

# Utah Pediatric Neuro-Rehabilitation Fund

Questions? Ask Rep. Hutchings

## How Intensive Physical Therapy Changed My Life

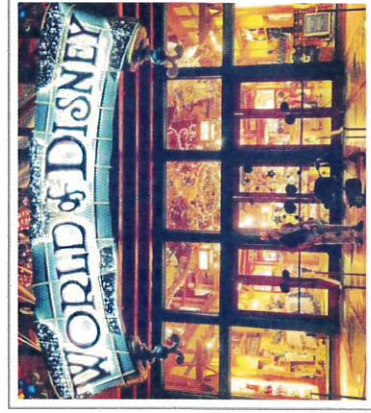
Andrew was born with umbilical cord wrapped around his neck twice. When he was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy, the experts said he would never talk, walk, nor live a normal life.

Andrew went to a rehabilitation clinic in Poland where they did intensive therapy using a suit invented by the Russian Cosmonauts. After two trips, Andrew was able to walk independently and his speech improved from 20% intelligible to 90%.



Despite the outstanding success, his family's insurance decided to stop paying for these month-long sessions. Andrew's family decided to take on the burden of paying for these trips to Poland which allowed Andrew to go to Poland eight more times.

Andrew became an independent walker and his outlook on life improved. Andrew has been recognized nationally for his acting and playwriting; he has participated in political internships; and he was a Walt Disney World cast member.



Currently, Andrew has a full-ride scholarship at the University of California Riverside in the MFA Creative Writing for Performing Arts. He previously attended BYU for his undergrad where he met his wife Carrie.

Besides grad school, Andrew is the Communications Director for Rep. Hutchings and he is a contributing writer for the unofficial Disney news platform "DSNY Newscast".

# New Scientific Breakthrough Has Completely Changed the World for Kids like Kyler



Kyler was born premature 33 weeks with mild Cerebral Palsy. Because of that, doctors said that Kyler would be wheelchair bound all his life. With a lot of practice, Kyler was able to start walking at age 4 but his walk causes him severe back pain.

In general, a child with Cerebral Palsy needs 113 to 151 therapy sessions during the first year. The cost is high, and some insurance do not cover the treatment. The fund from this bill will help kids not just with CP but an array of similar challenges.

The estimated lifetime costs for all U.S. individual with CP born in 2000 was \$11.5 billion. This fund will help these children who are from a low-income household 90% of the time to have a life again. The fund only kicks in when the insurance does not cover the treatment and the family cannot afford it.

Children who have access to these treatments will go on to help the system by contributing to society. They will have careers, families, and achieve great things that are good for them but for society as a whole.



## Demographics

- Utah will have approx. 145 children per year with CP alone.
- About 2,363 children in Utah currently have CP.

## Treatments

- Number of physical and occupational therapy sessions required after selective dorsal rhizotomy: 113 to 151 visits within the first year

## Cost

- Estimated combined lifetime costs for all U.S. individuals with CP born in 2000 = \$11.5 billion.
- Estimated that 90% of children with disabilities who come from low income households do not go to school for reasons like inadequate funding, physical inaccessibility, accommodation process, lack of individualization, ineffective dispute resolution mechanisms, negative attitudes and stereotypes.

## Benefits:

- Higher likelihood of parents returning to the workforce
- Decrease need for public assistance
- Increased opportunities in school, work, and activities