



Child's Name: Traevon Tookes

Age: 15 Years

Hometown: Duncan, OK

Diagnosis: Stroke/Brain Surgery

Background: Traevon is a student at Duncan High School. His classmates encouraged him to apply and is currently helping VHR raise funds through their HALO campaign. He had a stroke that left him unable to walk, talk, or feed himself. He is currently on a feeding tube, has had two brain surgeries, and receiving speech, physical, occupational, and recreational therapy. He is in Bethany Children's Rehabilitation Center. Traevon's father is a handyman and his mother is a nurse. Together they are providing care for Traevon and managing a household of nine.

Information: Childhood stroke can be caused by various factors, including congenital heart disease, blood clotting disorders, and sickle cell disease. Symptoms can range from sudden weakness or numbness in one side of the body to trouble speaking or seeing. Recognizing the symptoms quickly is crucial for prompt medical attention and treatment. While less common than in adults, affects approximately 1.7 children per 100,000 each year in the United States. Stroke is among the top 10 causes of death in children. At least 50% of survivors experience significant neurological disabilities, learning difficulties, or seizures.

Illness/Disease Color:

Childhood Stroke Awareness Month: May