Meet Kosair Kid®

Henry Hinson
Spina bifida, by definition, means “split spine,” and it is the most common permanently disabling birth defect in the United States. The defect usually forms in the first 28 days of pregnancy, and there is no known cause. It occurs when the structure enclosing the spinal cord fails to form properly. Kentucky has one of the highest rates of spina bifida.

There are multiple types of spina bifida, which include Occulta, Meningocele and Myelomeningocele. Spina bifida occulta, also known as “hidden spina bifida” affects 10-20% of the population. This type has few to zero symptoms and is often found while having an unrelated X-ray of the spine, or it may go undiagnosed. Meningocele causes part of the spinal cord to come through the spine like a sac that is pushed out. Nerve fluid is in the sac, and there is usually no nerve damage. Individuals with this condition may have minor disabilities. Myelomeningocele is the most severe and occurs when the spinal cord/nerve elements are exposed through the opening in the spine, resulting in nerve damage and other disabilities. Spina bifida is considered a “snowflake condition” because it can affect each person differently.

The Spina Bifida Association of Kentucky (SBAK) is a resource center for those diagnosed with any form of spina bifida and their families. SBAK is the only organization in the state that works solely to improve the lives of those affected. It is located at the Sam Swope Kosair Charities Center in Louisville and is one of 11 non-profits in the state that receive a charitable lease grant from Kosair Charities. SBAK teaches parents how to be the best advocate for their child, and helps children and adults overcome physical, cognitive and social challenges to become successful and independent.

SBAK strives to be a resource from the beginning for parents who give birth to a baby with spina bifida. It offers a newborn outreach program to provide new parents with information and resources. It also provides play groups across the state for children 6 and under with spina bifida. This is a great way for children to interact with others that face the same challenges, and also gives parents an opportunity to trade tips and talk through the obstacles they face in their daily lives. Once children are too old for play groups, they are welcomed to the Growing Up with Spina Bifida learning seminar, where school-age children work on social and life skills. SBAK is a wonderful resource for all ages. They host education seminars, conferences, social gatherings and awareness projects throughout the state of Kentucky and southern Indiana.

Thanks to you, in 2016-17, Kosair Charities provided $100,000 to SBAK to help provide important programs and resources for children with spina bifida. To learn more about SBAK, visit sbak.org.
Henry Hinson is a 5-year-old with bigger dreams and more personality than most people have in a lifetime. Henry says that when he grows up he would like to be doctor, UPS man, chef and a bus driver.

If you met him and saw his ambition and perseverance, you would believe that he could be any or all of those things.

Henry was born with the spinal defects spina bifida and Chiari II malformation, as well as hydrocephalus, a buildup of fluid in the brain. (Spina bifida occurs when the spine and spinal cord don't form properly.) The fact that he has little to no feeling from the waist down and is a full-time wheelchair user does not define Henry or discourage him. He and his family are of the mindset that he simply has to adapt, and he does.

Henry’s parents, Erin and Nathan, found out that Henry had spina bifida when Erin was 20 weeks pregnant. The Hinsons were a young family with a toddler, Oliver, and the news about their next child left them feeling overwhelmed and distraught.

Erin said, “It was a devastating diagnosis. In an instant we thought our healthy, happy child was no more. When we received the diagnosis the doctor didn’t paint a very hopeful picture of what Henry’s life would be like.”

Getting help for Henry

Soon after Henry’s diagnosis, Erin and Nathan were referred to the Spina Bifida Association of Kentucky, a Kosair Charities supported agency (learn more about SBAK on page 3). Erin said that finding SBAK was the greatest gift imaginable for Henry. The Hinsons met families who were already years into their spina bifida journey, and they watched other kids doing all the things they had been told weeks earlier Henry would never do.

Henry is no stranger to Kosair Charities and our supported agencies. Besides SBAK, he also receives therapy at The Kids Center for Pediatric Therapies, another Kosair Charities supported agency, and he has received financial assistance through the
Kosair Kids’ Program, formerly known as the Special Kids Program, at Kosair Charities (learn more about our financial aid program on page 14).

