



TAKE THE NEXT STEP

We need your help more than ever!

When you support MCFI, you support Lukas, a toddler who took his first steps because of the care he received at our medical day care.

Born prematurely at 29 weeks, Lukas spent the first 351 days of his life at a hospital; he needed a tracheotomy and ventilator and had developmental delays. When it was time to go home, his mom was told she had two options for his care: a private nurse or MCFI's medical day care program.

She chose MCFI, and Lukas has blossomed. Watch and listen as his mother, Julia Klinge, describes his transformation.



CHALLENGING YEAR

COVID-19 created additional stressors for disadvantaged people, who are already challenged by limited access to essential health and socioeconomic services. While all organizations faced difficulty providing services in new ways, MCFI was further tested by the sheer number of programs offered, and a vulnerable population with unique challenges -- people with physical, developmental and intellectual disabilities; brain injuries; persistent mental illness and substance abuse issues; and societal barriers, including past convictions, to finding employment.

But MCFI stayed true to its mission of advancing total health with innovative services. MCFI's team devised new techniques and programs to help clients continue their care, and with every little step, reach their personal goals and improved quality of life.

YOUR DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE

We need your help now more than ever. Your gift can help sustain the essential services for clients like Lukas!

Please visit our [website](#) to make a secure online donation and select your gift designation. Questions? Please contact [Kasey Chard](#), 414-937-2085. Thank you!



GIVING THANKS

We have much to be grateful for this year!

The year 2020 hasn't been easy for any of us, but when we look at our generous community partners, we are filled with gratitude and hope.

We thank our partners at **Aurora Family Service**, who donated vouchers for Birth to Three families to purchase Thanksgiving dinners.

We are also grateful for the ongoing partnership we have with the **Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department**, which again this year donated Thanksgiving meals for us to distribute to our Birth to Three families in need. *(Pictured above are, from left to right, Deputies Virgyl Maxwell and Kristine Rodriguez; MCFI Vice President of Clinical and Client Services Dennise Lavrenz; and members of our Birth to Three staff, Physical Therapist Emma Erickson and Director Juan Carlos (JC) Chang Shik.)*

We are touched by the many in-kind and financial contributions made to MCFI this year, including, most recently:

- \$10,098 from the Elizabeth Elser Doolittle Charitable Trusts for general operating support
- \$5,000 from the Anon Charitable Trust to support **Children's Programs**
- \$5,000 from the Marjorie L. Christiansen Foundation to support food service operations
- \$2,281 from the Samuel K. and Doris Hersh Chortek Endowment Fund for general operation support
- \$1,637 from the Keith and Dee Miller Designated Fund for general operating support

We thank you for your generosity as we wish you a healthy and hopeful holiday season and new year!

In case you missed it . . .

MCFI was featured live November 19 on WLKH's

Workforce Tour!

In case you missed it, we are sharing our messages from our featured speakers:

- Teri Zywicki, CEO and President
- Heidi Chada, Vice President of Employment Services
- Ursula Flores, Director, MCFI Home Care
- John Chianelli, Vice President of Whole Health Clinical Group



Visit our [website](#) to hear their audio clips!

MILWAUKEE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE

