

summer 2014 newsletter



SAVE THE DATE

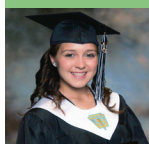
Family Field Day

September 6, 2014
9am-noon

Don't miss this fun event!
There will be games and
races for every ability!
You might even get wet!
See www.kinetickidstx.org
for more information!

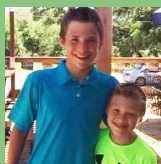
THANKS TO U!

Kids Giving to Kids!



Look at these
YOUNGSTERS reaching
out to their community!!
Alex Losoya, a faithful
Kinetic Kids volunteer

asked friends and family to donate to
Kinetic Kids in lieu of graduation gifts!
And Caden and Easton
are two amazing young
boys who asked for
donations to Kinetic
Kids instead of birthday
gifts!!!



THANK YOU to Caden, Easton, and
Alex for helping make dreams come
true for our the Kinetic Kids!!

Track & Field Kinetic Kids Rocked and Rolled at Summer Games

On April 12, 2014, 24 Kinetic Kids
competed in various track and field
events at the Texas Regional Games
in San Antonio. As a result of their
hard work throughout spring training,
our athletes left that evening ecstatic,
exhausted and weighed down with over
130 gold medals and several National
Records!! And they didn't stop there.

With coaches, parents and the city
of San Antonio cheering them on, 14
athletes traveled to Edmond, Oklahoma
to compete in the Endeavor Games on
June 6-8. Athletes competing included:
Samuel DeRousse, Seth Bosquez, Daniel
Velasquez, Diana Neal, Mariah Kilbourne,
Wyatt Struxness, Sydney Mosley, Ernesto
Carrillo, Trey Lively, Deenah Vega, Clarissa
Flores, Michael Sandoval, Arturo Liendo,
and Nicholas Cervantes. Every athlete
excelled in their event improving their
distances and times and setting new
personal and national records.

Thanks to our fantastic trio of
coaches: Scott Le Blanc, Chuck Smith
and Tiffany Neal, a few will continue their
journey, competing in the National Junior
Disability Championships in Iowa this July.
Each participating athlete was required to
meet qualifying standards to participate
in this week long competition.



Latest & Greatest Kinetic Kids Offers Wrestling



Kinetic Kids introduced a new wrestling
program this year. It's been a huge hit for
all involved! It doesn't matter how tall,
fast or strong your child is, wrestling is for
everyone. "It will challenge your young
athlete mentally as well as physically,
but it will also bring them a lot of pride
and joy," says Coach Chuck Smith. Join
us to check out
this great new
program and
stay tuned for
our next round
of wrestling in
2015!



Program Success!



Joining the CrossFit Craze

CrossFit is a type of exercise class that involves high intensity strengthening and conditioning activities! It is very popular among fitness enthusiasts today and now is being offered to our Kinetic Kids! We are collaborating with and owe significant thanks to Audrey Garza for this program! Audrey brings not only her love for fitness, but also her loving heart to Kinetic Kids! CrossFit is an allstar program for those tweens, pre-tweens and Kinetic Kids veterans that want to get in shape, build muscle strength and endurance!! If you like to break a sweat while running, doing step ups, fun drills and games, then check it out! CrossFit will be offered in the fall 2014 and winter 2015!



10th Annual "Try It Before You Buy It"

On Friday, April 25th (Battle of Flowers Day) Kinetic Kids hosted our 10th annual "Try It Before You Buy It" event for the pediatric special needs population, with a little Fiesta flair. Over 530 children & families benefited from the incredible display of durable medical equipment, services & resources that are available. Kinetic Kids featured outstanding performances by our Gymnasts and winter Music class. No "Try It" event is complete without our ever popular Fiesta Parade on wheels. Led by our tremendously successful track athletes, children paraded around the gym to Fiesta music and cheers from the crowd. A huge thank you goes out to our incredible sponsors, volunteers & committee members for helping make this our best "Try It" yet!



Cheering For All To Hear

Five years ago, Kinetic Kids and Pinnacle Cheer joined forces to start the first San Antonio Special Needs Competitive Cheer Team!! The team practices weekly for 6 months, competes in three local cheerleading competitions and attends a national cheerleading competition in Dallas. We are so proud of our team and we are currently recruiting for our 2014-15 season! The program is open to children ages 6 and older who can follow directions without the assistance of a volunteer and are ready and willing to commit to a competition team! Cheerleaders must attend ALL practices and competitions. If you want to be the next Kinetic Kids cheerleader, please contact Robyn at robyn@kinetickidstx.org for more information!!

