

MCC MDM: Providing hope to those at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children

By Ariyana Kermani

Melbourne Central Catholic's Mini Dance Marathon (MCCMDM) is an event put on by students for the patients at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children. This event is a fundraiser to help support the hospital financially so as to aid in providing patients with lifesaving care.

One such patient is Sam. Sam was diagnosed with spina bifida and hydrocephalus when his parents went in for their 20-week ultrasound. Doctors advised that they terminate the pregnancy; however, they did not. They believed he would be a fighter, and he proved them correct. During the first 24 hours of his life, he received two lifesaving surgeries. The first closed an open wound in his back, and the second drained the excess fluid in his head that was causing his brain to swell. Sam received this lifesaving care at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children.

This hospital is a place of hope and a place which encourages the realization of each child's essential worth. Sam is now a vivacious adult. He has endured over 30 surgeries in his lifetime. However, if it were not for the care and expertise of the doctors and nurses at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children, his enduring smile might not serve as a light to this world, inspiring those around him.

Please consider supporting the Mini Dance Marathon through a monetary donation (link to donate: <https://events.dancemarathon.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donate.team&TeamID=41136>) or by attending the event on March 21, 2020. MCCMDM's goal this year is to reach \$25,000 in donations, but this cannot be achieved without the support of the Hustler community. Let's join together to support the patients at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children. Go Hustlers!