

SUMMER 2016 newsletter



SAVE THE DATE

2016 HOOTENANNY

Mark your calendar and shine yer boots for an evening of FUNdraising and celebration as we mark Kinetic Kids 15th Anniversary!

We'll enjoy silent and live auctions, a gourmet meal, an open bar and a rip-roaring good time.

**FRIDAY
SEPT 30**

6:30PM @ PEARL STABLES

Contact Catherine Easley at 210-913-3513 or catherine@kinetickidstx.org to underwrite the event, donate an auction item, or purchase a ticket.

Learn to ride a bike in 5 days!



Do you have a child age 8 or older who has not yet mastered bike riding? If so, Kinetic Kids' Bike Camp is a not-to-be-missed opportunity

to introduce your child to the thrill and pride of riding a bike with friends and family.

The week of August 8-12, participants attend five daily 75-minute sessions. Because the program builds skills each day, all five sessions are required.

Other participation requirements include:

- Must have a disability and be ambulatory without an assistive device
- Minimum age: 8 years
- Minimum inseam measurement: 20"

- Minimum height: 40"
- Maximum weight: 220 lbs.
- Must be able to side step quickly to both sides
- Must be able to wear a properly fitted bike helmet

Please consider behavioral issues as you evaluate this program. An individual may be physically able to ride a bike, but if they cannot be persuaded to get on the bike and follow instructions, then this program may not be beneficial.

For more info or an application, contact Tracey at (210) 748-5867 or tracey.kinetickids@gmail.com.

To volunteer, send an email to volunteer@kinetickidstx.org.

Dancers in the spotlight

Kinetic Kids' Dance program is moving, grooving and growing! This spring, we celebrated the end of the season with a combined Schertz & Helotes recital. With 150 in attendance, our dancers moved to the beats of jazz, classical and hip hop in routines choreographed by our instructor, Tanya Perez, OTR.

With lots of excited dancers and families in attendance, the energy was palpable! After the performance, each dancer took a turn in the limelight as

they danced up to receive their award!

Thanks to TJ's Dance Studio and Stars Vipers for hosting our practices this season and to University United Methodist Church for welcoming us for our finale. And, of course, none of these FUN-tastic events would be possible without our outstanding team of volunteers.

Join us this fall for more dancing fun!



Track & Field ENDEAVORS

Kinetic Kids Track & Field athletes had a tremendous spring season! In April, 15 athletes competed in the Texas Regional Games in swimming, long jump, javelin, discus, shot put and the 60, 100, 200, 400 & 800 meter dashes. Thanks to great coaching by Scott LeBlanc and Chuck Smith, several athletes beat their personal record! In June, eleven of those athletes went on to compete in the Endeavor Games in Oklahoma. These Xtreme athletes practiced for 13 weeks to haul in 99 medals and break 9 national records. Congratulations to all our athletes for working hard and striving for excellence! Kinetic Kids' Xtreme programs are designated for children with physical disabilities and the desire to compete within Paralympic programming. Many Xtreme athletes can now be found smashing their way through summer in our Xtreme Tennis program!



Sports at UUMC Achievers Center

During the 2015-16 school year, Kinetic Kids partnered with the Achievers Center for Education (ACE) to provide weekly sports and recreation programs.

ACE just wrapped up its first season with a finale showcasing skill development in areas like: CrossFit, basketball, dodgeball and soccer. Dodgeball proved to be a class and fan favorite as 12 students took on the staff and volunteers in front of their families, friends and teachers. The students prevailed, taking the big win! The cheering continued as many celebrated receiving their first-ever trophy!

Kinetic Kids will continue this program throughout the 2016-17 school year.

Volunteers: Keeping it in the Family

High school students, girl scouts, young men's clubs, national women's leagues, college students, graduate students, therapists and corporate professionals....our volunteers are truly the heart of Kinetic Kids! Lately, we are seeing an increasing trend—families volunteering together. It's a beautiful thing!

Melissa Sosa started volunteering with Kinetic Kids during her education to become a Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant. Her family noticed how happy she was every time she came home from volunteering, so they decided to join her. Melissa, Rey, DiYoni (15) and Vira (9) committed to both our Schertz dance AND swim programs. Every week, they spent most of their Sunday with Kinetic Kids, sometimes coming back early from out of town trips to help and recruiting extra family members when needed. While their youngest daughter didn't meet the age requirement for volunteering with our Kinetic Kids, she didn't let that stop her! She helped out the team by handing out fliers and cleaning up the waiting area!



The Rivera family also saw the benefits of making volunteering a family affair. Sharon Rivera learned about Kinetic Kids at USAA, where she works. Our programs were a good fit because she wanted an opportunity for the entire family to volunteer together. This past spring Sharon, Manuel, and their sons, Gavin and Tyler, volunteered every Wednesday at Kinetic Kids' golf program. Having families volunteer is not only a huge help to Kinetic Kids, but also rewarding for the families. Sharon sums it up, "It was definitely a great experience for us and we're looking forward to our next program."

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SMILE MAKERS!

since December 15, 2015*

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Donors with BIG Hearts

In April, Kinetic Kids raised **\$6,937** through Valero's 'Birdies for Charity' event. For the second year in a



row, Kinetic Kid Arturo Liendo, Jr. won the top prize by raising \$910. He and his friends will enjoy a party at Love To Swim plus unlimited Bahamas Bucks' snow cones! Matthew Copeland, Marisol Jones, and Sheldon Getfield took the next three top spots combining to raise an impressive \$1,300 more! A big thank you to our 82 generous donors and to ALL our fundraising Kinetic Kids!

In May, we saw BIG results from **The Big Give SA**, an online city-wide giving event. We received 512 online donations totaling **\$33,143**. Such generosity landed us in the top 10 overall for the third year in a row out of 1,000+ organizations! In addition, we won a \$7,500 prize for raising the most money in our category and, thanks to our 'early bird' donors, we won the 6-7am \$1,000 hourly prize. Finally, we are so grateful to The RWM Foundation for once again matching funds up to \$6,000

Our annual fundraising efforts allow us to **discount our programs an amazing 72%** per child! Thank you to ALL of our donors for helping make Kinetic Kids accessible to all!



sports & recreation for all (dis)abilities

Tracey Fontenot & Kacey Wernli
Co-Executive Directors

Volunteers
volunteer@kinetickidstx.org

Program Information
210.748.5860

Registration or Donations
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