



# Care in Action

A Quarterly E-Newsletter for Employees, Staff and Friends of Shriners Hospitals for Children®—Spokane

**January 2010**

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## “Spine Fund” Success

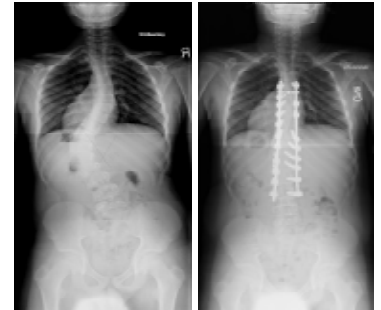
A substantial increase in the number of spine surgery cases has prompted Shriners Hospitals for Children®-Spokane’s first ever fundraising campaign. The campaign, “Making a Difference for the Kids” will run throughout 2010.

All contributions to the Spine Fund will be used locally at Shriners Hospitals for Children®—Spokane. As with all of our kids, patients requiring spine surgery for severe scoliosis receive all care at no charge. The funds will pay for hardware for the surgery, which can range from \$8,000 to over \$20,000 in some cases.

In 2009, the Shriners Hospital Spokane saw a nearly 40% increase in the number of patients needing spine surgery for severe scoliosis. We can perform as many surgeries as we have funding for, and then the kids wait.

We kicked off the year long campaign November 2009, and to date we have received nearly \$100,000! Our goal is to raise \$200,000 by September 2010. Thank you so much to our supporters for their generous contributions.

If you would like to make a contribution or would like further information about the fundraiser, please contact Public Relations @ 509.623.0424.



*Patient spine before & after surgery*

Care in Action is a monthly e-newsletter from Shriners Hospitals for Children® in Spokane. If you wish to be added or be removed from this or any future mailings, please contact us at [spokanenews@shrinenet.org](mailto:spokanenews@shrinenet.org) or call 509.744.1240 to leave a message.

For more information on our hospital, its services and our mission, please visit our web site [www.shrinershospitals.org](http://www.shrinershospitals.org).



## Patient Ambassadors

If you were a patient at Shriners Hospitals for Children®—Spokane and are interested in being a part of our Patient Ambassador program, we need you.

We are looking for patients in all of our regions who would be willing to share their story or help spread the news about our hospital and it’s services in your local areas. Please contact us at [spokanenews@shrinenet.org](mailto:spokanenews@shrinenet.org) if you are interested and we will get you more information.



## Holiday Open House

The Spokane Shriners Hospital began December with our Annual Holiday Open House. Our official 2009 tree lighter was Karla staying with us from Juarez, Mexico.



The 2009 celebration also included a live remote with a local radio station KISS 98.1 to encourage Spokane to make a donation to the Spine Fund.

Despite the low temperatures outside, we received over \$1100.00 in donations!

## Holiday Giving...

Shriners Hospitals receive generous donations of time, talent and gifts throughout the year, but during December and through the holidays, we are overwhelmed and grateful by the generosity of our community.

Thank you to the following groups and organizations for your gifts!

- Rain & Hail Insurance in Spokane, WA
- Acacia Fraternity from WSU
- The Spokane Chiefs Hockey Team
- Medical Lake High School
- Open Eye Security Systems in Liberty Lake, WA
- Inland Northwest Community Foundation
- Subway's "12 Hours of Christmas" Campaign



## Patient Story: Shriners Hospitals for Children®—Spokane Patient, Becomes an Honorary Pilot

Andrew Garrard, a 10 year old from Spokane, Washington, who is currently a patient at the Spokane Shriners Hospital, was a guest at the Fairchild Air Force Base as a part of the "Pilot for a Day" Program in December.



The "Pilot for a Day" is a community outreach program coordinated by 141st Air Refueling Wing Washington Air National Guard, designed to help children who are overcoming a life threatening or disabling illness. "It is an opportunity to take the kids away from the day in and day out, the treatments and the pain," explained Program Coordinator, Major Matthew Yakely. "We want to give them a chance to experience a day in the life of a pilot in the Air Force."

The highlight of the day was touring the KC-135 Stratotanker hangar and experiencing the "Flight Safety Simulator". The hands on simulator gives the Pilot Candidates an opportunity to operate the instruments, knobs and dials, take off and land the plane and ask questions of their flight crew.



At the completion of the exciting day, in a ceremony complete with Honor Guard posting the Colors, the Pilot Candidates are presented with a certificate and awarded their "Wings" from Air National Guard Commander, Colonel Greg Bulkley. Andrew is now officially an Honorary Pilot and leaves not only with his wings, but memories to last a lifetime.



Antonio Banderas shot scenes for a movie at the Spokane Shriners Hospital! The production crew of North by Northwest spent an evening filming at the Hospital, Antonio took time out of the schedule to visit with lucky patients and staff.