In 2015, at age 2, Henry received a ZipZac through the Kosair Kids’ Program. A ZipZac is a mini wheelchair that is closer to the ground, which makes getting around at school and playing with peers a lot easier for Henry. It is small and lightweight, and from the time he received it, he could operate it on his own.

Henry’s ZipZac was not covered by insurance, and was too costly for the Hinsons to afford on their own, but thanks to Kosair Charities donors, Henry received this tool to increase his mobility.

Kosair Charities to the rescue

Fast forward to the morning of Dec. 12, 2017. The Hinsons woke up to find their new home in Louisville’s Shelby Park neighborhood surrounded by water after a water main ruptured in the night. The house had minimal damage, but Henry’s ZipZac was in the back of the family van, which was destroyed in the flood.

The Louisville Water Co. promised to reimburse those affected by the water main break, but Henry didn’t have time to wait for a new ZipZac, so Erin called Kosair Charities. Thanks to the Kosair Kids’ Program, Henry had his new ZipZac on Dec. 19, just one week after the flood.

The Hinsons are thankful to our donors. Erin said, “It’s an amazing thing to have Kosair Charities in our community in general, but because of the generosity of so many, Kosair Charities is able to act quickly and intercede in times of crisis when families are dealing with the unexpected.” While some may see a ZipZac as just a piece of equipment, to Henry, it represents freedom and independence.

Chasing his dreams

Henry has undergone 16 major surgeries, countless hospitalizations and many trips to the emergency room. Erin says raising a child with a complex medical condition can sometimes leave her feeling like she’s hanging in a delicate balance, but most days she and Nathan are just like any other parents raising young kids. They get to the end of the day and think somewhere confetti cannons should be going off because somehow, everyone was fed and bathed and they remembered to sign the school agenda.

The Hinsons hope that Henry will grow up in a world where it is understood that life is not only lived by those who can walk.

Erin says, “I hope that Henry will never lose his sense of wonder and awe as he explores the world around him and chases down every dream he has, and I assure you there are many, many dreams.”
What is sweeter than helping Kosair Kids®?

On Sunday, Nov. 19, donors and friends of Kosair Charities filled the Kosair Shrine Center in Louisville armed with a bidding paddle and a slice of pie.

The third annual Pie Auction – held the Sunday before Thanksgiving – is Kosair Charities’ kickoff to the holiday season. Hundreds of guests bid on decadent desserts donated by amateur and professional bakers.

Desserts included a pumpkin praline cheesecake, chocolate bourbon cake, and a number of classic pumpkin, cherry and pecan pies. These treats were a sweet deal for two reasons: one, all proceeds help provide Kosair Kids with the care they need, and two, it keep the highest bidders from having to make a dessert for their Thanksgiving celebrations.

The auction was founded by the Legion of Ladies (LOLs), a volunteer group at Kosair Charities, in 2015. The ladies coordinate the silent auction, choose the décor, and bake and solicit pies. In its first year, the event raised close to $12,000 and with each year that number continues to rise. The ladies are collecting recipes to be part of a Pie Auction Cookbook.

Each year the ladies strive to make the auction bigger and better, so they can make an even larger impact on the lives of Kosair Kids® and the over 200 agencies that are supported by Kosair Charities.

Last year’s event was emceed by WDRB’s Lawrence Smith, and Alan Parnell, owner of Mr. “P” Express, was our auctioneer for the third consecutive year. The event included: a silent auction perfect for early holiday shopping, a live auction of 30 pies, slices of pie to taste and sample, and the opportunity to meet and hear Kosair Kid Ellie Kate Cook’s story from her mom, Jana.

The winning bids for the pies in the live auction ranged from $125 all the way up to $1,000! Thank you to everyone who “dough”nated to this event and made it possible to raise over $31,000 for Kosair Charities.

The 2018 Pie Auction will be held on Sunday, Nov. 18 at the Kosair Shrine Center. For more information on how to donate, attend or get involved, email Stephanie Smith at ssmith@kosair.org.

