

EMPOWER

A newsletter for family & friends



Turnstone

SUMMER 2013

Going for goal

Billy Kinder

You can't keep a good young man down, and Billy Kinder is back on his game after suffering a stroke when he was just 10 years old.

It wasn't beginning to look a lot like Christmas for young Billy Kinder in December 2011. In fact, while his mom and dad, Lisa and Bill, and his older sister Brooke were looking forward to the holidays, Billy was not at all well. He'd started having severe headaches and couldn't keep any food down. Lisa and Bill thought he had the flu, and they hoped it would pass before Christmas really kicked in.

But then during a family get-together at grandma and grandpa's on December 23, Billy took a real turn for the worse. He fell down for no apparent reason and complained that his left hand kept "going to sleep." The Kinders knew it was time to

head to the ER. A subsequent CAT scan revealed that Billy had lesions on parts of his brain, and the doctor said Billy had suffered a massive stroke.

"We were in shock," Lisa says. "Strokes happen to older people, not to little boys. Billy was a perfectly healthy kid. No problems whatsoever. But we were told that if he didn't receive immediate specialized treatment, he could die or be left in a vegetative state."

Billy was rushed by ambulance to Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

"We didn't know if he'd make it through the night," Lisa recalls.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2





Billy Kinder with his mom, Lisa.

First, it was determined that a blood clot had developed in Billy's brain. During a three-and-a-half-hour surgery, surgeons removed a small section of his skull to alleviate the swelling and stabilize him. Billy responded well to the surgery, and just a week later, he began physical and occupational therapies at Riley.

"Billy's a tough kid, and he was doing well," Lisa says. "But he was a little depressed because he couldn't walk without assistance."

Then, however, Billy began having problems lifting his head and with his vision. It turned out that spinal fluid was leaking from the surgical incision, which had become infected. Soon Billy was back in the operating room to repair a pinhole tear in the dura around his brain. With the problem fixed, Billy began therapy again. He spent a total of 35 days at Riley, including Christmas and his birthday.

"We never got a definitive explanation of what caused Billy's stroke," Lisa says. "The doctors talked about the possibility that it was caused by central nervous system vasculitis, an inflammation of blood vessel walls in the brain or spine. What we did

find out is that strokes are more prevalent in children than people think. That's something parents need to be aware of. The good news is that since Billy is so young, his brain has a better chance of repairing itself."

After being discharged from Riley, Billy could walk again, but he needed additional therapy. Lisa had heard good things about Turnstone from a friend, and Bill had already seen firsthand what goes on at the center. "We have a friend who had taken her child to Turnstone, and she was very satisfied with the therapy provided there. And Bill's company was the general contractor during the building of the new pediatric therapy wing at Turnstone. Bill said Turnstone was quite a place.

"I'd always thought that Turnstone was just for long-term therapy," Lisa continues. "I didn't know about the short-term therapy, the sports programs, and everything else they offer. It is quite a place, and Billy loved it there."

After a few months of physical and occupational therapy at Turnstone, Billy, now 12, is playing sports again. Soccer is his new favorite. Next fall, he'll be a seventh-grader at St. Vincent Catholic School, where Lisa also serves as a substitute teacher.

"Turnstone has been so important in Billy's recovery," Lisa says. "They're such talented, caring people who knew how to help Billy reach his goals. We always received such a warm welcome every time we walked into Turnstone—no matter how sad Billy was. Everyone knew Billy by name, and he was treated as a unique person, not just as another client."

And what does Billy have to say? "I liked my therapists because they encouraged me and made therapy fun," he says. "I also liked that I could swim in the therapy pool and play basketball in the gym. Turnstone is a good place for kids." 🌟

NOT JUST FUN AND GAMES

In this *Empower*, we feature the story of Billy Kinder, a resilient young man who has bounced back after having a stroke when he was just 10 years old. I recently had breakfast with Lisa and Bill Kinder, Billy's parents. Bill is an executive with Michael Kinder & Sons, the company that built our new Madge Rothschild Pediatric Therapy Wing.

Bill commented that he hadn't appreciated the scope of what we do until he became involved in building the new wing. That's something we struggle with—the perception that people have about what we do. Therapy will always be at the core of our work, but we offer so much more to people with disabilities.

One of the areas in which we're continuing to grow is adaptive sports and recreation. In fact, we're now the fourth-largest adaptive sports and recreation center in the country. Adaptive sports is one venue where people can really see the abilities possessed by people with disabilities. For example, I've seen people who are absolutely in awe after seeing their first power soccer match.

We currently have 170 athletes in our adaptive sports and recreation programs. We offer golf, basketball, tennis, power soccer, sled hockey, archery, kayaking, and hand-cycling. We'll soon offer seated volleyball, and with the help of Concordia High School rowing coach John Hoham, who's also a certified adaptive rowing coach, that sport will be part of our program, too.

Our athletes travel around the country, and they've made a real name for themselves and Turnstone. We're also gaining momentum as a Paralympic sports club. One of our athletes, Tom Davis, a veteran of the war in Iraq, is working toward a spot on the U.S. Paralympic hand-cycling team.

