



Dear Friends, Families, contributors and possible sponsors,

HI! MY NAME IS CALEB. I AM 5 YEARS OLD AND I NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE MY LIFE EASIER AND HAPPIER.

I would like to share my story with you and the battle that I fight every day. I was born with some very scary and complicated problems and have had to fight to live since I was born. When I was born my mommy and daddy knew that something was wrong, but the doctors couldn't find out for sure what I had. My parents wouldn't give up trying to help me because they saw me struggling to breathe, I fell a lot, was in a lot of pain, had a hard time eating and drinking, and talking.

Right after I turned 2 years old I had some pictures taken of the back of my brain and they found something that didn't look the way it was suppose to. On August 31, 2012, I was diagnosed with a really big word, Chiari Malformation. I live with an incurable brain disorder. Right after my second birthday I had brain surgery that helped me be able to talk and not be as sick as I had been when I was a baby. The surgery helped but it didn't make Chiari go away as there is no cure.

My body still fights Chiari everyday even though I try really, really hard to hide my pain and problems. I still have a lot of pain everywhere in my body with headaches, tummy aches, and I fall a lot because my legs won't hold me sometimes. I just got my very own wheel chair to help me on my bad days. My doctors, Daddy and Mommy said that I am getting seizures too.

My awesome doctors and therapists are telling me that I need to add a special member to my team. That is where I need your help to make it happen. We have applied for a service dog to help me during the days and at nighttime. My specially trained dog-friend will go with me to doctor's appointments, school, and help me when I am scared or have seizures. I love to cuddle and thinking of cuddling a dog at night makes me smile.

One of the requirements in this process is to raise money for the wonderful non-profit organization we are working with, 4 Paws for Ability. It costs about \$22,000.00 to train each dog, however families are only requested to fundraise \$15,000.00. I know that I can't count that high and it sounds like a lot, but with everyone helping me I know that I can get my new best friend as soon as possible. This is a 501 3c agency so donations are tax deductible.

Please consider helping us with a tax-deductible donation or contributing an item for Caleb's upcoming benefit dinner and silent auction. 4 Paws tax ID number is 31-1625484.

Visit the 4 Paws Donation Page (<http://www.4PawsForAbility.org/donate-now>). **INCLUDE** Caleb's name when making a donation.

My personal donation page <http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/RachaelMaaske/servicedog>

Donations can also mailed to 4 Paws with the attached form and a check **WITH** Caleb's name on the memo line.

If you want to make a donation for the silent auction please contact Rachael Maaske at 651-329-4657 or rmaaske@hotmail.com. Or mail items for a silent auction to 7386 Irvin Ave S, Cottage Grove, MN 55016

I have a Caringbridge page with my pictures and updated stories that I would love to have you follow me. <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/calebmaaske>

Thank you so much for your love, prayers, and help.