

# Silhouettes

Square & Compass Children's Clinic

Winter 2025 | Volume 35 | Number 1

"Serving Tucson & Southern Arizona since 1947"



## Evelyn

### Sleeping Soundly & Enjoying Sweet Dreams!

#### Evelyn:

Evelyn is a beautiful 4-year-old with a loving family consisting of her mother, father, and two older siblings; a brother and sister.

Evelyn was born at Tucson Medical Center where her mother was informed, almost immediately, that she had been born with a soft cleft lip. Evelyn's mother was guided by a wonderful ICU nurse and a case worker at TMC who referred the family to Children's Clinics.

With the guidance of the medical team here at the clinic, Evelyn underwent soft cleft lip surgery as an infant with successful results. At ten months of age, Evelyn fell and was again in the hospital. This time with a fractured skull and broken collar bone. Evelyn had been diagnosed, by medical professionals, as being Autistic as well as Hyperlexia. Again, her parents turned to the clinic for the help and guidance they needed. Studies have shown that between six to fourteen percent of children with autism also have a form of Hyperlexia. One in every sixty-eight children are diagnosed with a form of autism. Boys are five times more likely to be diagnosed with autism than girls. Evelyn for the most part is nonverbal and very rarely will she make eye contact, which is a hallmark of autism. She has frequent melt-downs, but does adore her brother and likes when he is her babysitter.

Here at the clinic, Evelyn's parents have found all the resources necessary to navigate this journey, which will give the entire family the best possible quality of life. Evelyn's medical professionals recommended the family look into obtaining a "Cubby Bed". Evelyn has sleep problems, required being medicated, and was constantly getting out of her regular bed regardless of what Evelyn's parents devised, as a DIY for safety, and wandering the house which resulted in both Evelyn and her parents not getting more than a few hours



of sleep every night. Her parents were on constant alert of Evelyn's movements. The Cubby Bed is a specialized bed which encloses the child in a cocoon-like setting which provides an unexpected sanctuary. Cubby Beds, also known as enclosed beds or sensory beds, are designed to create a safe, enclosed environment that caters to the unique sensory needs of children with autism.

With the assistance of our generous donors, Square & Compass Children's Clinic was able to obtain a Cubby Bed for Evelyn's family. Her mother and father have stated that the benefit to Evelyn, with this Cubby Bed, is life changing. Evelyn, like many autistic

continued ►

continued

children, does not like change or transition, but took to her Cubby Bed as soon as it was set up. Her mother stated that Evelyn will put herself in her bed, ask for darkness, which she seems to prefer regardless of the time of day, and spend many hours either amusing herself or getting a good night's sleep. As for sleep, the Cubby Bed is a joy for Evelyn's parents. They, along with the rest of the family, including Evelyn, can now get a restful night's sleep. With the Cubby Bed, the family knows where Evelyn is at all times.

Evelyn's parents would like to give a big "THANK YOU" to Evelyn's team here at the clinic; Dr. Gardner with the Autism Clinic, Evelyn's speech and Occupational Therapy team Amy and Andrea, and Dr. Egbert in Primary Care. These health care professionals, along with so many others here at the clinic, are what makes the clinic a truly exceptional place for families.

Evelyn's mother and father would like to express their gratitude to all donors of the Square & Compass Children's Clinic for Evelyn's Cubby Bed. The bed has truly made a difference for the entire family.



**Occupational Therapy is an integral part of the work done here at the Square & Compass Children's Clinic and one of the standout Occupational Therapists on the team here at the clinic is Amy Acton.**

Amy has been with the clinic for eleven years; longer than many of her patients have been alive!

Amy and her associates in the Occupational Therapy department are always willing to help families with children needing Occupational Therapy, assessing the patient's physical, communication, and cognitive skills to develop a treatment plan. Amy is trained to

give advice and provide support for family members and care givers as well as conduct physical and psychological assessments of child and family needs, along with advising on adaptive equipment to help the child with daily activities.

Originally from New Jersey, Amy followed her mother to Tucson where she graduated from Pima Medical Institute. Before coming to the clinic, Amy received her early training with the Blake Foundation which led her to her love for working with kids.

Away from the clinic, Amy stays busy raising her three-and-a-half-year-old son. She enjoys cooking and, when time permits, puts her crafting skills to the test.

The dedication and compassion that Amy shows here at the clinic is a testament to our mission.



# Speech Language Pathologist, Amanda Lopez, is a ball of energy!

Amanda has been with the clinic for five years.