But adaptive sports and recreation isn't just about fun and games. There's a lot of evidence indicating that people with disabilities who play adaptive sports are more likely to be

employed and have more friends.

They have fewer secondary health complications, fewer hospital stays, less body fat, and greater muscle mass. They're more involved in the community, more independent, more likely to travel, and they have more self-confidence. In short, adaptive sports change lives. Those who participate are more productive and happier, and they enjoy a greater quality of life than those who don't participate.

That's why the growth of adaptive sports and recreation is so important to us—because it's so important in the lives of people with disabilities. And that's why we want to become the premier adaptive sports and recreation center in the United States. In addition, we want to be a leader in training Paralympic athletes. As we grow in this arena, we'll serve more people with disabilities and host more events that attract visitors from around the country. The latter is good for our local economy.

Yes, we have lofty goals in this regard. But with your help, we can get there. While we can always use your financial support, we also need more people to become involved in adaptive sports and recreation. For instance, if you're a volleyball coach, ask us how you can gain certification as a seated volleyball coach.

No matter how you choose to contribute, just get in our game. You're sure to be a winner.



Nancy J. Louraine



HATS OFF AND THANKS TO ...

The **Carlie Cunningham Foundation**, the **Clinton E. Newman Foundation**, and the **IPFW Student Athlete Leadership Team** for their support of Turnstone's adaptive sports and recreation program.

...

The **Parrot Charitable Foundation** and the **Fort Wayne Branch of the American Association of University Women Trust** for supporting Turnstone's Dr. Robert Kimbrough Early Learning Center.

...

To the **friends of Turnstone** who have contributed toward the purchase of Strikeforce power wheelchairs for the power soccer athletes.

...

The **National Alliance for Accessible Golf** for the SWING! program grant award. This gift will allow Turnstone to introduce people with physical disabilities to golf as a sports and leisure activity to support a healthy lifestyle.

...

The **University of Saint Francis School of Creative Arts** for once again partnering with Turnstone to create a photography exhibition of children and adults with disabilities for permanent display at the agency.

...

The **Psi Iota Xi Sorority, Pi Chapter**, for its support of Turnstone's pediatric speech therapy program.

...

Pizza Hut of Fort Wayne for holding another successful Turnstone Buffet Night. This year, more than \$2,678 was raised to support the agency and its programs.

...

The **Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne**, **Davita Total Renal Care**, the **Dorset Charitable Trust**, **I.O.O.F Harmony Lodge No. 19**, the **John Chapman Fund**, the **Journal Gazette Foundation**, the **Rosemary and Carson Noecker Family Foundation**, the **Ove W. Jorgensen Family Foundation**, the **Parrish Foundation**, **Rudd Equipment**, **Swiss Re America**, the **Charlie Tippmann Foundation**, the **Edward M. & Mary McCrea Wilson Foundation**, and the **Robert, Carrie and Bobbie Steck Family Foundation** for their support of Turnstone's core programs and services.

...

The **Theta Theta Chapter of Psi Iota Xi Sorority** for the donation to purchase an iPad to enhance the occupational and speech therapy programs and for their volunteer hours at events.

The **Indiana Youth Institute** for the professional development funds to send a staff member to the 6th Annual Paralympic Leadership Conference.

...

The **United States Tennis Association** for the program grant to help underwrite the cost of a wheelchair tennis clinic, wheelchair tennis lessons, and the annual wheelchair tennis tournament in 2013. And, **Dr. Rudy Kachmann** for his donation of the prize money.

...

Grace Presbyterian Church and **Plymouth Congregational Church** for their gifts in support of Turnstone's residential ramp building program.

...

Three Rivers Barricade & Equipment for the generous donation of batteries that help to keep our agency working!

...



St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School's fourth-grade class with Turnstone staff and athlete Kevin Hughes.

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School's fourth-grade class for once again organizing a successful Read-A-Thon. This year, students raised \$4,344 to help purchase a Strikeforce power wheelchair for a power soccer athlete.

...

The **Ian and Mimi Rolland Foundation** and **Carol Rolland** for their continued support of Turnstone's adult day program.

...

Organized labor and its families, the **United Way of Allen County**, **Holsum of Fort Wayne**, **Nestle Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream**, **Ferrellgas**, **Juggler's Anonymous**, **High Hopes clowns**, the **Outta Hand Band**, and the **many volunteers** who made this year's annual client picnic possible. Also thank you to Spencer Lewis and the Fort Wayne Firefighters.

...

A special thank you to **Vickie Meyers** for her many years of service to the United Way and Turnstone. Vickie retired in June.

 **"LIKE" US — ON FACEBOOK**

You can now become a fan of Turnstone on Facebook. Like us at www.facebook.com/TurnstoneCenter

NEWS NOTES

A royal flush

Turnstone's 38th Annual Casino Night was another record-breaking event! More than 600 people attended this year to raise over \$52,000 in support of Turnstone's pediatric therapy, wellness, education, and recreational programs. A very big thank you to the 150 volunteers for all of their hard work in making this event a huge success. And many thanks to our event sponsors, donors, and guests. A complete list of sponsors will be published in the 2012–2013 Annual Report.



