

Working Towards a Brighter Future

Hope. Simply put, this is what KidsAbility has meant to the Brown family over the years for their daughter Sydney.

Born with a rare chromosomal disorder called Monosomy 18p -, Sydney was hypotonic meaning that she was unable to move her arms or her legs. Her parents, Jim and Charmaine, brought her to KidsAbility when Sydney was referred at only two months of age. Goals were established for her so that her muscles would develop to allow her to reach for toys, learn how to crawl and, eventually, learn how to walk. Through the support of Sydney's family and her team of occupational, physio, speech and language therapists, feeding clinics, dietician and therapeutic recreation, her family has celebrated each and every milestone that she has achieved. Sydney is a spirited young lady who still benefits from KidsAbility's as Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA) and augmentative communication services (ACS) to help provide her with the tools she needs to live a richer and more inclusive life.

The Brown's describe their connection with KidsAbility's therapists as family. With a true heart for the work being done in the lives of the children and families KidsAbility serves, Charmaine couldn't resist the opportunity to parlay that passion into her career. As a member of KidsAbility Foundation's team, she works with donors to fund new and current programs and services that benefit children and youth with special needs. She knows first-hand the impact that the right service at the right time can have for each child.

"KidsAbility is an extended part of our family," says Charmaine. "It gave us hope and helped our family to realize that we were not alone. KidsAbility's services have had a huge and positive impact not just in Sydney's life, but for our entire family. Working with donors to fund these incredible programs to benefit our kids makes me so proud to see what we can achieve together."

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Brown Family

Kids Can't Wait Guelph-Wellington Ambassadors
 2009–2010 and
 Staff - KidsAbility Foundation