

December 6, 2011

Hello!

Thank You for your support of the Boehm Birth Defect Clinic. In addition to the attached flyer explaining the purpose of the Boehm Clinic, I would like to add my personal touch.

My name is Javonee C. Jackson and I was born November 17, 2001 to Cassandra Jackson in her 26th week of pregnancy. I weighed 1 pound at birth (even cabbage patch clothes were too big!),

Many people thought that I was too small to survive, but my Mommy's faith in God and prayer refused to give up on me. she is always telling me that people are born with a purpose and she saw my purpose.

I spent 4 months in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at T.C. Thompson Children's Hospital at Erlanger. Upon release from the hospital, I was a whopper.....4 pounds, but I was going home.

At the age of 3 years old, I was diagnosed with hydrocephalus, during a routine checkup at the Boehm Clinic. I became a patient of the clinic because I also had a grade 3 bleed on the brain at birth.

I am currently 10 years old and have had up to ten (10) surgeries on my shunt. A shunt is a type of pump that is placed in the brain to remove excess brain fluid. Without the pump, the ventricles in my brain would swell until they burst, resulting in instant death. On one occasion, I had 2 shunts replaced and repaired within 1 week, and another occasion, I had 3 shunts replaced and repaired within 3 days. Usually problems with my shunts happens at any given moment and without warnings, even the usual symptoms don't always apply.

During this trying time, we have come to rely on the staff at the Boehm Clinic to assist us, such as food and gas vouchers, companionship and prayer. they have helped my

mommy with directions concerning my health and has been a rock when the time arises that other medical doctors are included in my overall care. Even when my mommy panics over some health concern, she always turns to the staff at the Boehm Clinic for advice.

Open your hears and donate to the Boehm Birth Defect Clinic. Yur monies will be used to benefit many children and their parents through this frightening time in their lives.

Thank You so Much!!!!!!!

Javonne and Cassandra Jackson