You are the key ingredient to our success!
It’s time to unveil and raffle off another classic car to benefit Kosair Kids®! 2018 marks the tenth year for the Kosair Classic Car Giveaway founded by Kosair Shriner, Bob Beatty.

In 2007, Beatty received a heart transplant. After being given his second chance at life, he decided to give back to his community. Bob founded the giveaway in 2009 to raise money for Kosair Kids® who need an organ transplant. He sold raffle tickets on a Ford Roadster for $10 each and donated the money to Kosair Charities and Kentucky Circuit Court Clerk’s Trust for Life.

Bob continued to raffle off cars for the kids until he passed away in 2014. Over the years, Bob had built up a dedicated group of volunteers to help sell tickets throughout the state. Robert Hart stepped into Bob’s role as chair of the Kosair Classic Car Giveaway, and Robert and his team have kept their promise to continue the work Bob started.

Robert and the car travel around the state, about 35 weekends a year, to various car shows, festivals and conventions in order to sell tickets. The car will be at the Kentucky State Fair, Good Guys Auto Show in Nashville and NSRA Street Rod Nationals, just to name a few events.

If you are into small car shows, the Kosair Shrine located at 4120 Bardstown Road hosts a free drive-in on the third Thursday of the month from April-October where you can get a closer look at the giveaway car. If you can’t attend one of the events, you can always purchase a ticket online at kosaircar.com, and as always, the tickets are just $10 each.

Last year, a 1971 Corvette Stingray was raffled off, and the winner, Benny Burchett, purchased his one single ticket in person at the Carl Casper Auto Show. The $10 ticket is not only a chance on the car, but also provides entry to the annual giveaway party, which will be held on Nov. 9 at the Kosair Shrine Center. The event includes a silent auction, hors d’oeuvres, cash bar, and live music by The Monarchs. The drawing for the 2018 car will take place at 9 p.m.

The 10th anniversary car is a 1939 gray and black Chevrolet Sedan, with a 450 big block engine, restored to near mint condition. The car was unveiled on Jan. 19 at the Greater Louisville Auto Dealers Association Auto Show, Tail Lights and Ties. Thank you to GLADA for helping us kick off our 10th anniversary with a weekend long celebration. Tail Lights and Ties, a VIP reception for the Louisville Auto Show, featured live music by Olivia Henken and Josh Logan from NBC’s “The Voice,” a silent auction, and cocktails and appetizers.

Our 1939 Chevrolet Sedan could be yours for just $10. Help us continue Bob’s legacy.

To learn more about this year’s car and purchase a ticket or to see where the car will be, visit kosaircar.com and like the Kosair Charities Facebook Page.
In December, over 400 Kosair Kids from supported agencies such as Bluegrass Center for Autism, Down Syndrome of Louisville, and Visually Impaired Preschool Services attended our holiday party with other kids and families facing similar challenges. For the underprivileged children, it was simply about making sure they received gifts during the holidays. For the children with physical or mental disabilities, it was about helping them forget the challenges they face every day, and instead focus on what is important: being a kid.

Thanks to your support, each child in attendance received a brand new wrapped toy and set of books from Santa Claus himself, picked out a brand new stuffed animal from The Louisville Zoo, and had the opportunity to win a bike, get their face painted, play reindeer games, and make fun crafts. Thank you for making their season a little brighter.
HOLIDAY PARTY Partners

Park community
Modern Woodmen FRATERNAL FINANCIAL
TARGET
L & D Mail Masters
PASSPORT HEALTH PLAN
PAPA JOHNS
theZOO
THORNTONS
WAYNE WHITWORTH & HUMANA’S SVS ELVES

Aesthetics, Inc.
GALT HOUSE HOTEL
Kosair Charities’ grants make young lives better

**AMPED Youth Center**

AMPED is a free youth music program that provides a safe environment for youth to explore their creativity through music. AMPED provides free access to education, instruments, technology and performance opportunities for Louisville’s young minds. Grant money will support the purchase of mobile music production equipment to take AMPED programs into the community for youth who do not have access to the facility.

