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3<sup>rd</sup>

RESA # 13

## Me and My Feet

My name is Madison and I was born with clubbed feet. Clubbed feet is a deformity where the feet are turned in toward each other. This birth defect is actually very common. When I was five days old I had to wear casts on both legs and feet to stretch my feet out the correct way. When I was done with the casts I had to wear special shoe at night when I was sleeping. Also, I have had four major corrective surgeries.

Having clubbed feet has not stopped me from doing anything! I have been able to participate in dance, ballet, gymnastics, basketball, and soccer. Sometimes, I have a hard time finding shoes that fit my feet. When I run a lot my feet and muscles get tired quickly, but I push through the pain to keep up with everyone.

In addition to having clubbed feet, my hands were clenched together. The doctor made me special hand splints to stretch my hands. Now, my hands look normal except for the way I hold my pencil and silverware. I am thankful the doctor fixed my hands because I love to draw beautiful pictures.

Surprisingly, my little sister was born the exact same way. I was able to be the best big sister because I taught her to not be scared and that she can do anything, too. Sometimes, people think we have a disability, but we just have a "diffability."

In conclusion, I do not need any more treatment because my hands and feet are fixed. I am thankful for all the doctors making me better and my Mom and Dad for encouraging me and making me a tough kid!

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