Attitude of Gratitude

Birdies for Charity

For the fifth year in a row, Kinetic Kids has participated in Valero's Texas Open/Birdies for Charity event, raising a record \$9,507 this year...29% more than last year! We couldn't have done it without the 80 donors that included our parents, board members and friends of Kinetic Kids. In a gentle rivalry, our spring classes vied for most money raised and our top 3 fundraisers were: Nathan Conrad, Christian "Buddy" Dzubinski and Arturo Liendo. Thank you to ALL who participated in this fundraising effort!



The Big Give Succeeds in a Big Way!

The Big Give S.A., the May 6th, community-wide, 24-hour giving challenge, exceeded all expectations for a first-time event. With 467 Bexar County nonprofits participating, a total of \$2,095,606 was raised from 21,361 gifts. Kinetic Kids was like the "little engine that could", placing 6th in total dollars raised, winning the hourly challenge from 6-7 a.m. (thank you early birds!), and placing first in the "Youth Development" category. With 261 donors, we raised \$22,485 in donations, \$4,500 in incentive prize money and had matching funds of \$5,000 for a grand total of \$26,985!!! WE LOVE YOU SAN ANTONIO!

BORN TO BIKE

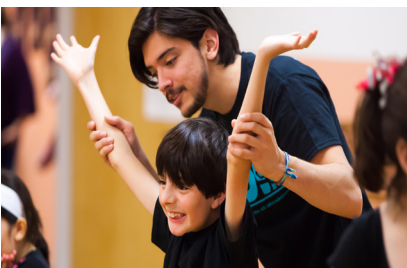
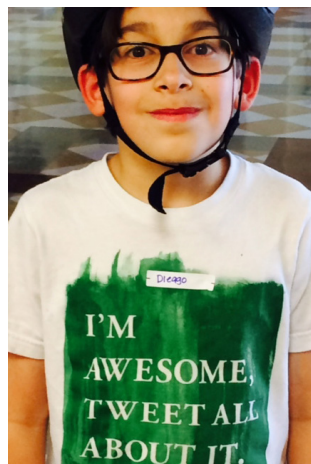
Kinetic Kids' annual Bike Camp, held June 9-13, hosted 35 kids who came to learn to ride a bike! Thanks to the generosity of the Dralla Foundation and the Junior League of San Antonio who made funding of this camp possible! Thanks also to the Believe It Foundation for supporting scholarships for riders to attend. Campers learned to ride a two wheeler for the very first time—there were tears and hugs all around! To get the full effect, like us on Facebook where you'll see the kids in action.



5k WALK, RUN AND ROLL

In January, runners braved frigid weather to help Kinetic Kids raise \$24K at our 3rd annual "5K Walk, Run & Roll" event. Board member and event chair, Sheryl Cruz, sounded the gun and runners hit the Salado Creek trail for a 5K as Kinetic Kids' families stayed on the track to complete a one mile course. Magnolia Pancake House treated everyone to a hot stack of pancakes while the Children's Orthopaedic & Spine Center's super hero handed out medals. Next year's run is slated to be a 5K/10K run in January 2015. Stay tuned for more details!





SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SMILE MAKERS!

Corporations & Foundations:

Ability Pediatric
 Alamo Kiwanis Club Charities, Inc.
 Alfred S. Gage Foundation
 Apple & Eve
 Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio
 Believe It Foundation
 Bluebird Auxiliary
 Broadway Bank
 CDS in Texas
 Central Park Lions Club
 Charity Ball Association
 Children's Orthopaedic & Spine Center
 Circle Bar Foundation
 Cox Smith
 Curney, Farmer, House & Osuna, P.C.
 Cute Smiles 4 Kids
 Darilek, Butler & Associates, PLLC
 DOCUmaton
 Dralla Foundation
 EDCASA
 Energy Transfer Partners
 Frost Bank
 G. A. C. Halff Foundation
 Genevieve and Ward Orsinger Foundation
 Graham Weston Gift Fund
 Hanger Clinic
 Harvey Najim Family Foundation
 HEB Tournament of Champions
 Holy Trinity Catholic Church
 International Latke Society
 Inventure Foods, Inc.
 Jr. League of San Antonio
 KCI
 Kohl's
 Kronkosky Charitable Foundation
 Liberty Mutual Insurance
 Magnolia Pancake House
 National Charity League
 Northside Lions Charitable Foundation
 NuMotion

