



# What's New in Erie!

November 2018

## National Patient Ambassador, Riley Desin, to visit Shriners Hospitals for Children — Erie

Shriners Hospitals for Children National Patient Ambassador, Riley Desin, will visit the Erie Shriners Medical Center on Monday, November 19 at 9am. Riley, age 17, was born with the genetic condition hereditary multiple exostoses (HME), which causes irregular bone growth. Exostoses are more commonly known as “bone spurs,” which typically grow on the end of long bones during childhood and adolescence. In Riley’s case, physicians discovered growths from nearly head to toe through a full body x-ray when he was 14 months old.



Riley has been receiving care for his condition at Shriners Hospitals for Children — Tampa since he was a baby and the surgeons there have performed more than a dozen surgeries to remove growths and lengthen bones in Riley’s arms and legs. He has been an active patient ambassador for the Tampa Hospital for several years and is excited to now be a national patient ambassador. His family plans to visit every hospital in the system throughout the year. “I will always have this condition, which has given me a new perspective on life,” said Riley. “This disorder isn’t a crutch; it isn’t an excuse. It’s a reminder of all the amazing people I have met.”



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### **Mission Minute**

Meet our amazing seven-year-old patient ambassador, Easton. He comes to SHC — Erie to receive care for cerebral palsy and has a goal of walking independently. Easton just reached another milestone and his mom emailed us to share the good news.

“It is Easton’s goal to walk independently. He recently reached another milestone by participating in his school’s walk-a-thon! Easton walked around the entire school building—a farther distance than last year! We are so grateful to have such a wonderful team helping him to achieve his goal!”

-Jill (Easton’s mom)

**For additional information contact: Micheal Widrig 814-875-8780.**



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