

Since 2000

# SISU CHILDREN'S FUND

SUMMER 2022

## WE ARE BACK IN BUSINESS

Last newsletter you heard we did not receive any requests because the various agencies thought we were shut down permanently. After contacting therapists and various agencies we are back in business again. Following is how we spent your donations:

We purchased a half-circle rocker for a one-year-old child. This rocker has a pad for comfort, but it can also be turned upside down and used as climbing equipment and has an attached slide. This is soothing for the child to rock in, builds muscle and coordination.

We purchased a tomato chair for a two-year-old that has a diagnosis that only 500 worldwide have. She can't walk and needs safe seating for support. She also has seizures and cortical vision insufficiency. Picture a high chair that can tilt for feeding, upright for sitting, all snuggled in spongy padding. It is called a tomato chair because it is firm to hold the child, but soft and cuddly at the same time.

Another two-year-old described as "always in motion and never appears to lose steam." He enjoys big-body motion so we provided a Fold and Store Indoor Trampoline.

A child in a wheelchair received ramps for getting her into a van and a short ramp for the step into the house.

Therapist Emily Sabelhaus contacted us about an intensive therapy sessions that is not available in many places. We approved 6 sessions at \$120.00 per session.

We purchased a specialized tricycle for a seven-year-old with Cerebral Palsy so she can ride with her brothers and also build strength and mobility. She uses a wheelchair and a gait trainer to help her learn to walk.

We have approved \$1,200 for neurofeedback sessions for FASD and ASD. She is fortunate to have adoptive parents that are doing everything they can to help her.

Another teenager has moved in with her grandmother who is trying to help her with emotional problems. She is going to Animals and Natural Therapy on an almost full scholarship, but there was a small amount to pay and we helped out with that for two sessions. Grandma reported back that she has made some friends and is happier.

A two-year-old with Cerebral Palsy is unable to communicate; to help him we have purchased an iPad that will be loaded with a special program so he can point to what he needs or wants to do. It will also help teach him to speak.

We had three children on a therapeutic riding scholarship for winter sessions, and our spring session has five children. We lost one child because he grew up and turned 21, but we gained two new ones. Northwest Therapeutic Riding Center and Julia Bozzo has a wonderful program and thanks to her fund raising efforts, the cost is more than half the price of other programs. I have seen a child slumped in a wheelchair and when she got on the horse you could see how powerful she felt, not to mention the joy of riding.



## ***SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS***

**The Following students each received a \$1,000 scholarship to continue their education:**

**Kayla Aalpole** graduated from Meridian High School and will be attending George Fox University in Newburg, Oregon. Kayla has been dealing with immunodeficiency all her life, but it has not stopped her from achieving in academics, athletics, and her goal to be a health provider.

**Ethan Foote** graduated from Nooksack Valley High School and will be attending Grand Canyon University to study business. In sixth grade Ethan had a brain tumor which caused a hearing loss in his right ear. Two years of in and out of hospitals he struggled to keep up with his class, but nothing was able to hold him down with his great perseverance.

**Bethany Huizenga** graduated from Lynden Christian School and was on the Honor Roll all four years. She will be attending Judson University in Elgin, Illinois where she hopes to major in interior design and architecture. At three years old she was close to dying and ended with chronic kidney disease. Again, not feeling good many, many days does not keep her down.

**Jacob Jepperson** Graduated from Sedro Woolley High School with 4.0 GPA all four years, which included AP and advanced classes. Jacob will be attending University of South Florida in Tampa where he plans to work for a degree in medicine. His first passion was to travel and he will use that passion to see the world as a doctor, volunteer and aid worker.

**Madeline Reyes** graduated from Sehome High School and plans on attending Washington State University, where she will be on the Cheer Team and major in Public Health. Madeline has congenital heart disease and had her first surgery at three months and is a member of the Zipper Club. She volunteers with the American Heart Association and Tobacco End Game and is working on her Girl Scout Gold Award with a project about CPR/AED training.

**Ella Sickelsteel** graduated from La Conner High School and will be attending Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona. Ella was diagnosed with a heart condition when she fainted after a sprint on a treadmill. In 5th grade she was diagnosed with Auditory Processing Disorder. Her hard work and perseverance will surely give her success in life.

**The following students received a \$2,500 scholarship for Bellingham Technical College:**

**Geraldo Andrade Suarez** graduated from Ferndale High School, taking welding and aquaculture classes. Despite inflammatory gastrointestinal disease he is a dedicated learner.

**Thereon Spanier** also graduated from Ferndale High School and was in the Advanced Chamber Orchestra and Track and Field. He is also an excellent self-taught pianist. Thereon plans on studying diesel or mechanical engineering.



Kayla AAlpolel



Madeline Reyes



Jacob Jepperson



## ***DONATIONS***

Anita Bjork & Jim Anziano

Lynda & Bob Brillowsky

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Florence Lundquist

Barbara Macklow

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**In Honor of Terry & Will Carten**

Marion Foote

**Sisu Children's fund  
8217 Chehalis Road  
Blaine, WA 98230**

**Celebrating 22 years**

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**WE ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS AND HAVE NO  
EMPLOYEES**

**501(C)3 PUBLIC CHARITY  
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**Important Dates to Remember**

**Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2022 Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2022 Board Meeting**

**Any applications for funding needs to be sent  
prior to the above dates for consideration**