

## How Have Donation Funds Been Used



We had a patient who has intractable epilepsy and wanted to try a new medicine. However, it cost over \$300 and mom was highly distressed given this amount. In addition, dad was out of work due to a very sick child. The family was not set up with Medicaid yet and paying for many things out of pocket. This was the last straw and mom was so upset that she would not be able to afford this medication. She noted they could choose the medication or make a car or utility payment. Our wonderful nurse Nitsuh Liku reached out to the philanthropy committee who was able to pay up to three months of the medication while the family was getting settled with more insurance. The Family was very grateful, and the medication has helped reduce his seizures. -**Dr. Thuy-Anh Vu, Pediatric Neurology**

I was able to identify cast room tools, safety, and patient protection procedures. I learned different rolling techniques and the characteristics of fiberglass. Mark taught us different thumb Spica casts with molding techniques. I was also taught patient care techniques that will improve patient casting outcomes and result in more efficient cast care with fewer patient return visits for cast problems. This will be applied to my daily work with our patients. This workshop opened more opportunities for me to grow! I was gifted with a six-month membership to the American Society of Orthopedic Professionals. I am also eligible to take the registered orthopaedic technician certification exam – which I need to study for and get the test done. I would really recommend this class for beginners that don't have experience in casting.

There is an advanced level, which I believe our cast techs will benefit from. This workshop will go more in detail and will explain different procedures of casting. I want to thank everyone that made this happen on short notice, thanks to philanthropy education funds for helping pay for this class. This is the beginning of many changes in my career, you can't imagine how one class can impact your life. -**Laura L. Almanza, Orthopaedic Technician**



**Pediatric Specialists**  
*of Virginia*