Michelle and Karen Love volunteered at the record-breaking 38th Annual Casino Night.

Health and Wellness

Starting June 10, Turnstone's Health and Wellness Department will offer personal fitness training to current and new members. Training will be available for up to an hour in our fitness center and pool. Current members can receive a free 20-minute trial session. Schedule your appointment and/or get more information by contacting EJ or Amber at (260) 483-2100.

3rd Annual Cruise-in

Showcase your sweet classic car or motorcycle at Turnstone's 3rd Annual Cruise-In. Join us on Saturday, August 17, from 4 to 8 p.m. at Turnstone. Jumby's Joint food truck will be on hand, and the kids will love our play zone. Awards will be presented for best in show and people's choice. Registration is \$15 per vehicle and includes one 2013 Turnstone Corvette Raffle ticket and dash plaque. All proceeds benefit Turnstone's sports and recreation program. For more information or to volunteer, contact Erin Arnold at (260) 483-2100 or erin@turnstone.org.

Classic Corvette Raffle

This dream car could be yours if you have the winning ticket! You can check out this year's 'Vette, a 1965 Sting Ray, by stopping by one of several locations this summer and fall. Featuring its original 350-horsepower engine with four-speed transmission, knock-off tires and side pipes, this car gets a lot of attention. Tickets are available at Turnstone or by calling (260) 483-2100. Tickets are \$10 each, three for \$25, seven for \$50, 15 for \$100, or 40 for \$250. The winning ticket will be drawn on October 10, 2013, at 6 p.m. Indiana raffle license #129886.

See the Corvette in person at these locations:

- **July 20:** Lawton Park Car Show
- **July 27:** Muddy River Run at IPFW
- **August 10:** Roanoke Farmer's Market
- **August 17:** Turnstone's 3rd Annual Cruise-In
- **August 24:** BF Goodrich Car Show
- **Aug. 29-Sept. 1:** Auburn Labor Day Car Show
- **September 28:** James Dean Car Festival in Fairmount



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Thanks to all who gave honoraria and memorials to Turnstone between January 1 and May 22, 2013.

IN MEMORY OF...

Verlon Allen

Mrs. Tina Acosta
Mr. & Mrs. John Clark
Family of Verlon Allen
Mr. & Mrs. Dan
Scarborough

Jeffrey Bell

Ms. Beth Lauer

Marvin Berron

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Mr. & Mrs. David Matson
Mr. David Moss
Ms. Julie Shaw
Mr. & Mrs. Garry Sink
Mr. & Mrs. Percy Talati
Dr. & Mrs. Jim Wells

The Friends We've Lost In Adult Day Services

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Robert Johnson

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Mr. Dennis Bobilya
Ms. Mary Bogenschutz
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Ms. Dorothy Mowery
Mrs. Dorothy Smith
Ms. Donna Stephens
Miss Courtney Stetter
Mr. Brian Zehr
Mr. Richard Zehr

Branden Perrine

Mr. Scott Hughes

WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Casey Harper Physical Therapist
Brittany Padgett Teacher
Cher Jackson Teacher
Kelsey Robertson Teaching Assistant
Mackenzie Parks Teaching Assistant
Deb Edwards Occupational Therapist

JOIN TEAM TURNSTONE!

More than 200 people will join Team Turnstone during the **6th Annual Fort4Fitness** in September. We've raised over \$30,000 during previous Fort4Fitness events, and anticipate raising even more this year. If you've already sent in your registration and didn't sign up with us—let us know, and you can be added to our team! If you've already signed up for our team—thank you!

Everyone who joins Team Turnstone will receive a T-shirt. The day of the race we hope to cover Fort Wayne with people showing support for Turnstone with their race shirts. There's no fundraising required to join the team or get a T-shirt.

To join Team Turnstone:

1. Sign up for the Fort4Fitness race at: <http://www.fort4fitness.org>. During Step 2 of the registration form, item No. 12: Charity Partner Code, enter "Turnstone." Please note this code is case sensitive. By entering this code, you'll indicate that you're a member of our team.

2. Start raising money! Though not a requirement to be part of our team, you can raise funds using a pledge form, by sending personalized letters, or by using an online fundraising site, such as www.firstgiving.com. Anyone raising more than \$200 will receive a special gift from Turnstone. Contact Beth Stein if you have questions or need help. No matter how you raise funds, you'll be creating possibilities.

Turnstone Center for
Children and Adults with Disabilities
3320 North Clinton Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46805
(260) 483-2100



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UPCOMING EVENTS

CHAMPIONS CUP NATIONAL POWER SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Thursday through Saturday, July 18-20
IPFW Fieldhouse

2nd ANNUAL SLED HOCKEY COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

Saturday, September 14, 3 to 7 p.m.
Lutheran Health Sports Center



▶ Scan our QR code to visit the Turnstone website.