

From Ambassador to Advocate

Eliminating the waiting lists so every child can receive services when they need them is what Caitlin Beacock dreams about. “Kids can’t wait,” says Caitlin. These three words come to mind every time she thinks about KidsAbility. Caitlin knows first-hand just how impactful services can be for a child.

Caitlin’s family brought her to KidsAbility when she was 18 months old. “I had many obstacles to overcome and KidsAbility was there every step of the way providing speech, physio and occupational therapies, and acquiring wheelchairs and modified home and school equipment to make me the independent person I am today.”

Even though at times Caitlin’s determination was tested because of the hard work set in front of her, she looks back and considers moments like her swimming sessions in the pool with her physiotherapist Sharon “good times.” KidsAbility was there for Caitlin along the way including helping her after she had spinal surgery at the age of eight. “The staff continuously kept me going,” remarks Caitlin. “Being named Cambridge’s Ambassador in 2005–2006 was a chance for me to use my voice to speak to the greater community about my journey at KidsAbility. I especially loved when I went and did interviews on TV and radio!”

Even though her role as an official ambassador is over, she now volunteers at KidsAbility’s Cambridge site. “I look at it as a way of being an ambassador and to give back for all the support they’ve given me through the years,” Caitlin says.

As a result of all of her accomplishments at KidsAbility, Caitlin is pursuing post-secondary studies at Carleton University in Ottawa where she aspires to intertwine law and medicine together, and advocate for people with special needs.

“KidsAbility helps you excel,” says Caitlin.

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Caitlin Beacock

Kids Can’t Wait Cambridge Ambassador
2005–2006 and
2016 Carol Shantz Bursary Award Recipient