



Shriners' Hard Work and Persistence Pays Off for Tennessee Teen

All Services Provided Regardless of the Patient's Ability to Pay



On a recent trip to the Cincinnati hospital, board member Tim Mason visits with Ty and his family.

Look it up in the dictionary and you'll find the definition of a Shriner:

*...a member of a fraternal order
...is dedicated to good fellowship, health programs, and charitable works*

For many families who come to Shriners Hospitals for Children® — Cincinnati this is a reality. And one of those is the Williams' family from Columbia, Tennessee.

Ty Williams, 14 years old, suffered a burn injury in December 2010. He was quickly transferred to a hospital near his hometown. The family learned about Shriners Hospitals for Children – Cincinnati and the pediatric burn care available, but Ty's doctors at the local hospital did not pursue transferring Ty to Cincinnati.

Almost six months later, the family reached out on their own to the Cincinnati hospital. They wanted to make the transfer to Ohio from Tennessee.

"We were concerned he was not healing like he should have been," said Ty's mother. "Even though we would have to be four hours from home, if it meant Ty getting better and on the road to recovery - this was the most important thing to us."

For the Cincinnati hospital and patient referral team, working with the local hospital in Tennessee proved to be a lengthy process. The hospital decided to enlist Cincinnati hospital board member Tim Mason to visit with the family at the hospital in Tennessee.

"I went to the hospital and visited the family. I even called them a few times every week, just to let them know Al Menah and Shriners Hospitals for Children would do whatever it took to get Ty to Cincinnati," said Mason. "After seeing Ty, I knew our hospital would make a difference in this young man's life."

"Ty is just one patient, but there are many other children in communities across the country that need our help," said Debbie Harrell, MSN, director of professional relations at the Cincinnati hospital. "Shriners are the eyes and ears of our hospital in their communities. We would never have gotten Ty to Cincinnati without Mr. Mason's involvement. His determination and dedication show what a Shriner can do to make a difference in a child's life."

Conditions Treated at the Cincinnati Hospital

BURN CARE

- Burn injuries
- Inhalation injuries
- Burn reconstruction & rehabilitation

PLASTICS & RECONSTRUCTIVE CONDITIONS

- Congenital ear deformities
- Congenital hairy nevus (large birthmarks)
- Cleft lip and palate
- Brachial plexus injuries (nerve damage affecting upper extremities)
- Congenital hand malformations
- Gynecomastia (abnormal breast development in teenage boys)
- Congenital breast deformities
- Hidradenitis (chronic sweat gland disorder)
- Post trauma deformities (treadmill injuries, dog bites, lawnmower accidents)

COMPLEX WOUND & SKIN CONDITIONS

- Purpura Fulminans
- Necrotizing skin infections & Necrotizing Fasciitis
- Stevens-Johnson Syndrome
- Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis
- Port wine stains

If you know a child we can help, please call:

shrinershospitalsforchildren.org

Burn Services
866-947-7840

Non-Burn Services
513-872-6026 or helpachild@shrinenet.org