

SUMMER 2017 newsletter



SAVE THE DATE

2017 HOOTENANNY

Mark your calendar
and shine yer boots
for an evening of
FUNdraising and
celebration of our
Kinetic Kids!

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

FRIDAY SEPT 15

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.

You think BIG, you get BIG...

And we did...**\$41,459** to be exact!

On May 4, Kinetic Kids participated in the fourth annual Big Give SA, a city-wide, online giving day that raised over \$4 million for 648 local charities. Kinetic Kids is so very grateful for the 652 donors who helped achieve such awesome results including these awards!

big give



1 in Health & Wellness
category



2 among medium-sized
organizations



5 in total number
of donors



**\$1,000 winner for the 6-7am
POWER HOUR challenge**



**\$5,000 Matching Grant from
The RWM Foundation**

Kickin' it with SA United Soccer

Since 2011, SA United Soccer Club has raised over \$124,000 for local charities through its 'United for Hope Soccer Tournament'. This year, Kinetic Kids received **\$33,941** raised at this event.

Attended by over 30 youth teams throughout Texas, it is the only city soccer tournament that supports the community by donating all proceeds to a local charity.



Record 573 at Walk.Run.Roll!

On January 21, Kinetic Kids held its Fifth Annual Walk.Run.Roll event amidst sunshine and smiling faces. With 573 registered runners, it was our biggest and best run yet! Over **\$25,737** was raised to support our scholarship program.



The energy from our Kinetic Kids' athletes, runners and dedicated sponsors, made the event unforgettable! Attendees enjoyed a scenic course along Salado Creek at Wheatley Heights Sports Complex, a fun kids' obstacle course, a 1-mile wheelchair accessible track

and pancakes at the finish line served by Magnolia Pancake Haus. This year's team Spirit Award went to Team Camila! Thank you to all who helped make this event a success, especially event chairs Julie Van Horn and Sheryl Cruz.

Be sure to mark your calendar for our next Walk.Run.Roll on **January 20, 2018**.

Thank you to our generous sponsors!



Helping Here.



The Lazarus Family Fund



San Antonio Area Foundation
Where Giving and Community Connect



Kinetic Kids tested. Parent approved!

Camila Garza

"In just one year at Kinetic Kids, Camila has gained so much confidence in herself. In karate, she uses her right side and lower extremities to a greater extent. Participating in gymnastics helped her gain much more body stability and balance. Now she is able to stretch out her arms and legs more extensively. I am extremely pleased with Camila's overall improvements including advances she also made participating in dance, swimming, basketball and baseball. This is only possible through the time, effort, and expertise everyone at Kinetic Kids puts in every single day. For this and everything you do for our children....I sincerely thank you from the bottom of my heart."

— Camila's Mom



Amelia Trujillo

"Kinetic Kids has made an immeasurable, positive impact on Amelia's social skills and self-confidence. Witnessing the kids' camaraderie and encouragement during the classes is heartwarming and Amelia has developed true friendships with her classmates. The Kinetic Kids therapists and volunteers are truly amazing people who have been able to get Amelia to try and succeed at things we never thought possible! Her self-confidence is soaring and she has loved every class she has taken. We feel beyond blessed to have found this phenomenal organization."

— Amelia's Mom



Adrian Galvan

"Kinetic Kids has been a big part in Adrian's development from a child to a man, and he could not be where he is now physically and mentally without Kinetic Kids. Adrian has gone from a timid and shy boy, to a young man who speaks up and wants to be a leader."

— Adrian's Mom

In loving memory of Jocelyn Rae Diaz Sept 29, 2012 - June 8, 2017

Jocelyn's courage, constant smile and zest for life truly embodied the spirit of Kinetic Kids.

She will be missed by her Kinetic Kids family and will forever remain in our hearts.



DIVISION UPDATES

Competitive Sports

Kinetic Kids offers competitive opportunities for children and teens ready to train and compete at a higher level. This division is geared for athletes successful in the Allstars division that are able to participate without volunteer assistance and meet program-specific criteria. Tryouts or identification by program directors is required to participate in the Competitive Sports Division.

For 2017, competitive sports include:

- **Swim** – year-round program with try-out before each session
- **Cheerleading** – 6-month program with try-outs on August 4
- **Gymnastics** – year-round program, must complete recreational gymnastics program to try-out
- **CrossFit** – year-round program, must complete recreational CrossFit program to tryout
- **Diving** – summer program, tryout prior to session

For more information, email registration@kinetickidstx.org.



Getting Competitive with CrossFit

In February 2017, Mission CrossFit hosted "A League of Their Own: A Women's Only Challenge" to showcase the amazing strength, tenacity and camaraderie that only women of CrossFit have to offer! A huge thank you to Mission CrossFit for raising over **\$2300** for Kinetic Kids through spectator fees and competitor donations!

The true highlight of the day was Kinetic Kids CrossFit athletes participating alongside more than Crossfit athletes. Katy Kennedy, Brianna Troy, Rachel Benke and one brave male participant, Arturo Liendo, Jr, stole the show performing in workout stations including: thrusters, overhead squats, synchronized burps, wall ball shots and box step overs! Led by Coaches Monica Deschaine, PT, Audrey Garza, and Corey Bigelow, this team did a GREAT JOB!!

Thank you to Mission CrossFit and the SA CrossFit community for your support!!



Is your child an Xtreme athlete?

The Xtreme division is the most competitive sports and recreational program division that Kinetic Kids offers. Designed for athletes with physical disabilities who will compete within Paralympic programming, the Xtreme Division is open to athletes ages 6-18 who have both the skill and the desire to compete at a higher level in competitions with peers with similar abilities.