Nustar Energy
 Oak Hills Foundation
 Padgett Stratemann & Co. LLP
 Pediatric Orthopedic Associates
 of San Antonio
 Pediatric Orthopedics at Stone Oak
 Petty Family Foundation
 Physical Rehabilitation Institute
 Prescott's Orthotics & Prosthetics
 Pro-Vigil, Inc.
 Rackspace
 Republic National Distributing Company
 Rivard Report
 San Antonio Area Foundation
 San Antonio Pediatric Society
 SecureInfo, A Kratos Company
 Shield HealthCare
 Signs of San Antonio
 Special Kids Care
 Speights & Worrich
 St. Luke's Lutheran Health Ministries
 Straya Day with Patty Mills & The Roo Bar
 Tesoro
 Texas Kids Home Therapy
 Texas Medical & Sleep Specialists, PLLC
 The Gordon Hartman Family Foundation
 The Lazarus Family Fund
 The Moorman Family
 The USAA Foundation, Inc.
 The Weston Centre
 Tom Hotaling Insurance
 US Jetting LLC
 Valero Energy Foundation
 Valero's Texas Open/Birdies for Charity
 Venture Lab
 Warm Springs Foundation
 Watermill Express
 Wave Healthcare
 Zachry Holdings, Inc.

Individual Gifts \$500 & up:

Marisa Alvarez
 John & Karen Biegger
 Ray Bissmeyer
 Stephanie & Hank Bussey
 Charlie & Kathy Carvajal
 Madhu Challapalli & Alpa Patel
 Raul & Leah Chapa
 Rip Collins & Pamela Vandermeij-Collins
 Rudy & Dolores Colmenero
 Matt & Karen Conrad
 David & Susan Crouch
 Adrian & Sheryl Cruz
 Steven & LeAnn Cyr
 John & Jodi Edeen
 Kathy & Bill Friend
 Mario Fierro
 Tifini Furst
 Anthony & Claudette Gentry
 Susan Gershenhorn
 Berto & Tammy Guerra
 Will Hardy
 Dan & Lana Hughes
 Cedar Joiner
 Anjali & Ajeya Joshi
 Alyssa Levesque
 Val Lyons
 Elizabeth Magnabosco
 John & Julie Maguire
 Patty Mills
 Damon & Katy Mimari
 Judy & Palmer Moe
 Lew & Laura Moorman
 Robert & Kelly Myrick
 The Neal Family
 Sharvari Parghi
 Jon & Laura Pett
 Joan Petty
 Adam & Stephanie Reyes
 Marvin & Julie Ring
 John & Jacque Roberts
 Bill & Sandra Robinson
 Rob & Theresa Rosenheim
 Richard Rybacki &
 Sandy Nguyen-Rybacki
 Louis & Nancy Scantland
 Mark & Lorian Sessions
 Robert & Sharon Shull
 Paul & Barbara Slattery
 Kelly Smith & Kristen Bussey-Smith
 Alec & Bronwyn Stall
 Earl & Suzanne Stanley
 Scott & Laurie Syamken
 Lori & Robert Velasquez
 Audra & Todd Worrich
 Todd & Polly Wyckoff
 Karen Lee & David Zachry
 Josh & Allison Zeller



SEASON SPOTLIGHT



Landen Noonan by Marina Noonan

Landen is a 7 year old, native San Antonian. He was born with Symbrachydactyly, a limb difference where he is missing the fingers on his right hand. Landen was also diagnosed with mild Cerebral Palsy at 18 months.

Landen joined Kinetic Kids in 2011, he participated in Parent and Me Swim and Soccer at the age of four. Since that time he has participated in gymnastics, swimming, t-ball, track and field, and tennis. He has participated in the Texas Regional Games for the past two years and has earned several medals in running, discus, club, and javelin.

Landen enjoys participating in Kinetic Kids programs. It gives him the chance to play and exercise in ways that he might not be able to at school. His involvement in Kinetic Kids has allowed him to meet new people and make friends. He likes to talk with the volunteers, sometimes socializing more than actually playing. :)

Kinetic Kids programs allow him to meet other kids with similar diagnoses, this is important because it allows him to see he is not alone in his abilities. It also allows him to meet other kids who are older and may have suggestions for how to approach certain issues.

Participating in programs has also given Landen the opportunity to try activities he never thought he could do with his condition. He has three brothers and is excited that he also has practices and events that they can attend and cheer him on, as he does for them as well. Landen enjoys telling his friends about his activities and what he is doing. He once took his track medals in during Show and Tell to talk to his friends about Kinetic Kids. Landen is having fun, learning new skills, making friends, and working as a member of a team-- all of these skills are lessons that are key to being successful in life. All of this is a direct result of participating in Kinetic Kids programs.

We ♥ Community Program Partners

Kinetic Kids relies on established facilities and locations to provide our athletes a true sports experience. For several seasons, **5 Diamonds Little League** fields and **Northside Suburban Little League** fields have graciously allowed us to use their fields for Kinetic Kids baseball practices, games and celebrations. When fields are in high demand during busy baseball seasons, we are so thankful for the support and inclusive nature of these wonderful programs. THANK YOU for helping our kids feel welcome as the athletes they are!



