

KIDS talk with Kids CENTER

FOR PEDIATRIC THERAPIES

In our Summer 2018 Issue:

WELCOME BRITTANY LUTKE

Kids Center welcomes its fourth Executive Director in the organization's history. Learn about her passion for Kids Center and a lot more.

Get the details: p. 02



KIDS CENTER BY THE NUMBERS

What do the numbers 55,000 or 1,400 have to do with pediatric therapy?

And why does the number 1,103 matter so much to the kids and therapists at Kids Center?

Read on: p. 05

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT: LEO MOYER

Born with Partial Trisomy 18 and a rare, unnamed 9th chromosomal defect, Leo Moyer's family was concerned he would never walk or talk. Follow their journey from the NICU to crossing the finish line at this year's Walk and Roll.

Their story: p. 06

KIDS CENTER GALA

New for 2018, the Kids Center Gala will be an exciting addition to our event line-up. Join Kids Center on October 20 for great food, drinks, silent and live auction items, and dancing until midnight at The Omni Louisville.

More details: p. 09



From the Desk of the Executive Director

Meet our new Executive Director, Brittany Lutke



Catching up with Kids Center

See the highlights from April, May, and June



Spotlight: Leo Moyer

Read about the Moyer family's journey from birth to independent walking at age three



Extended Programming Updates

A word from Extended Programs Coordinator Kara Vonderheide



Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for some fun events to benefit Kids Center

From the desk of Executive Director Brittany Lutke

As I write this letter, only two months into my work here at Kids Center, I am struck by how many lives are touched each day with the therapies we provide. Though I knew the numbers were impressive (700 appointments a week!), seeing what happens in the gyms, clinics, and even hallways of this place gives me a new perspective. In these weeks, I have witnessed the impact: from a child working on walking and posture with focused strides to longtime clients graduating from speech therapy. It's an honor to be a part of the Kids Center family, and I look forward to seeing, meeting, and growing with all of you soon!



I enjoyed meeting many of our families, clients, and community partners for a fun morning of celebration at our Walk and Roll event in early June. It is important to recognize and celebrate the achievements of our kids (and do it in a fun way!). Meeting people who are involved with Kids Center in a variety of ways and hearing their stories has been the best part of my first months here, and I can't wait to meet even more of you at our first ever Gala. Mark your calendars, because October 20 at the Omni Louisville is going to be a fabulous night, with great food, drinks, and auction items to benefit Kids Center.

I often explain Kids Center's work by telling others that we provide physical, occupational, and speech-language therapy that changes the lives of kids with developmental delays and disabilities. And we can't emphasize how important that work is. But I've also been struck by the positive work that happens here outside of traditional therapy. This year, our extended programming offers FUNtastic Fridays, two hours of organized play. I was lucky to be a part of "Water day." Although technically not therapeutic, I can tell you from my experience there are plenty of benefits for kids to be outside with water balloons interacting and cheering each other on! So join us—stop by Kids Center, pop in to say hello. I can't wait to get to work building our future with all of you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brittany". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brittany is Kids Center's fourth Executive Director in 60 years!

Find out what makes her tick.

What do you like to do in your free time?

On the weekends I try to be outdoors as much as possible. I like to work out, garden, stand-up paddle board, ride motorcycles, and visit a park with my dogs.

What's your favorite '90s jam?

There are so many... "Bittersweet Symphony" by the Verve is one of my all-time favorites.

If you could have a super power what would it be?

To fly—fast!

Since being at Kids Center what do you like most?

Being in an environment with kids. I love when I get to drop in on therapy for a couple minutes, or when kids stop by my office for candy. Hearing giggles and sweet voices coming from the lobby is a nice reminder when I'm working.



Kids Center for Pediatric Therapies is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit governed by a board of directors:

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Catching up with Kids Center

Team Ability crosses the finish line

April



For the fourth year in a row, therapists from Kids Center's central campus ran the Kentucky Derby Marathon Relay to support Kids Center. As Team Ability came to the finish line, they were joined by dozens of kids walking, running, and rolling with them. They were also joined by a large cheer from the finish line crowd.

Adam Tribsch honored by mayor

May



Adam Tribsch, who has seen physical therapist Lynn Lukins since he was four, was honored by Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer as one of 50 Outstanding High School Seniors. Adam was honored for his spirit, determination, and commitment to the community. Lynn says, "Adam is just one of those wonderful kids. ... [His diagnosis] has never stopped him from participating. And that's what always amazes me." Next year, Adam will be attending the Speed School at the University of Louisville, where he plans to study computer science.

