

A GIRL ON THE MOVE!

VICTORIA PRICE'S STORY



Name: Victoria Price

Primary Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy-Spastic Quadriplegic

EasyStand Owned: EasyStand Youth

Standing in EasyStand Since: August 2006

Age: 16 years old

Height & Weight: 4'11" & 80 lbs.

Victoria (Vicki) Price is an active sixteen year old high school student. She was born with Cerebral Palsy and has very limited use of her arms and legs. She uses a powered wheelchair for mobility and drives it using her head. Her service dog and full time companion helps her perform daily tasks and assists her in communicating with others. Vicki enjoys participating in activities like horseback riding and adaptive bowling. She also likes standing in her EasyStand. Her father Scott comments, "Victoria likes to change her position, she actually asks to use her stander!" Vicki's therapy program includes standing for one hour or more each day at home.



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VICKI’S LARGE FAMILY

Victoria comes from a family of eight, her father Scott, mother Laura, and five siblings, Josh, Matt, Rachel, Tim and Andrew. “Vicki enjoys playing games while in her EasyStand, usually with her little brothers or with me if they are not available,” Scott says. “One of her favorite activities is to bake, so if we are not playing games she will bake us some really good food!”

Being able to stand while doing an activity like baking is one of the psychological benefits Vicki gets from using her standing frame. Her dad Scott adds, “When baking in the kitchen she likes being up in her stander and working with mom, or one of her aids, while standing at the same level.”

STANDING IN PRESCHOOL & BEYOND

Scott explains how Vicki first started standing and why they decided to purchase an EasyStand. “The first time she stood was in preschool using a supine stander owned by the school. At that time they stood her in school and we didn’t have anything at home. After preschool they didn’t do much therapy in school, so we pursued our own standing program through the therapists at Gillette Hospital. They did an evaluation and determined that a stander like the EasyStand, where we could actually stand her up ourselves, would be easier for us than putting her in a supine stander.”

FUNDING & HEALTH BENEFITS

To obtain funding for Vicki’s stander, a product trial & supportive therapist were key. Scott explains, “After doing the trial it was determined that standing was a good thing for Vicki and would help her a lot. So her therapist took the time to write the letter of medical necessity and we gave the insurance company our input about how we felt it would benefit her at home. As a result of our efforts Victoria got her stander paid for through our insurance company.”

He continues “After she stood for a while, we started noticing health benefits like stronger muscles in her legs. When we went to get her braces adjusted the Orthotist commented that she must be using a stander. They can tell by looking at her legs and were very impressed with her progress. Another great benefit for her is that she remains regular in her bowel program, it’s something that we didn’t expect but continues to be really helpful for her.”

CHALLENGE: FINDING THE CORRECT STANDER FOR YOUR CHILD.

SOLUTION: GET INVOLVED, HAVE THE THERAPIST DO A TRIAL & EVALUATION. REVIEW THE INFORMATION TOGETHER TO SELECT THE STANDER WITH THE MOST BENEFITS.

CHALLENGE: CREATING A THERAPY PROGRAM THAT YOUR CHILD WILL WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN.

SOLUTION: GIVE THEM FUN ACTIVITIES TO DO DURING STANDING THERAPY. FIND OTHER THERAPY PROGRAMS THAT THEY WILL ENJOY LIKE HORSEBACK RIDING.



“Being in a chair all day gets old, she gets tired of it, so she actually asks to be in her stander!”

CHANGE IS ENJOYABLE

Vicki stands at home usually every day. Scott says, “Vicki’s current standing program involves about an hour or more depending on how long she can tolerate. When she comes home from school, we get her off the bus and if she has homework we get her up in her stander and work on it with her.”

Standing gives Vicki a change of pace from sitting all day. Scott explains, “She loves to change her position. Being in a chair all day gets old, she gets tired of it, so she actually asks to be in her stander! In fact, being in her stander not only helps change her body but her frame of mind and how she’s feeling about her day.”

THERAPEUTIC HORSEBACK RIDING

Participating in different forms of therapy can be very helpful. Vicki’s father explains, “Vicki attends horse therapy in the summer and fall, she loves to ride the horses. Once a week she goes out to a ranch and they get her up on the horse and walk her for about an hour. She looks forward to that every week and it loosens up her tone!”

STRIKE! ADAPTIVE BOWLING

Another activity Victoria enjoys is adaptive bowling, Scott adds. “Victoria has the IKAN® Bowling Arm which attaches to the front of her chair. I just attach it using the clamps, and make sure it is level. It’s ready to go in about 30 seconds!” Scott and Laura asked Vicki’s bowling team to help them purchase this product. “Her coach did some research and made a decision to purchase it, she even lets Vicki use it during the off season!”

Vicki can bowl almost independently. Scott explains, “She drives her power chair using her head. When she stops the momentum launches the ball down the lane towards the pins.” Usually her dad will line her chair up, and then she can drive the chair from there. “She uses her head pad to move forward and in reverse. Normally she uses the side pads to turn but right now she can’t quite do that while bowling, so I line her up and tell her to drive toward the pins.”



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STANDING PROGRAM:
STANDS DAILY
STANDS FOR ONE TO THREE HOURS

HEALTH BENEFITS:
STRONGER LEGS
REGULAR BOWEL PROGRAM
CHANGE IN POSITION

STANDING ACTIVITIES:
PLAYING GAMES
DOING HOMEWORK
BAKING WITH MOM



SERVICE DOG FACILITATES COMMUNICATION

Victoria has a service dog named Hajik, she got him over a year ago from Canine Companions for Independence. "Hajik helps her by opening and closing doors, picking things off the floor, and calms her in places like school or church," Scott says. "He is her constant companion. His technical name is 'skilled companion' so in addition to all of the tasks that he does for her, he facilitates communication with people in public. People don't generally talk to a person in a wheelchair, but if there is a dog people love to come up and pet him. So we make them talk to her and ask her if they can pet the dog."

A GIRL ON THE MOVE

I guess you could say Vicki has no problem staying busy and active. From bowling, baking, and playing games with her family, to horseback riding and staying healthy by participating in a standing program, this girl is on the move! Which leaves most of us thinking....how does anyone keep up?

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HOBBIES:

HORSEBACK RIDING
ADAPTIVE BOWLING

SERVICE DOG BENEFITS:

HELPS PERFORM TASKS
CALMS HER DOWN
FACILITATES COMMUNICATION

HELPFUL WEBSITES

WWW.IKANBOWLER.COM
WWW.CANINECOMPANIONS.ORG
WWW.EASYSTAND.COM