Speech Language Pathology deals with a full range of communication skills including speech and swallowing challenges, along with evaluation and diagnosing speech, language, and communication disorders. A large part of the work Amanda performs here at the clinic is developing a treatment plan for each child, training and educating children to live each day to the fullest potential, overcoming obstacles, and guiding parents/caregivers to the best way to overcome challenges and monitor their child's progress.

After graduation from the University of Texas, Austin, Amanda went on to grad school focusing on Home Health, with no thought of a career in Speech Language Pathology. Amanda grew up with a special needs brother and observed the work her parents put into meeting his needs.

As a Speech Language Pathologist, Amanda, can relate to her parent's dedication to her special needs brother, which has fueled her to become a leader in her field here at the clinic.

Away from the clinic, Amanda stays busy raising her two children, a three-year-old girl and a six-year-old boy. When time permits, Amanda enjoys relaxing by tending to her plants.



## Grand Lodge of Arizona Donation to Square & Compass Children's Clinic

Representatives of The Grand Lodge of Arizona paid a visit to the Square & Compass Corporate Office before our August 2024 Board of Directors meeting to present a donation.

The members of The Grand Lodge of Arizona have always been faithful supporters of The Square & Compass Children's Clinic.

We, at the Square & Compass Children's Clinic, would like to give a big "THANK YOU" to all members of The Grand Lodge of Arizona for their generous donation and continued support.



# THANK YOU!

As supporters of Square & Compass Children's Clinic **you** play a significant role in improving the health and lives of **thousands** of children.

In 2024, there were over **40,000** patient visits in the following clinics:

Audiology	Occupational Therapy
Baclophen Pump	Ophthalmology
Behavioral Health	Optometry
Cardiology	Oral-Maxillary
Cerebral Palsy	Orthodontia
Dental	Orthopedics
Dermatology	Osteogenesis Imperfecta
Developmental Pediatrics	Pediatric Palliative Care
Down Syndrome	Pediatric Surgery
Endocrinology	Pediatrics
Ear, Nose, & Throat	Physical Therapy
Feeding	Plastic Surgery
Gastroenterology	Primary Care
Genetics	Rheumatology
Metabolic	Sickle Cell
Myelomeningocele (Child & Teen)	Sleep Disorders
Nephrology	Spasticity
Neuro-surgery	Speech Therapy
Neuro-epilepsy	Spinal Cord
Neurocutaneous	Upper Extremity
Neurology	Urology
Neuromuscular	Wheelchair
Nutrition	

In addition, we support Children's Clinics' ancillary services for patients and their families:

Child Life Specialist	Patient & Family Services
Educational Support	
On-site Radiology & Lab	Pet Therapy
	RN Coordinators

## A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It is really an honor to be part of such a wonderful team that is able to touch and change the lives of kids and families, in our community, each and every day. Just like staff members, Amy and Amanda, and the members of the Grand Lodge of Arizona who contributed to the donation they presented in August, you too are part of this exceptional team, that can change the life of a child, when you make a donation to the Square & Compass Children's Clinic.

With your generous support we are able to help fund medical care, services, and equipment for children that are uninsured or under-insured, as well as a unique facility that is welcoming and functional. You can help lessen the financial burden on families that face complicated medical issues everyday by making a donation to the Square & Compass Children's Clinic today.

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation today to help us continue our mission. You are welcome to make a donation through our website and we are a Qualifying Tax Credit Organization, as well. Our QCO code is 20476. Another way to help, and continue your legacy as well as ours, is by making a bequest to Square & Compass Children's Clinic in your will. We greatly appreciate your support and so do the kids and families we assist every day.

May God Bless you and yours in the coming year.

With Gratitude,

**Amy Burke**  
Executive Director

### Square & Compass Children's Clinic, Inc.

### Board of Directors and Officers

**Van Elrod**  
President

**Joseph Felix**

**Craig Gross**

**Randy Jager**  
Vice President

**Fred Lohman**

**Gustavo Portillo**

**Bob Richards**

**Vincent Santos**

**Robin Settlemeyer**  
Treasurer

**James E. Wolfe**  
Secretary

#### EX OFFICIO DIRECTORS

**Amy Burke,**  
*Executive Director*

**Jared Perkins**  
*Children's Clinics CEO*

**Email us at:** [secretary@squareandcompassclinic.com](mailto:secretary@squareandcompassclinic.com)

**Visit us at:** [www.squareandcompassclinic.com](http://www.squareandcompassclinic.com)

*Silhouettes is published by Square & Compass Children's Clinic, Inc.*

*Editor – Betty G. Alphin*

