

Helping Families - April 2010

In April 2010, Hometown Heroes presented each of four families with a donation of \$750 to help with the purchase of medical equipment and other needs. See a description of the families below.

- Family #1 has a 17 year old boy who has a cognitive disability. He has required numerous interventions since birth including special education, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech and language therapy. Characteristics of his cognitive disability include difficulties with speech, attention, and social skills. Social interaction with peers is often very challenging and frustrating, which can have an adverse affect on his behavior and relationships. He lives with his mother who has struggled to find work after losing her job so. The financial challenges have made it difficult to make ends meet.
- Family #2 has a 15 year-old boy who suffers from cerebral palsy and numerous other medical issues including a congenital heart defect and hydrocephalus. He has undergone numerous surgeries in his young life and continues to require significant medical attention. He is unable to walk or stand upright so his days are spent confined to a wheelchair. He lives with his mother who has medical issues of her own to deal with as well as a growing boy who is now taller and weighs more than she does. Taking care of him is becoming much more difficult as he continues to grow. She does not work full-time so the financial challenges have made it difficult to make ends meet.
- Family #3 has a 13 year old girl who has multiple diagnoses, the most significant being cortical blindness. She is able to walk with crutches however is unable to stand upright. Her mother has undergone brain surgery that resulted in physical limitations. Her family would like to purchase her a reclining stroller for their daughter to transport her in and to use to care for her when they are outside of the home.
- Family #4 has a 6 year old girl who has Rhett Syndrome. She lives with her mother, father and one sibling. As a side effect of her Rett Syndrome she has seizures, she does not sleep through the night, is unable to play or feed herself, to stand, sit safely or to change positions. Her family is very grateful for every blessing they receive and they follow through on every suggestion made in therapy. They would like to purchase equipment for at-home therapy.