Walk and Roll brings the fun

June



On June 9th, over 200 families and friends of Kids Center turned Fourth Street Live into a party. Together, 37 teams of walkers raised over \$50,000 to help kids get the life-changing therapies Kids Center provides every day! Top teams included Republic Bank, Logsdons for Levi, Arya's Red Hot Chili Steppers, and Johnny B's Walkstars. Will your team be at the top next year?

Why give to support the kids at Kids Center for Pediatric Therapies?



Programs



Specialized pediatric physical, occupational, and speech therapies in a child-friendly outpatient center



Our Orthopedic and Spasticity Clinics offer a multidisciplinary setting for coordination of care



Our Feeding Clinic addresses feeding difficulties—like dependence on a feeding tube—in the context of other therapeutic interventions



Extended programs provide creative, innovative camps outside of traditional therapy models

Reach

Therapy hours each year

55,000

Kids served each year

1,400

Appointments each week

700

Clients ages 0 to 5

530

Clients ages 6 to 17

792

Clients ages 18 to 21

51



Family

“ My daughter has been able to make leaps and bounds—if you look at her a year ago with what she was able to do and what she's capable of doing today. Without Kids Center, families like mine would be in a very different situation. ”

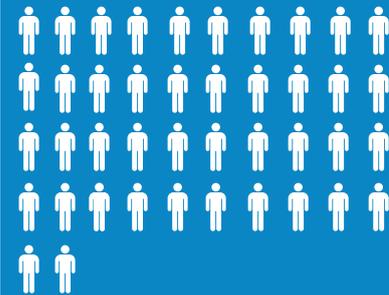
—Parent of Kids Center client

Experience

60
Years Kids Center
has existed

100%
Therapists with
advanced degrees in
their fields

42 Therapists
on staff



You

1,103

Kind donors helped
in 2017



SPOTLIGHT: LEO MOYER

CONTINUING TO LEARN, GROW, AND
THRIVE!

BY AMANDA GAHAFFER

June 11, 2015 was a day Kenny and Morgan Moyer had been waiting for, as it would be the birth of their first child. Morgan's pregnancy was a typical pregnancy with all the joys that come with it, and at each doctor's visit they received a perfect bill of health. They were ready to meet their baby boy. At 1:18 a.m., when baby Leo entered the world, tears of joy turned into tears of fear. Leo wasn't breathing and doctors knew something was wrong. So Leo was immediately intubated and rushed to the NICU (neonatal intensive care unit) where it was discovered that in the back of his nostrils no nasal passages had been formed. That morning, doctors worked to determine the next steps for little Leo.



Separated from Leo, Morgan had to wait until 4:30 a.m. when her epidural wore off before she could walk to see her baby boy. Within 12 hours of birth Leo was transported to Cincinnati Children's Hospital where a life-saving operation would be conducted. After three days Morgan and Kenny were finally able to hold their son.

While in Cincinnati, the Moyers searched for more answers and consulted with a geneticist who ran tests and determined that overall Leo was a healthy baby boy and could return home after healing from surgery. A follow-up appointment was scheduled, so at 3 months Morgan drove to Cincinnati so Leo could be evaluated. Morgan received the unexpected news that Leo had low muscle tone and was not developing as he should be. They decided to run some tests to figure out if there was something else going on, and after a month Kenny and Morgan received the news that Leo had a condition called "Partial Trisomy 18." They also suspected a second chromosomal defect so rare it does not even have an official name where Leo is missing parts of his 9th chromosome.

Leo's conditions are so rare that Cincinnati Children's has never had a patient like Leo, therefore they ordered a brain MRI hoping to get answers. The doctors' and Moyers' biggest concerns for Leo were that he would never talk, never walk, and potentially never be able to live independently.

"We were very overwhelmed, but we took it in stride," said Morgan. "You do anything you can for your child." Back home in Louisville, Kenny and Morgan began researching options and ways to help Leo, signing up for First Steps and getting the process started so that Leo could receive all the services and to improve his quality of life. As they waited to begin receiving services with First Steps, Morgan had decided to take Leo with her to a "mommy and me" Yoga class. It was at this class that Morgan met Kelly Kremer, a physical therapist at Kids Center meeting Leo, Kelly knew that he could greatly benefit from the services Kids Center offers.

To watch him overcome all of these obstacles like they aren't obstacles at all has been incredibly special.

