

# Silhouettes

Square & Compass Children's Clinic

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"Serving Tucson & Southern Arizona since 1947"



## Aaron - A Ray of Sunshine

When you meet Aaron the first thing you notice is his smile that absolutely lights up a room. He is a happy-go-lucky five-year-old boy with a sparkle in his eye. Like other five year olds, Aaron loves to play with building blocks, cars, listen to music, read books, watch Curious George, and ride a bike. In fact, Aaron was the recipient of an AmTryke from the Adaptive Recreation Program featured in our last issue. Aaron attends preschool three hours a day where he is learning numbers and colors in preparation for his entrance into Kindergarten next school year. Aaron enjoys all the things other five year olds do, with a brilliant smile that never leaves his face, and all the while facing a complex health condition known as Undefined Leukodystrophy.

Leukodystrophies are rare, incurable, neurological diseases that affect the cells of the brain. In Aaron's case, the type of Leukodystrophy he has is "Undefined" because doctors have not discovered what caused this to happen to his brain. This genetic disease attacks the myelin or "insulating rubber sheath" surrounding neurons in the brain, which leads to deteriorating health for affected children. Some of the symptoms children with this disease experience are a decrease in motor skills, spasticity, muscle rigidity, changes in cognition and language, problems with feeding and swallowing which require a G-tube for feeding, seizures, and degeneration of sight and hearing.

Aaron's mom, Sara, brings Aaron to the Square & Compass Building for treatment of the symptoms he experiences as a result of Undefined Leukodystrophy. They are at the clinic often for appointments with a Neurologist, Physical Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Speech Therapist, Dietician, and Dr. London, Aaron's Pediatrician. Aaron has been a patient at the clinic for over three years and came to the clinic on recommendation, from the El Rio Health Center, as a place that Sara could bring him for all of his health care needs. Sara commented, "All the staff is helpful and the clinic is truly comprehensive care in one place."

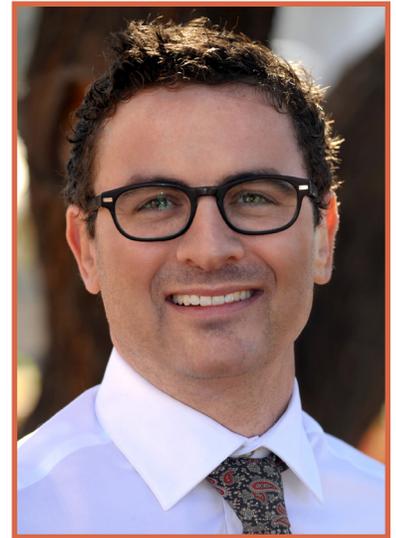


Children with Aaron's disease require a lot of costly medical equipment; some covered by insurance and some not. Some of the equipment Aaron needs are a wheelchair, Gait Trainer and Stander, Tomato Chair, Bath Chair, Benik Vest, and a communication device. Equipment such as this is costly and that's where Square & Compass donors, like you, can help a child like Aaron. Square & Compass Children's Clinic funds medically needed items, such as these, when insurance companies won't cover these items and, the cost of them, puts undue burden on families challenged with a child who has a complex medical condition. Each of these pieces of equipment contributes to the overall health and well-being of children like Aaron.

Wheelchairs allow for mobility and independence, a Gait Trainer encourages walking, strengthens muscle tone, and improves balance. Chairs like the Tomato Chair and Bath Chair, allow Aaron to be properly supported so that he can sit and

*continued on next page*

# Jared Perkins – Children’s Clinics Newest CEO



*If you would like to see leadership at its finest, stop in at Square & Compass Children’s Clinic and say hello to Jared Perkins, the Children’s Clinic’s newest CEO. Jared is a burst of energy with creative ideas, and has a heart of gold, especially when it comes to children.*

Jared Perkins is a 37 year old who was born and raised in Tucson. He has resided in Tucson all of his life, except for the one year he went to school in Chicago. Jared’s career began as a Director of Programs in a church where he would help people serve the community. He has always been fascinated with non-profits.

Jared had always wanted to work in Behavioral Health, and in 2008 he ended up in the healthcare industry. He became part of an intensive in-home care team through Providence Corporation, where he would go into the homes of children with behavioral problems and counsel them. He worked there for two years and in 2010 he developed a Behavioral Intervention Program which became extremely successful and was the first of its kind in Southern Arizona. In 2011, Jared got his Master’s Degree in Public Administration with concentration on healthcare. While going to school, he started working at the U of A. Together with a close colleague he worked on the politics of happiness, studying nine different countries and how they would define happiness as a culture. This developed into a curriculum and became a class, which he and his co-worker taught while he was in school, and was also a part of a technology based education model which was the first at the U of A.

Upon graduating, Jared went back to Providence where he was part of the development of some autism programs. While helping at Providence, he met Jill Bemis and Mimi Coomler, both former CEO’s of the Children’s Clinics. In 2015, he learned of an opening for Director of Operations

at the Clinic and was encouraged by Jill and Mimi to apply, which is how he became part of Children’s Clinics. Jared loves to help people and making a difference in their lives. He attributes his success to working hard, being patient, and to the great mentors who guided him in different areas along the way.

Jared has four children of his own, a 17 year old senior in high school, a 14 year old freshman, and 11 year old twins who are starting jr. high school. His wife is an interior designer who makes it all possible for him to do what he does. Jared loves sports and enjoys co-ed soccer, team cycling, and hiking with his family.

