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So Every BODY Can Move Minnesota

Gillette Children's has a vision of a world where every child can create their own story. For many children, their story includes the opportunity to participate in physical activities – independently, with friends or as part of an organized school or club team. We believe that children with disabilities and complex medical conditions – including those with limb loss or limb difference – should have the same opportunities as their peers. This is essential for community integration and fulfilling the promise of the Olmstead Plan, which aims to ensure that Minnesotans with disabilities live full, integrated lives in their chosen communities.

Recreational prostheses and orthoses are medically necessary. As providers of specialized medical care, Gillette Children's understands the impact movement and physical activity has on overall physical and mental health and wellbeing for children and adults.



Eli was born missing his left leg below the knee. With the help of an athletic prosthetic, he's running and playing soccer, just as well as his friends. "I realized that some kids being faster than me wasn't because of me or something I was doing wrong. I just needed the right leg for what I was doing -- a running leg."

Mariella was born missing nearly all the fingers on her right hand. Armed with her biking prosthesis for physical activities, the sky is the limit for Mari. She's ferociously tearing up her local trails on her bike, taking swimming lessons and tackling the monkey bars.



Ruth Evelyn was born missing her arms. She could do most anything, but dreamed of riding a two-wheel bike with her friends. Now, she uses a custom-made device created at Gillette Children's that rests against her shoulders and connects to her bicycle's handlebars, helping her steer safely and confidently.



Ethan was diagnosed with a rare disease similar to clubfoot. The Gillette Children's Orthotics Prosthetics and Seating team fashioned a device that fit around his skates to help give him the leverage to push off and glide. With the help of the orthotic braces, Ethan is skating like a pro.

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Learn more at: gillette.mn/ops.