



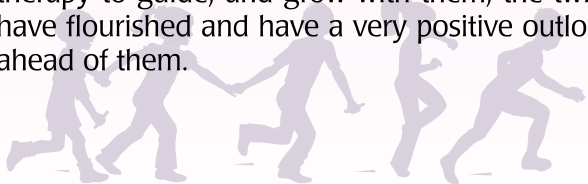
The twins with big sister Addysen

Jayden and Peyton's poor health and developmental delays.

At the first therapy visit, Jayden was just 11 months, limp and cradled in her mother's arms; had very poor circulation of her cerebral spinal fluids. After just one therapy treatment, Melissa reported that she finally slept through the night. This was an important improvement for this very tired mother.

When there is a high risk situation, like the twins, the outcome is always a gamble. Without the early and continuing implementation of therapy, there is a minimal chance of normal development.

Over the last three years, the twins have been fostered through every developmental step. With therapy to guide, and grow with them, the twins have flourished and have a very positive outlook ahead of them.



The Theme Family, older sister Addysen, Melissa, Chris, along with Jayden and Peyton

"All too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, or smallest act of caring. The Elks Major Project stands to prove these things hold the power to turn a life around. Our lives are forever changed because of your amazing Association. Your generosity and dedication to the therapeutic needs of our girls have been an immeasurable gift to our family and for this, we are eternally grateful".

Melissa and Chris



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California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.

Theme Children



Jayden and Peyton
The Twins





Jayden and Peyton were born on November 1, 2010 in Clovis, California. The addition of these beautiful twin girls was a happy and welcomed addition to Melissa, Chris, and two year old Addysen.

All was well with this growing family...as it seemed. The twins were a few weeks early; born at 35 weeks gestational age. Soon after birth, they both started developing health problems.

Melissa was determined to exclusively breast feed her precious girls. Peyton, born at 4 lbs 13 oz, was faced with difficulty latching to the breast and effectively gaining and maintaining a healthy weight. This was soon remedied by supplementing her with one formula feed per day. Jayden was born at 5 lbs 8 oz and seemed healthy and had no difficulties nursing and gaining weight. Melissa scheduled twice weekly appointments with their pediatrician to ensure adequate health and weight gain.

Jayden, at four months of age, began demonstrating signs of rapid health decline. The most

noticeable included fever ranging from 103-108, excessive vomiting, diarrhea, and rapid weight loss. In a desperate attempt to slow the weight loss, her pediatrician prescribed three daily feedings of a specialized formula in addition to the breast feeding. After only two weeks, Jayden was diagnosed with failure to thrive and fever of unknown origin.

Because of the severity of her condition, Jayden was hospitalized. Lab tests were run that revealed nothing more than a mild infection. She was treated with antibiotics, which broke her fever and improved additional lab tests. She was then allowed to go home.

Within a few weeks Jayden's symptoms returned with increased severity resulting in another hospital admission. During her stay, she suffered from febrile seizures as well as further weight loss. Another round of slightly more aggressive antibiotics were administered which improved her condition and she was discharged.

A few months would pass before Jayden's symptoms returned even more aggressively. She underwent numerous lab and radiological tests during this seven day hospital admission. The doctors worked together diligently to come up with answers as to what was causing her recurring condition. The medical team assigned to her case contacted all known specialists in every possible field that could potentially pertain to her resulting in a more detailed diagnosis. Her diagnoses included celiac disease, severe bone growth delay, failure to thrive, excessive vomiting, fever of unknown origin, and loss of developmental milestones.

In the midst of Jayden's medical dilemmas, Peyton began showing signs of a decline in her health. Peyton was given a complete evaluation by her pediatrician, it was concluded that she was merely responding to her twin's symptoms. Experiencing a form of separation distress which resulted in her inability to eat and sleep effectively. These issues caused Peyton to lose weight, become very irritable and inconsolably fussy.

Because of Jayden's reoccurring symptoms and loss of developmental milestones, and Peyton's newly onset medical decline, their pediatrician prescribed occupational therapy to begin immediately. A therapist that was trained in cranialsacral therapy was sought, as the girls' pediatrician believed this could be a positive asset to the girls' treatment.

The challenge the family now faced was to find an Occupational Therapist that could fully understand and foster both of the girls' therapy needs.

The girls' maternal grandmother suggested contacting the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project as her brother Jimmy had received services, when he was a boy, to aid in his severe cerebral palsy. When contact was made with Judy Linda, she was immediately reminded of Jimmy's case, as Judy was the therapist assigned to him some 30 years before.

This was the start of a wonderful and productive therapy relationship. Upon accepting the family on Judy's caseload, she learned of the intense medical history.

Jayden was far behind her peers developmentally at 11 months old. She was able to sit, an 8 month skill, but had no motor skills beyond that. Her digestion was not functioning well. She cried a lot, and was very clingy to her mom. She was unable to sleep, unable to suck on her bottle and she would fatigue rapidly. She would spike a fever easily and had repeated hospitalizations.

Peyton was left out sometimes due to her sister's extensive needs. Peyton had separate issues relating to her "twin responses," so the Occupational Therapist was mindful to incorporate her into the therapy program to foster her development as well.

With Judy's training in craniosacral techniques, guided by the pediatrician and supported by the Elks Major Project, she implemented a program which began to change the course of