**$40,225**

---

**Bingham Clinic**

The Bingham Clinic maximizes the emotional and behavioral health of children, adolescents and families through innovative, comprehensive and preventative clinical services. Grant money will modernize telemedicine capabilities for faculty and trainees, as well as fund the building of two small teleconference suites.

**$70,000**

---

**Doors to Hope**

Doors to Hope opens learning opportunities, encourages community involvement and engages in advocacy for women and immigrant families. Grant money will update their current computer lab, which is essential to students for research, homework and learning programs that address academic weakness.

**$25,000**
On Dec. 5, the Kosair Charities Advisory Council granted over $225,000 to six local, non-profit organizations whose mission is to better the lives of Kosair Kids® in our community. Without donor support, these six deserving organizations would not have received grants between $25,000 and $70,000 from Kosair Charities.

### First Gethsemane FDC
First Gethsemane Family Development Center hosts more than 20 programs that serve hundreds of youth and adult participants throughout the year. Many of these programs focus on summer services to counteract summer learning loss. Grant money will purchase two 15-passenger vans, which will transport youths to and from various programs and field trips.

$40,000

### Lemonade Day
Lemonade Day Louisville is working to empower today’s youth to become tomorrow’s entrepreneurs. They are helping prepare children for life through fun, proactive and experiential programs infused with life skills, character education and entrepreneurship. Grant money will help raise awareness throughout the community, help to build on their marketing channels, increase involvement with their YMCE CEP sites and purchase education materials required to run the program.

$25,000

### Louisville Leopard Percussionists
Louisville Leopard Percussionists provides a comprehensive musical experience for children that enriches lives and builds community. LLP is a performing ensemble comprised of over 60 student musicians ages 7-14, who reside in 26 Louisville ZIP codes and attend 48 different schools in and around Louisville. Grant money was used to purchase a truck to pull their large trailer full of instruments to and from performances.

$35,000
Kosair Charities and you: Making a difference together

Our impact

Each year, we are wowed by the number of children’s organizations in our community, and the innovative approach they take to serving children and families. Doctors, therapists, educators and advocates create the biggest, boldest approaches for building the best society for children’s well-being.

At Kosair Charities, we recognize that a family can face an infinite number of challenges when raising a child. We also recognize that there is a solution to be found, and we are proud to be a part of the journey to find it.

Last year, over 233 organizations throughout Kentucky and southern Indiana came to us with a need. Many agencies needed space to grow in order to serve more families, some organizations needed resources to pursue cutting-edge research, and other agencies requested funding to put more experienced caretakers into the field. Thanks to over 90 years of committed donors and a healthy endowment, Kosair Charities was able to provide $16.4 million to agencies in need.

Like all organizations, our mission and vision have shifted over time. However, we have stayed true to our founding purpose: helping children in need. Even with the hundreds of agencies providing assistance to an immeasurable number of children, sometimes families are still left with nowhere to turn. Our Kosair Kids’ Financial Aid Program answered the call for over 170 families that requested financial assistance for medical bills this year. Again, thanks to our committed donors, we were able to ensure that families in our community could afford the help their children need.

We are proud partners of each of the agencies we support. These agencies are proving that innovative, world-class care for children should be available for every family in our community. By removing roadblocks for each of these organizations, we can build the best society for our children. In doing so, we will create the best society for everyone.

“We always want to be a part of the Kosair Charities family.”
– Paul Kitchler, Bluegrass Center for Autism
Kosair Charities has had many chapters during its almost 100 years in this community. We helped many of you through polio, and many of you through a hospital stay. We’ve been proud to help your family pay medical bills, and proud of the doctors that were in the room when your family received a diagnosis. We’ve helped introduce advanced therapies and education to your children, and we’ve made sure your family doesn’t feel alone while raising a child. We have been proud to be associated with excellent child care for everyone. The goal for our next chapter is to make sure our community is associated with excellent child care, nationwide.

