

3-Year-Old Daniel Needs Your Help So He Can Eat Properly

Three-year-old Daniel Lara was born with a genetic condition, Treacher Collins syndrome, that not only impacts his appearance but threatens his health.

Treacher Collins syndrome causes abnormalities in the development of the face and skull, most often underdevelopment of the cheekbones, jaw, palate, and mouth. These craniofacial deformities can dangerously impact a child's ability to breathe and eat.

In Daniel's case, his underdeveloped jaw makes it difficult for him to chew food, placing this bright-eyed young boy at constant risk of malnutrition.

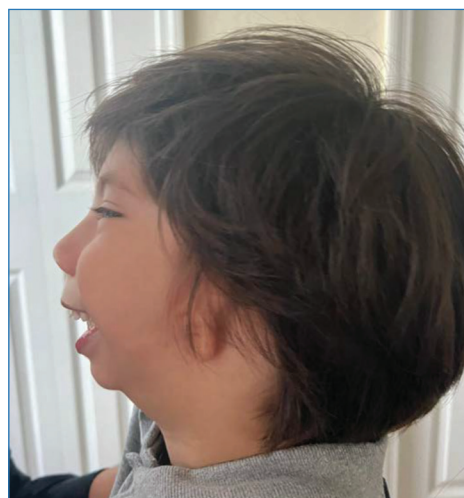
Daniel was formerly from San Pedro Sula, Honduras, but now resides in Florida, where his parents moved to find

employment opportunities unavailable to them in their home country. We have connected him with a surgeon at Shriners Children's Hospital in Dayton, Ohio, and he has been approved for reconstructive surgery that will improve his nutrition, health, and well-being.

For Daniel, this life-changing surgery cannot come soon enough. But for him to get to Ohio and receive treatment, we are relying on caring supporters like you.

Your gifts will help pay for his medical care and surgery — costs that are otherwise out of reach for many families — and also help cover the cost of travel and housing for Daniel and his family during treatment.

Thank you for changing and saving lives like Daniel's through your support of WorldCF!



Daniel's condition makes it impossible for him to chew food.



Please remember the WorldCF in your estate planning and help needy children for decades to come!

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Transforming LIVES

SPRING 2022



Letter from Ken Salyer, Jr.: Our New Board Chair

Dear Friend,

As I think about moving World Craniofacial Foundation forward into the future and continuing the legacy of my father, Dr. Kenneth Salyer, I find myself thinking back to the past.

I remember as a boy looking at the model skulls strewn about the house. Back then, doctors would draw on these models with a marker to determine how to reconstruct a face. Today, with advances in technology and computer modeling, it's amazing to consider just how far we've come from those model skulls.

Just as the science, tools, and techniques have progressed, so too has international access to craniofacial surgery. Much of this progress was thanks to my father and a handful of surgeons who worked tirelessly not only to advance medical innovations but also to train fellows from around the world so there would be more doctors able to perform these surgeries in more places.

And WorldCF has grown as well. What began with my father assessing a case and then connecting the patient with the right specialist for their particular surgery has grown increasingly collaborative.

That collaborative spirit, as well as the desire of former medical fellows around the world to continue this work, is what ensures the future of this foundation.

And what motivates all of us, from the members of our medical board to the doctors who donate their time and skills to perform surgeries, is the same thing that motivated my father: *the children whose lives we are changing*. We know the difference this work makes in children's lives, and we have the will and talent in our team to ensure this work continues into the future.

Thank you for supporting this mission. Together, we will continue my father's work, train more doctors, and change more lives.

Ken Salyer, Jr.
Board Chair



Dr. Salyer's granddaughter Ashley, who followed in her grandfather's medical footsteps, is now a Nurse Practitioner and is shown above at her recent wedding.

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New Partnership Means New Hope for More Children

Just a few weeks ago, WorldCF Medical Director Dr. Diego Steinberg, M.D., met virtually with the parents of three children who would soon be traveling to Hospital Universitario Infantil San Jose in Bogota, Colombia.