—Kelly Kremer, PT

At four months old Leo started physical and feeding therapies at Kids Center, eventually adding speech and occupational therapies. December 5, 2017, at two years old, Leo took his first independent steps. "Walking independently was always a major goal for Leo," Morgan said. "It was such a great day!" Right before his third birthday, they officially had a walker!

Leo has continued to grow, learn, and thrive since joining Kids Center. On Saturday June 9th while he might not have walked the whole mile, Leo walked across the finish line at our Walk & Roll event. We cannot wait to see what the future holds for Leo, Morgan, Kenny and new baby sister Frances—but something tells me it's going to be great!



This program is brought to you by Kids Center

A word from Extended Programs Coordinator Kara Vonderheide



In 2017, Kids Center embarked on a journey to provide creative, innovative programming to both current clients and new friends by drawing upon the exceptional knowledge of our therapists and growing community partnerships. But the roots for extended programming go back to 2006. At that time, we began to take notice that certain life skills were not being reimbursed by insurance, and Kids Center aimed to fill this gap. Handwriting camp was born. Since 2006, more camps and groups were created, like the social skills group and the Firecrackers. But therapists lacked the time to develop ideas and plan for these much-needed interventions.

Learn more about extended programming at kidscenterky.org/services/extended-programming/

or contact
extendedprograms@kidscenterky.org

In the summer of 2017 Kids Center developed a new position devoted solely to tackling these barriers, and I took the reins of our Extended Programming initiative. This year, we are offering handwriting camp, social skills groups, music camps, playgroups, the Kids Center Running Club, and FUNtastic Fridays—a summer collaboration with Elevate Recreation.

I'm so excited to see these programs take off! They are offered as fee for service, and in the last few years parents have used flexible spending accounts (FSAs), health savings accounts (HSAs), or made their own investment to pay for exactly what their kids need at exactly the right time. Extended programs are often a good supplement to therapy or transition from one-on-one therapy services to independence.

Upcoming Events



Kids Center Gala

We are excited to share that the Kids Center Gala will be held at The Omni Louisville on Saturday, October 20, 2018. Adults 21 and over are invited to purchase tickets and tables for this event, which will include great food, drinks, silent and live auction items, and dancing—all for a great cause. Join event co-chairs Sydney Doctor, Shellie May, and Dana Reinhardt, and our Board of Directors to celebrate 60 years of helping kids learn, grow, and thrive!

Sponsorship opportunities available by contacting Kids Center at 502-584-9781 or development@kidscenterky.org

Learn more at kidscenterky.org/gala

Epic Man 5K

Join Fifth Third Insurance, Epic Insurance Solutions, and Integrity HR for this 5K run/walk to benefit Kids Center!



August 11, 2018, 8:00 a.m.
Iroquois Park, 2120 Rundill Road
Registration at kidscenterky.org/epic5k



Scotty Davenport Golf Scramble

A golf scramble to benefit Kids Center and the Louisville Scottish Rite Foundation, which supports speech-language therapy for children ages 2 to 5.



September 17, 2018
Persimmon Ridge Golf Club
Registration at scottydavenportscramble.com



**Scottish Rite
Foundation**

TEAM SHAAN

Team Trivia Challenge and Golf Scramble

Team Shaan Foundation is partnering with Kids Center for the second year in a row. Their annual trivia night includes fun pub trivia and a silent auction. The next day features lunch and a golf scramble. Proceeds from both events benefit Kids Center.

Sponsored By



Trivia Night: Friday Aug. 3



Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

\$25 per person or \$150 per team

A fun night of competition, friendship and raising money for a great cause. Enter your team of six to compete in a throw down trivia challenge. Team themes are encouraged! *Prizes awarded to top teams*

Golf Scramble: Saturday Aug. 4



12:00 p.m. Registration and Lunch

1:30 p.m. Shotgun Start (scramble format)

6:30 Prizes

\$150 per player or \$600 per team (limited number of teams available)

Lunch, complimentary drinks/beer and snacks on the course included.

Contact development@kidscenterky.org to register your team today!

Kids

CENTER

FOR PEDIATRIC THERAPIES



Join Us!

Through speech, physical, and occupational therapies, we help over 1,400 children with developmental delays and disabilities annually. To be happy and productive community members in the future, they need to receive the skilled therapies that Kids Center provides now.

Because of you, children will take their first steps when it didn't seem possible. They will start singing and talking when they had been nonverbal. They will celebrate their progress, made possible by you.

Please give at kidscenterky.org/donate