While we were thrilled to be able to award $16.4 million last year, there is more work to be done. We received over $30 million in grant requests in 2017. We hope, one day, to be able to award each and every worthy request we receive. In order to do so, we need your help.

Your donation to Kosair Charities ensures that the organizations our community has relied on for years can continue to receive important funding, and that new organizations with bold, innovative solutions can get the jump start they need.

Kosair Charities is committed to making you proud of your donation, and our development team is committed to making sure each member of the Kosair Charities family understands the importance of their support. We hope that this year, when you consider the impact you plan to make on our community that you consider the $14 million in requests that we were unable to fund. We hope that you consider the possibility of our community being the best society for children’s well-being, and we hope you’ll give us a call today to ask how you can be a part of making a difference.
Kosair Charities® is much more than meets the eye

When you hear “Kosair Charities” what is the first thing that pops into your head? Helping children in need? The Kosair Crippled Children Hospital? Shriners? While all of these would be correct, most people don’t fully grasp the scope of what Kosair Charities does for children in Kentucky and southern Indiana. Kosair Charities, in a nutshell, protects the health and well-being of children in our community. But how?

Kosair makes it possible for many other non-profits including: Home of the Innocents, Visually Impaired Preschool Services, Bluegrass Center for Autism and Down Syndrome of Louisville, to provide vital services to children. We provide funding for research, child advocacy, education and clinical services, and were able to assist over 233 organizations to the tune of $16.4 million in 2017. What many people don’t know is we also have a program to assist individual families with overwhelming medical bills.

The Kosair Kids® Program provides direct financial assistance to families. The program helps with medical bills of children up to 17 years of age, or those still attending high school, whose families cannot otherwise afford to pay. This program also provides support in purchasing necessary medical equipment and devices.

The Kosair Kids® Program has been a staple of Kosair Charities’ mission for many years, but is often overshadowed by the grants we give to our supported agencies. Each year, this program is responsible for covering the cost of hearing aids, therapy sessions, ambulance rides, emergency dental procedures, wheelchairs and other mobility devices. In 2017, the Kosair Kids® Program assisted 174 families from 33 counties and covered $369,591 in medical bills.

The only requirement to be considered for financial aid is that families must have insurance. We are here to fill in the gaps for things insurance may not cover. Each application receives a full review by a committee to determine how we might best provide aid to the family.

People applying for the Kosair Kids® Program must provide an application, medical release form, two recent pay stubs from all working parent(s)/guardian(s), the first two pages of the most recent federal tax return, current bills or quotes, letter from a physician or recommending doctor stating need or occurrence of medical expenses, and the insurance company’s Explanation of Benefits (EOB).

The Kosair Kids® Program will not pay for bills in collection or routine medical procedures. We are unable to review any charges incurred at Norton Children’s Hospital, formally Kosair Children’s Hospital, which has its own assistance program for these types of bills. Kosair Charities’ donors, like you, make programs like this possible. We understand that parents of children with unique medical needs are often overwhelmed by growing expenses. Kosair Charities wants to provide relief to those families and to ensure that Kosair Kids®, like Henry, receive medical equipment like his ZipZac to give him the freedom he deserves (See page 4 to learn about how the Kosair Kids® Program helped Henry).

To apply or learn more about the Kosair Kids® Program, visit kosair.org and click on the “Our Impact” tab.
St. Gabriel Girls Basketball Program
On Dec. 18, 22 members of the St. Gabriel Girls Basketball Program came to Kosair Charities to wrap toys and books for kids in need. Joining them were five additional members of our Kosair Charities Kids Club. Thanks to all of their hard work, over 500 toys and books were wrapped in time for the holidays!

Bryant Fogle
Bryant officially joined our Kids Club on Nov. 7 when he dropped off a box of new toys to Kosair Charities. Instead of asking family and friends for gifts on his ninth birthday, he instead asked them to donate items to Kosair Kids®. Welcome to the club, Bryant!

Abigail Cleveland
Abigail visited Kosair Charities on Dec. 15 to drop off new toys she collected for Kosair Kids®. Her tote and two large gift bags were filled mostly with board games, a perfect gift for families in need. Thank you, Abigail. You made a BIG difference in the 2017 holiday season!

