



Our daughter, Morgan, was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy at 10 months old. We were referred to a Pediatric Neurologist because of the lack of usage of her right hand and arm which hampered the progression of age-appropriate fine motor skills. Tests indicated that she suffered from a stroke in utero. Our daughter was a right hemiplegic.

To address her functional limitations Morgan receives occupational and physical therapy services. As an infant and a toddler Morgan received 4-6 hours of therapy per week. Now, at age 12, she is only requiring one hour of each therapy per week. Her occupational therapy focuses on self-help skills and fine motor skills that limit her ability to function on an age appropriate level. Her physical therapy sessions focus on Morgan's increased toe walking and range of motion problems in her leg. She has been treated by her Occupational Therapist for over 10 years and has seen her present Physical Therapist for over five. Both of these therapists are NDT certified.

We have seen our daughter's right arm and hand go from being non-functional to an important element in everyday life. We have also witnessed a knee-walking young child equipped with orthotics develop the necessary skills to run with her friends with ease and ability. And, we have been informed and educated by her therapist about her progressions and/or regressions along the way. More importantly, we see her motivated to improve her existence by achieving the goals that have been established for her by her therapists and our family, together.

As parents, we greatly value the time and dedication that these therapists have committed to our daughter and our family. We have witnessed the pride and the sense of self-worth that Morgan has gained as a direct result of the closely supervised, yet independent accomplishment of various motor-skilled milestones over her lifetime. In addition, we have found that our family has a better understanding of the philosophy and framework of treatment for Morgan through an NDT approach. With this understanding, our therapists have developed a home-care intervention plan for Morgan that allows our family to continue with her therapeutic treatment between therapist visits. Based on the successful milestones that Morgan has achieved and continues to achieve during her lifetime, it is our belief, and the belief of her therapists and specialists, that surgical intervention could possibly be avoided in her future, assuming these therapeutic and/or supervision services are continued.

We recognize that Morgan's functional limitations will compound as she gets older without the skill of a therapist to guide her and our family in an effective program that meets her needs. Given the dedication of our NDT- Certified Therapists, we can be certain that Morgan's ability to be a highly productive member of society will not be limited.

Bill and Barb Stephenson
Columbia, MO