



Welcome

The MINOR Improvements PT family continues to grow and grow. We are pleased to welcome several new patients for November. We would like to extend a warm welcome to Ben, Chelsea, Michael, Ella, Ryan, Molly, Walker, Jenna, Carissa, Trey, Phillip, Kiersten, Liz, and Matthew. We would also like to welcome back Devon.



Trey work with Sara



Phillip stretches

Happy Birthday!

Birthday wishes for November go out to: Ryan, Jordan, Kathleen, Brigid, Kaelya, Allison, Kyle, Deborah, Nicholas, Mathew, Kendall, Lauren, and Liz. Happy December birthdays to Alex, Tommy, Daniel, Rachael, Abigail, Nik, Carissa, and Victoria.



Nicholas works his way around on the scooter



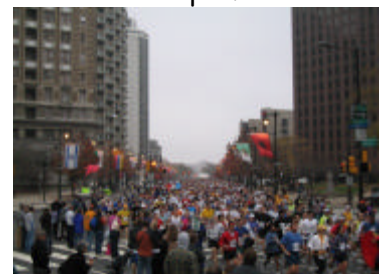
Liz walks down the hall



Danny is excited about turning 1

Shaun runs his 10th Marathon

On November 21, Shaun participated in and completed his 10th marathon. Shaun began marathoning in 2001 in Philadelphia. He ran that race in a time of 3 hours and 14 minutes. He had since posted a personal best of 2:44.29 in Keene, NH in September. After winning in Keene this year Shaun contemplated taking the rest of the fall off. However, instead he found it fitting to return to Philly to run his 10th marathon. The result was a 50th place finish out of 10,000 runners and a personal best time of 2:44.14 (just a hair faster than Keene). His next race will be the First Night 5K in Saratoga. He hopes to be joined by fellow MINOR Improvements PT family members Steve and Cynthia. Shaun will resume marathoning in the spring as he takes to the pavement in Boston next April.



10,000 runners storm the streets of Philadelphia on November 21, 2004

In Memory Of Gabrielle June 29, 1995-December 4, 2004



Gabby and Karen smile as the work in Greenfield in 2002

It has been an extremely difficult week at MINOR Improvements PT as we had to say goodbye to a longtime member of our MIPT family. Actually Gabrielle was the very first child to walk through the door of MINOR Improvements PT on October 4, 2002. Gabby became our first patient at our temporary location at the Greenfield Stewart's Plaza. Gabby has brought smiles to our faces everyday since that time.



Shaun and Gabby work on a puzzle

She was truly a joy and inspiration to work with. Gabby put up the bravest of fights

against cancer since she was diagnosed at 22 months of age. She finally succumbed to the disease at home on December 4, 2004.

Gabby plays an extremely important role in the history of MINOR Improvements PT. Not only was she our very first patient, she also helped us learn to be creative in motivating children. She frequently participated in body weight supported walking on the treadmill. She always seemed to walk best when a healthy supply of chocolate donut holes was on hand and in her mouth.



Gabby and Shaun work on the treadmill.
Is Gabby looking for donuts?

Gabby loved Disney movies and Winnie the Pooh. We were always sure to have a supply of soundtracks on hand (thanks to Bob) for our princess, Gabby including Little Mermaid, Mary Poppins, Jungle Book, and Cinderella. Gabby had the opportunity to travel to Disney World with her family in 2003.

We truly view each day that we had with Gabby as a gift. She loved life, and although her body

began to weaken, her spirit continued to soar until the end. She taught us more about life than she could ever know and for that we are grateful. We thank her for giving us everything she had every time we saw her. We thank her for her laughs and smiles which were contagious, and the songs she loved to sing along with us (we thank her for tolerating our non-stop singing). We thank her for introducing us to her amazing, and loving family, Her mother, Julie, her father, Bob, and her little brother Chris. We will miss having them around the clinic. We will miss our weekly visits to their home (and Julie's phenomenal snacks every time we came to visit). Most of all of course, we will miss Gabby. Her time here was too short.



We will never forget you Gabby, and all that you showed us. You are forever in our hearts. We love and miss you very much.

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