When asked, Jared said that his goals for the Clinic were to find balance and to be innovative in the needs of healthcare, as well as to be respectful to the legacy of the Clinic and the legacy of healthcare. He also mentioned that his personal goal is to be an advocate for those who don’t have a voice and to create thoughtful, helpful, healthcare policy decisions. Jared says he feels that Children’s Clinics has an amazing 26 year legacy of helping children that should not be overlooked; and that it should not be Tucson’s greatest kept secret, but rather everyone should know about Children’s Clinics partnership with Square & Compass and the work we all do here to help the children.

## *Aaron – A Ray of Sunshine | continued*

eat dinner at the table with his family, and allow his mom to bathe him safely. A Benik Vest provides trunk support and assists with sitting, standing, and walking properly. Aaron recently got a communication device, which is a tablet computer, that allows him to communicate more effectively with others. It displays pictures that Aaron can point at to express ideas, desires, and words. All of this costly equipment helps make Aaron’s life easier and is necessary to his overall health and well-being.

When donors like you contribute to Square & Compass Children’s Clinic, you help kids and families like Aaron’s pay for costly medical equipment that they might otherwise not be able to afford. You help bring peace of mind and ease the worry of families, wondering how they are going to pay for a medical item their child needs, so that they can concentrate on the care and everyday needs of their child.

# Did you know?



For 25 years, Square & Compass Children's Clinics has been the host facility for Shriners for Children Medical Center Outreach Clinics. As the host facility for the outreach clinics, Square & Compass provides the Shriners Medical Center with the use of our clinic suites, exam rooms, and radiology services at no charge. The Shriners Medical Center doctors treat children with serious orthopedic conditions, spinal cord injuries, severe burns or cleft lip and palate. The semi-annual clinics serve approximately 50 children from Southern Arizona and Northern Mexico who require consultation or follow-up appointments.

In conjunction with the Sabbar Shriners, we welcome the Pasadena physicians to Tucson and help them facilitate the visits with their young patients who live in our region. It is our pleasure to support a fellow organization within the masonic family and we look forward to doing so long into the future.



*A Shriners Outreach Clinic would not be the same without a few Sabbar Shriners Clowns to entertain the children while they wait for their visit with the doctor. The children are always delighted to see the clowns walk into the clinic. "Dok", the tall clown with the bright red hair, is one of Square & Compass' very own Board of Directors, Roger Biede, II, D.D.S.*

## Square & Compass Rewards Programs

*Square & Compass Children's Clinic is participating in a couple of rewards programs that will benefit the clinic and help our kids at no cost to our donors. With these programs a percentage of your purchase is given as a charitable donation, by the companies involved, with every purchase you make. This is a way for them to give to the nonprofit charities of your choice and at no cost to you.*

A great way for you to support Square & Compass Children's Clinic and help our children is to link your Fry's grocery store rewards account to Square & Compass Children's Clinic by visiting [www.FrysCommunityRewards.com](http://www.FrysCommunityRewards.com), create an account, sign in, and link your Fry's VIP Card to Square & Compass Children's Clinic, ID #24873. Fry's Community Rewards requires that participants annually update and select the organization that they'd like to receive the rewards from their purchases. We appreciate you selecting Square & Compass as you renew with Fry's Community Rewards this month.

For those of you who purchase items on Amazon.com, we are also participating in a program offered by Amazon which is called Amazon Smile. By signing on to [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) you can purchase your items at the same purchase price offered by the regular amazon.com, however, by doing so, Amazon will donate a certain percentage of your purchase price to Square & Compass Children's Clinic. When you get to the site it will ask you to pick your favorite charity. Type in "Square & Compass Children's Clinic" in the designated square and click on "select" then whenever you sign on to Amazon Smile, a percentage of your purchases will be donated to Square & Compass Children's Clinic. It's that simple!

Please check back and we will notify you of any new rewards programs that Square & Compass Children's Clinic is participating in. Thank you very much for your 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 2016, there were over **32,000** 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   |
| Endocrinology                      | Pediatric Palliative Care |
| Developmental Pediatrics           | Pediatric Surgery         |
| Ear, Nose, & Throat                | Pediatrics                |
| Feeding                            | Physical Therapy          |
| Gastroenterology                   | Plastic Surgery           |
| Genetics                           | Primary Care              |
| Metabolic                          | Rheumatology              |
| Myelomeningocele<br>(Child & Teen) | Sickle Cell               |
| Nephrology                         | Sleep Disorders           |
| Neuro-surgery                      | Spasticity                |
| Neuro-epilepsy                     | Speech Therapy            |
| Neurocutaneous                     | Spinal Cord               |
| Neurology                          | Upper Extremity           |
| Neuromuscular                      | Urology                   |
| Nutrition                          | Wheelchair                |

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

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

## A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Square & Compass Children's Clinic is only able to provide medical assistance and a beautiful facility for medically challenged children and their families with the help of thoughtful donors like you. 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 tax-deductible donation to the Square & Compass Children's Clinic today. We greatly appreciate your support. It makes our mission possible and allows us to continue to assist children in our community.

In keeping with the vision first realized in 1947 and your generous contributions, we continue to help patients in need on a daily basis. Please, also consider making a bequest to Square & Compass Children's Clinic in your will so that together we can continue to provide aid to children for many more years to come.

With Gratitude,

**Amy Burke**  
*Executive Director*

Square & Compass  
Children's Clinic, Inc.



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*Doreen Santos – Editor*