Participation in these sports requires meeting sport-specific criteria and participating in tryouts to determine eligibility. Athletes must have the ability to retain skill

development from week-to-week and season-to-season, the ability to follow directions from the coach without parent or volunteer involvement, and the ability to follow a strict curriculum for skill improvement and competition preparation. In addition, parents must be willing to adhere to a demanding practice and competition schedule with good attendance.

Xtreme athletes follow an annual schedule and fee structure. Partial scholarships are available.

Spotlight: ENDEAVOR GAMES

Fourteen Kinetic Kids athletes with physical disabilities from our Xtreme divisions competed at the Endeavor Games in Oklahoma City from June 9-10. Every year, our athletes bring home more medals than the year before. And this, our 12th year to participate, was no different.

To put it into perspective, 310 athletes from 39 states and territories participated in 2016. With even more in 2017, we still once again broke our own records by hauling in 106 medals and setting 10 National Records (NR)!

Congratulations to all the athletes who worked so hard to cross those finish lines! And kudos to Coaches Scott LeBlanc, CTRC, Mallory Eggert, DPT and Andrew Wyble who trained and prepared our athletes for the tough competition!



Kinetic Kids' Results

- **Abraham Rojas**, 17: 1 gold, 1 silver, 3 bronze
- **Arturo Liendo, Jr**, 16: 7 gold
- **Azalia Sandoval**, 7: 6 gold, 3 silver, NR in javelin
- **Bunny Gonzales**, 10: 7 gold, NR in shot, NR in javelin, NR in discus
- **Damian Murphy**, 6: 5 gold
- **Elizabeth Wade**, 7: 13 gold, NR in discus, NR in javelin
- **Ernesto Carrillo**, 19: 5 gold
- **Gabriella Schopperth**, 10: 9 gold, 2 silver, NR in discus
- **Lalia Cruz**, 9: 9 gold, NR in javelin
- **Nicolas Cervantes**, 12: 1 gold, 5 silver, NR in javelin, NR in discus
- **Samuel DeRousse**, 16: 7 gold
- **Seth Bosquez**, 17: 8 gold, 2 silver
- **Sydney Mosley**, 12: 9 gold
- **Trey Lively**, 16: 3 silver



Interns make a difference

Interns **Chelsea Guzman**, an aspiring anesthesiologist from UTSA, **Brianna Prado**, an aspiring PTA from Texas State, **Savannah Martinez** and **LaShonda Snowden**, both aspiring physical therapists from UTSA, have been an integral part of our Kinetic Kids family over the last several months, but we weren't the only ones benefiting from their assignments! Here's what they had to say about their experience:

"It was truly a wonderful, rewarding experience working with an organization that strives to provide opportunities and resources to individuals that may be overlooked otherwise, and we're glad to have been part of something that makes a difference in the lives of so many. We enjoyed the connections made with the kids and their families, as well as working

with other staff to learn the many aspects of operating a nonprofit.

We gained knowledge and experience from the internship, but also saw the community it has created around San Antonio—the family oriented environment is like no other. In our eyes Kinetic Kids is a sanctuary for children with disabilities because they have

a place to belong and can push themselves to have fun all while making progress.

We saw children labeled as disabled out on the court, track, or in the pool competing with each and every one of us. They showed us they are NOT disabled. They just have special needs...which really isn't so different from anyone else."



Attendees EXPOsed to 50+ great resources

The 2017 Kinetic Kids EXPO was a huge success. More than 600 Kinetic Kids, healthcare professionals, families and friends visited with over 50 exhibitors providing durable medical equipment, services and community resources geared toward pediatric special needs. Attendees were encouraged to learn about the many services and resources available to make life easier and more accessible for children with special needs.

Attendees were also treated to Kinetic Kids performances as our athletes demonstrated their CrossFit and dance talents. Plus, the annual 'Parade

on Wheels' was as popular as ever! And everyone was rubbing elbows with our royal special guests including: David McAllister of the Texas Cavaliers, Fiesta Especial Countess Rachel Benke, Fiesta Especial Princess Rebekah Rosenheim and Miss San Antonio Emma Rudkin, who shared a truly inspiring message.

Special thanks to presenting sponsor Epic Healthcare, event host University United Methodist Church, Artful Start who assisted with kids' crafts and all the other sponsors and volunteers who made the day possible!



Missed EXPO? Find our complete resource list under the Events tab at www.kinetickidstx.org.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SMILE MAKERS!

since November 25, 2016

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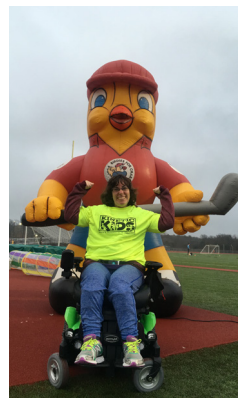
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High Flying Birdies!

Kinetic Kids' annual Valero 'Birdies for Charity' drive was a huge success! Thanks to some busy Kinetic Kids and lots of generous donors, we raised **\$38,218**. For the third year in a row, Arturo Liendo took top prize raising a whopping \$1,130! Other rock star fundraisers include Evan Ring, Matthew Copeland, Austin Robinson and Marisol Jones.

All funds raised will support our 2,700 kids in the 213 sports and recreation programs that we offer.



sports & recreation for all (dis)abilities

Tracey Fontenot & Kacey Wernli
Co-Executive Directors

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Program Information

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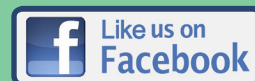
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