interested.



Scan QR code to donate

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