

HI, MY NAME IS ASHLYNN



AGE 8

Motto: "Jesus Loves You"

Diagnosis: PANDAS and Food Protein Induced Enterocolitis Syndrome (FPIES)

High School Team:

Lake Travis Cavalettes

At the age of 3 1/2, Ashlynn contracted strep and scarlet fever. In the following year, her family noticed drastic changes in her behavior. Ashlynn experienced debilitating OCD, severe rage, depression, anxiety, impulse control, conduct disorder, and ODD. Her family says they completely "lost" their child. Ashlynn was referred to a neurologist where she received a diagnosis of Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder associated with Streptococcus infections (PANDAS).

Today, Ashlynn still experiences OCD, anger, rage, frequent illness, head pain, easy dehydration, and more. Her family says it is hard to find physicians who are familiar with this condition and involves constant trial and error of medications and treatments. PANDAS also causes memory loss and learning disabilities, which has caused Ashlynn to struggle in school.

Ashlynn is often frustrated with her diagnosis, but has a huge heart and huge personality. She is tiny, but fierce and is very outgoing! She loves to dance, sing, play with friends, make arts and crafts, and spend time with her older sisters.