Juana and Sofia are both from Guatemala; little Anderson is from Honduras. In Bogota, all three children will receive life-changing surgeries that are not available in their home countries.

In a new partnership, World Craniofacial Foundation and World Pediatric Project have joined efforts and resources to make these surgeries possible. A team led by Dr. Steinberg and Dr. Rolando Prada, M.D., another of WorldCF's Medical Directors, will perform the complex procedures.

“We are so very grateful to World Craniofacial Foundation and look forward to helping many more children through this collaboration.”

— Natalia Rosales, World Pediatric Project

From Patient to Donor: Steve Kerbow's Story

Why does Steve Kerbow support World Craniofacial Foundation? Because he knows first-hand how a craniofacial surgery can change a life.

For more than 30 years, Steve had been searching for the right doctor to correct his sagittal synostosis, a pronounced bony ridge on his head. The cranial deformity hurt Steve's confidence and often left him feeling shy in social situations.

Over lunch one day, a friend shared a Dallas Morning News article with the headline 14-hour Surgery Gives New Face to African Girl. The article told about an 11-year-old girl from a remote area in Benin who wanted to go to school but was prevented by villagers who thought that her disfiguring facial tumor meant that she was possessed by evil spirits.

It was the first time that Steve had heard of Dr. Kenneth Salyer, the renowned craniofacial surgeon and founder of the World Craniofacial Foundation.

“My God, if he could help that girl, he could help me!” Steve remembers thinking. He got in contact with Dr. Salyer and, in December of 2001, Steve had his own life changing surgery.

Over the following 21 years, Steve and his wife, La Ray, have faithfully supported WorldCF's work. Recently, his financial advisor suggested a new way to support Steve's



Steve gives to WorldCF so others can have access to the kind of surgery that changed his own life.

favorite nonprofit: donating stocks. “I had been giving cash to help the WorldCF help others,” says Steve. By donating appreciated stocks, Steve saw tax benefits while still providing the same level of gift to WorldCF.

Today, Steve has retired from his successful consulting firm and is enjoying life with his wife and their son, daughter, four grandsons, and one granddaughter. “I am grateful for them and for a life that has worked out so we can help others,” says Steve.

Giving us stock can often be more beneficial than giving cash. You can completely avoid paying any tax on the stock's increased value AND you will be entitled to a charitable income tax deduction for the stock's full market value.

If you are considering a gift of stock, please call or email our Board Chair, Ken Salyer, Jr., so he can provide you with our stock transfer instructions. Reach him by email at ken.salyer.jr@worldcf.org, call him directly at +1.214.244.5234 or leave a message at +1.972.566.6669 or +1.800.533.3315 toll-free from anywhere in the U.S.

A Brighter Future for Mohammed

For many children born with craniofacial abnormalities, their condition not only impacts their appearance but also their development. That is the case for Mohammed, a 1 year-old boy living in Hyderabad, India.

Mohammed was born with Syndromal Craniosynostosis. In this condition, the bones in an infant's head fuse prematurely before the brain is fully formed. This results in a misshapen skull that, if not treated quickly, will not allow the brain to grow properly.

“The surgery is long, dangerous, and complex, involving reshaping the skull without damaging the brain,” says Dr. Diego Steinberg, M.D., a WorldCF's Medical Director and the Foundation's Medical Administrator. The procedure is essential to giving children like Mohammed the futures they deserve.

In early May, Dr. S.M. Balaji, M.D.S., Director of Balaji Dental and Craniofacial Hospital, performed this life-changing surgery for Mohammed in Chennai, India. He reports that Mohammed is healing perfectly and that the little boy is already showing signs of improvement thanks to the surgery.

“Mohammed is making eye contact, smiling more often, and playing well,” Dr. Balaji said just days after the surgery.

The generosity of WorldCF supporters made Mohammed's treatment possible. Your gifts helped provide vital surgical supplies, as well as genetic testing that allowed Mohammed's medical team to better understand his condition. You also helped pay for the 3D modeling necessary to plan the complex surgery.

Thank you for giving Mohammed a brighter future!

