

A Resilient Child Living His Life Without Limits!

Dear Friends,

UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago foster parent Marcy received a call about Peter, a 22-month-old child who needed her love, support and care. When Marcy met Peter for the first time, she was expecting to meet a walking and talking toddler but the child she met was essentially an infant. Peter weighed only 10 pounds and was diagnosed with failure to thrive, cerebral palsy and several other physical and developmental challenges. **He was not walking, talking, or eating...Peter was barely surviving.** In the beginning, Peter saw at least 10 doctors, specialists and therapists and received intensive physical, occupational, and speech therapy services at the Shirley Ryan Abilities Lab.

The UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago Children's Foster Care team leapt into action to support Marcy every step of the way in meeting Peter's significant medical, physical and developmental needs. The Pediatric Nursing staff ensured Marcy and her family received training on his nutritional, healthcare and therapeutic supports, and accompanied Peter and Marcy to doctor's appointments. His case managers were on-call 24/7 to make sure that Peter received everything required for him to continue to thrive and grow. They also made certain Peter was able to maintain a relationship with his biological siblings.

Almost four years later, Peter has grown...and **flourished**. In August of this year, he took another major step by starting kindergarten. Foster Mom Marcy is confident that Peter will excel in school, just as he has already overcome the countless challenges he has faced – and **conquered** – in his young life. Peter has a **huge** personality that lights up the day of everyone he meets, and his vocabulary is, well, out of this world.

Peter's amazing progress is a testament to his fortitude, willpower and drive to succeed, not to mention the nurturing love, support, advocacy, and encouragement he receives from Mom Marcy, his extended foster family and his team from the UCP Seguin Children's Foster Care program.

UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago's Friends & Families have come together to offer a **\$125,000 Matching Challenge** – that means any gift YOU give today will be matched dollar for dollar, up to a total of **ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS!** AND, an anonymous foundation will match all new and increased donations up to \$25,000! These generous gifts will allow UCP Seguin to continue to provide a LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS to children and adults with disabilities!

We hope we can count on you to be a holiday hero this year to Peter and other people with disabilities served by UCP Seguin on Giving Tuesday - November 29, and throughout the holiday season – November, December and beyond. **Your gift will help people with disabilities live a life without limits.**

Warmly,

Joseph Mengoni

Joseph Mengoni
President/CEO

Susan Waldman

Susan Waldman
Board Chair

*Please be a
Holiday Hero for people
with disabilities!*

**Help us meet our
important \$150,000
CHALLENGE
MATCH**



GIVING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

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