

JAXSTON DRAI

**15 YEARS OLD
KAUMAKANI, KAUA'I**

"Jaxston Drai has the biggest, most infectious smile that lights up any room he enters. He loves to go to school, be surrounded by his classmates, and listen to Steve Harvey from the Family Feud."

- Jackie, mom




Jaxston Drai is a 15-year-old who lives with his mother Jackie and maternal grandparents on the beautiful island of Kaua'i. Jaxston Drai was born with cerebral palsy and epilepsy. When he was very little, he had a hard time gaining weight and was constantly getting pneumonia. He was eventually diagnosed with severe Gastroesophageal Reflux and changed from gastrostomy feedings to jejunostomy feedings, which helped tremendously. He also needed to get a tracheostomy to assist with his work of breathing. Jaxston Drai has the biggest, most infectious smile that lights up any room he enters. He loves to go to school, be surrounded by his classmates, and listen to Steve Harvey from the Family Feud. In 2016, Jaxston Drai got his Make-A-Wish granted and had his entire family (along with cousins) go to Maui and visit the Maui Ocean Center!



Jackie is a single mom and remembers the shock of learning that her unborn son was going to have a disability. Through the years after Jaxston Drai was born, Jackie has felt that trying to get the services and help that he needs has been a nonstop roller coaster. However, Jackie has not been daunted and rose to the occasion multiple times, thinking out of the box when Jaxston Drai needed items that she could not get help with, specifically a wheelchair van and a wheelchair ramp. Jackie did some online research and was blessed to meet Bob and Pam Serr from the Paisley Mae

Foundation, who helped her start a GoFundMe and a nonprofit charity to raise funds for the wheelchair van. They finally got their van on July 2023! Jackie and Jaxston Drai's home on Kaua'i did not have a wheelchair ramp, and Jackie serendipitously came across a wheelchair ramp on Facebook, where a family generously donated the ramp to Jaxston Drai.

Jackie admits that the journey with Jaxston Drai has been hard but acknowledges help that she received along the way...like from Holly Pickens from the Aloha Independent Living Hawai'i Program, who helped her get paid from his insurance company to be his caretaker, and from the various workers from the Hawai'i Department of Health Children with Special Health Needs Program. Jackie doesn't really know what the future holds, but she knows that with the help of her family and friends, things will work out in the end.



Ni Jaxston Drai ket 15 anios ken kabbalay ni Jackie a nanangna ken ti lolo ken lolana iti ina iti nagpintas nga isla ti Kaua'i. Nayanak ni Jaxston Drai nga addaan cerebral palsy ken epilepsy (kissiw). Idi bassit pay, saan a lumuklukmeg ken kanayon nga ag-pneumonia. Idi agangay, nadayagnos nga adda nakaro a Gastroesophageal Reflux-na isu a nagbaliw ti kankanenna manipud pang-gastrostomy a nagbalin a pang-jejunostomy, ket dakkal ti naitulong dayta. Kinasapulanna met ti agpa-tracheostomy tapno matulongan nga aganges. Ngem nakais-isem ni Jaxston Drai ket dayta ti mangparagsak iti aniaman a klase a sumrekanna. Magusgustuanna ti ageskuela, makikadua kadagiti klasmeytna, ken agbuya iti show ni Steve Harvey iti Family Feud. Idi 2016, gapu ta napatgan ti Make-A-Wish ni Jaxston Drai, nakapan isuna ken ti intero a pamiliana (agraman dagiti kasinsinna) iti Maui ket binisitada ti Maui Ocean Center!

Agsolsolo nga ina ni Jackie ket malagipna a nakigtot idi naammuanna nga adda diperensia ti di pay naipasngay nga anakna. Bayat ti tawtawen kalpasan a nayanak ni Jaxston Drai, kasla di agsarsardeng ti panagdanag ni Jackie iti panangikagumaanna a mangala kadagiti serbisio ken tulong a kasapulan ni Jaxston Drai. Ngem

saan a nagbuteng ni Jackie ket namin-adu a sinangona ti problema, isu a nangpanunot iti posible a pamayan no adda bambanag a kasapulan ni Jaxston Drai nga awan ti pagpatulongan ni Jackie, nangnangruna iti van ken rampa para iti wheelchair. Nag-research ni Jackie iti online ket nagsayaat ta naam-ammona da Bob ken Pam Serr manipud Paisley Mae Foundation, nga isuda ti timmulong kenkuana a mangirugi iti GoFundMe ken di-agangganansia a charity nga agkalap iti pondo para iti van ken rampa ti wheelchair. Naaddaanda met laeng iti van idi Hulio 2023! Awan ti rampa ti wheelchair iti pagtaengan da Jackie ken Jaxston Drai iti Kaua'i. Nagasat ni Jackie ta nakabirok iti rampa ti wheelchair iti Facebook, isu a naited kas donasion ken Jaxston Drai dayta a rampa.

Inamin ni Jackie a narigat ti situasion ni Jaxston Drai ngem agyamyaman kadagiti tulong a naawatna ...kas ti tulong ni Holly Pickens manipud Aloha Independent Living Hawai'i Program, a timmulong kenkuana nga agbayad iti insurance company ni Jaxston Drai ken agbalin nga agaywan kenkuana, ken ti nadumaduma nga empleado ti Children with Special Health Needs Program ti Hawai'i Department of Health. Di ammo ni Jackie no anianto pay dagiti mapasamak, ngem ammona a babaen ti tulong ti pamilia ken gagayyemna, addanto met laeng solusyon ti bambanag.

