CFTB Computers Proven to be Highly Beneficial to Blind/MI Children

On September 1, 2016, Computers for the Blind (CFTB) donated its 9,000th computer to Luke from Waxahachie, TX. Luke is blind, has CP and other disabilities, and now has his own computer to use at home!

According to his vision teacher, Luke will benefit from having a laptop with opportunities to improve his communication skills, carry over skills learned in the classroom, and give him the independence to make choices. Having a computer at home directly supports 7 out of the 9 areas of the expanded core curriculum, or the knowledge and skills that are needed by students with visual impairments due to their unique disability-specific needs. These include compensatory, recreation and leisure, social interaction, independent living, sensory efficiency, and assistive technology.

Luke has begun to utilize Learn Keys, a keyboard exploration software that provides digitized human speech feedback about keys when pressed on the keyboard. Luke can also be logged onto his helpkidzlearn.com account, in which he can independently engage in fun, accessible games and academic activities designed for children with visual impairments. Helpkidzlearn.com grants him access to ChooseItMaker, a program in which his teachers or parents can create personalized learning materials based on his abilities. The student is currently able is able to press the space-bar key, with a tactile marker, to successfully make selections.

Luke LOVES music. With this laptop, he could have assistance in setting up a YouTube channel, so that he can listen to the music and stories he really likes. Luke can listen to audiobooks on Learningally.com, storylineonline.com, and with practice, use a switch to navigate through these programs, play and pause a book, etc.

Do you know a child with a visual impairment who could benefit from a desktop or laptop computer?

If so, contact us:

Customer service: 214-340-6328, leave a message. Staff will get back to you within two business days.

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[www.computersfortheblind.net](http://www.computersfortheblind.net)

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