Phil Utley
Phil Utley and his grandkids stopped by Kosair Charities on Dec. 20 with gifts for our Kosair Kids®. They hope to make this an annual tradition in their family.

Clark Jewelers
On Dec. 28, Clark Jewelers presented Kosair Charities President Keith Inman with a check for $5,000. This money comes as part of the Jewelers for Children local grant program. Jewelers were asked to nominate their favorite local organization. Public voting on the Jewelers for Children Facebook page began in November and determined which charities received the grants. Thank you to everyone who voted for Kosair Charities!
AT&T
Members from a local AT&T store stopped by Kosair Charities Dec. 12 with their gift of more than $1,100. They collected donations by hosting multiple fundraisers throughout their office. Thank you for thinking of Kosair Kids® in the holiday season!

In Kind Donations
Angel Miles
Maxim Healthcare Services
Hindu Temple of Kentucky
Beth Snowden and family
Zappos/6PM Outlet
West IP Communications
Sandy Metts Snowden
Prime Beauty Studio
Dessiray Denny
Kim Wagner & Mollie Hardin

Farmer Elementary
Each year, Farmer Elementary invites Kosair Charities and Home of the Innocents to their annual Kids Caring for Kids assembly. Students donated stuffed animals, toiletries, clothing, money and more for kids in our community. Thank you, Farmer Elementary, for thinking of our Kosair Kids® during the holiday season!

Wayne Whitworth & the SVS Elves
Members of our staff went shopping with Wayne Whitworth and the SVS Elves, at Meijer, for our annual Kosair Kids® Holiday Party. Due to the generous efforts of Wayne and his elves we were able to purchase nearly $8,000 worth of toys for our Kosair Kids®. Thank you, Wayne and the SVS Elves, for making the holiday season bright!

VW Bug Club
The Classic VW Club of Louisville hosted their annual V-Dub Derby Sept. 9 and raised $2,500 for Kosair Kids®. This was the event’s largest show yet! Thank you, VW Club of Louisville, for supporting Kosair Charities year after year.
Jodi Velazquez

Jodi Velazquez and her husband stopped by Kosair Charities on Dec. 13 and donated two boxes of Scentsy Buddies to the Bears on Patrol program. Thank you for thinking of our Kosair Kids®, Jodi!

B3 Bash

The third annual B3 Bash: A Celebration of Bacon, Bourbon & Beer was held Jan. 20 at Mellwood Art Center. Guests enjoyed delicious bacon creations, bourbon cocktails and craft beers. Thanks to attendees and donors, this year’s event raised nearly $3,000 for Kosair Charities!

Deborah Gussman

Kosair Charities had a special visit from Deborah Gussman on Nov. 30, when she delivered her Christmas Village and accessories. Deborah's wish was for her donation to fill Kosair Charities’ lobby with holiday spirit, and that is exactly what it did! Thanks for thinking of Kosair Charities.

Bardstown Middle School

BMS Ambassadors led a school-wide toy drive during the holiday season and collected 239 toys for Kosair Kids®. Way to go, students!

Dale and Betty Rich

Dale and Betty Rich paid their annual visit to Kosair Charities in December with hundreds of toys and a check for $1,122 for our Kosair Kids*. Thank you to the community of Tompkinsville for supporting Kosair Charities year after year.

Park Community Credit Union

Park Community Credit Union and Kosair Charities went on a $2,500 holiday shopping spree at Target. We filled six shopping carts to the top! Thank you, Park Community, for your commitment to Kosair Kids*.

Kosair Roustabouts

Thank you to the Kosair Roustabouts for helping load and move four box trucks of Christmas trees, garland, and ornaments. The move took over five hours. We truly appreciate these dedicated volunteers giving up their Sunday morning to help Kosair Charities get in the holiday spirit.
TOGETHER,
WE ARE
KOSAIR

Working hand in hand with more than 200 organizations for nearly 100 years to help kids in need.
We’ve always been there. We’ll always be here.