Daring to Dream

Kinetic Kids would like to congratulate Daniel Velasquez who was invited to compete in Europe this summer with the National US Track and Field team!! Daniel has been a Kinetic Kid athlete for 12 years and he can tell you that with hard work and determination, you CAN make your dreams come true!! GOOD LUCK DANIEL, we will be cheering for you from Texas!!





"I began to volunteer at Kinetic Kids in Winter 2013. For me Kinetics Kids has been the most beautiful and fulfilling experience I have ever encountered. Spending time with the kids is what I look forward to the whole week. I feel truly happy and fortunate to be part of this amazing organization." - **ILSE GUZMAN**

VOLUNTEER VOICES



"I find it very gratifying and humbling to be involved with an organization that helps special needs children by having them

participate in a multitude of sports activities. Seeing their faces and how excited they get during these different activities is what keeps me coming back to Kinetic Kids year after year and I feel truly blessed to be a part of that...I've been volunteering since the first summer session of 2010!" - **DANE FULLER**

Meet Robyn: Assistant Extraordinaire

Robyn Ramirez is a behind-the-scenes Wonder Woman who juggles all things Kinetic Kids related. If you haven't met this joyful, super-organized dynamo, keep a lookout for her at the beginning of programs. She'll be the one cheerfully checking you in and answering your questions.



Robyn's joined Kinetic Kids in September 2013, and since then, her husband and 17-year-old daughter can often be found helping her with Kinetic Kids prep and planning or volunteering for special events. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, music, photography, spending time with her family and traveling.

When asked what she loves about Kinetic Kids, Robyn said "How much time do you have? I love that the staff really truly have the best interest of each individual child in mind at all times. Their goal really is that each and every child has fun, feels included, and succeeds to the best of their ability!

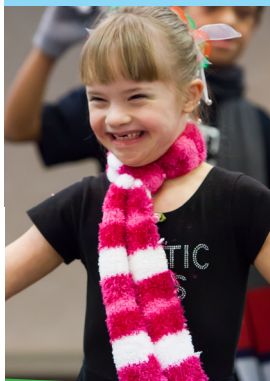
I love the eagerness of everyone to 'pitch in and do their part.' There is a spirit of generosity that runs through all involved with Kinetic Kids—staff, volunteers, committee members, board members, families, etc. It's a blessing for me to be able to witness this every day.

I love that the mission of Kinetic Kids is not about a 'bottom line,' but truly about serving the needs of children in and around San Antonio who may not otherwise be included in sports and activities. And I love that so many kids come back year after year so you get to know them and their families.

I was told when I started with Kinetic Kids that no one ever really "leaves." It's true. I've met countless people who have worked/volunteered/interned years ago and they just love it so much, they come back year after year. I can totally understand why—we're really a family. I'm so grateful to be a part of this amazing team doing incredible work! So much planning and hard work goes into organizing all programs and special events, but it is so worth it to witness the joy of these amazing Kinetic Kids and their families!"

Robyn is an incredible ambassador for Kinetic Kids and we're thankful to have her on our team!

Many pictures featured in this newsletter and on our Facebook page are courtesy of two wonderful photographers. **Ternell Washington** generously comes to many programs and takes photos of our athletes in action and **Mychal Lindley Lopez Bean** has been capturing the smiles in our team pictures for many, many seasons. Kinetic Kids would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU for their beautiful work!





PO Box 690993 | San Antonio, TX 78269

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 803
SAN ANTONIO, TX

GENEROUSLY PRINTED BY:

**METROPOLITAN
METHODIST HOSPITAL**
A CAMPUS OF METHODIST HOSPITAL

SAVE THE DATE 2014 HOOTENANNY

Please join us for this great evening of FUNdraising.
Mark your calendars and shine your boots!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

PEARL STABLE

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

EVENT SPONSORSHIPS
\$500 - \$10,000

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS
\$125

Donate to the Live or Silent Auctions!

For more info on sponsorships, tickets or auctions, please visit
www.kinetickidstx.org or email catherine@kinetickidstx.org.



sports & recreation for all (dis)abilities

Co-Executive Directors
Tracey Fontenot & Kacey Wernli

Volunteers
volunteer@kinetickidstx.org

Program Information
210.748.5860

Registration
www.kinetickidstx.org

Donations
www.kinetickidstx.org

Sponsorships
210.913.3513
development@kinetickidstx.org

find us on facebook.
www.facebook.com/kinetickids

follow us twitter
[@kinetickidstx](https://twitter.com/kinetickidstx)