

Good afternoon Chairman Senator Kevin Coughlin, and members of the Senate Health and Human Services and Aging Committee.

We are Brent and Sharon Snyder, and our daughter Charlotte. We are here to support Senator Steve Stivers in his endeavors to pass Shaken Baby Education and Monitoring Legislation.

Sharon:

October 2001 Charlotte was diagnosed as a Shaken Baby when she was brought into the Emergency Room unconscious. Charlotte was placed on life support and not expected to live. Doctors found evidence that she had been shaken at least three times in the previous weeks. Medical records show that Charlotte was taken to Children's Hospital Clinic on two other occasions just prior to her diagnosis, once even noting tenderness around her ribs. Doctors even did X-rays to determine if there was any injury to her ribs. On these two visits, well meaning Physicians missed the fact that she had been shaken.

When Charlotte came to us, she was in so much pain that she cried for 12-16 hours each day. Every touch she interpreted as pain due to her severe injury. She will never walk, talk, eat, or even sit up on her own. She will never look at her mom and dad and say, "I love you." All of that was taken away in a moment of anger – a moment when her caregiver lost control. She will always require intense care. She will always wear diapers, eat by a feeding tube and need to be dressed, bathed, and turned every few hours.

Charlotte has proved the Doctors wrong. She not only lived through her assault, but she smiles, laughs, and shows love the only way she can. She has changed our lives. We have three biological children ages 11-15. They love Charlotte also and could not imagine life without our special girl.

Brent:

There are many costs incurred in Charlotte's care. I have given you an approximation of a months cost for caring for Charlotte. I have also given you a sheet detailing the medical costs which are required to take proper care of one so injured. I have not included home modifications in this list, however, we are in the process of adding space for Charlotte onto our home. This addition will cost above \$150,000 when completed.

But the financial cost, though great, is not the only cost. The emotional cost is great. She is separated from her biological siblings, and a grandmother who adores her. She will never reach her potential. What could have Charlotte been – who could she have become? Could Charlotte been the medical researcher who would have found a cure for cancer? We will never know, but as parents, we can tell you that those wonders cause heartache. She should be running around with her pigtails trailing behind. Consider that if she was your daughter, grand daughter, or niece.

We believe in direct education. We have chosen to take our message into educational environments. We speak to approximately 1000 students in high schools, nursing training centers and academies through out the area. Being a registered nurse, Sharon loves to reach out to the nurses, but I want to reach the men, who account for 60 percent of the perpetrators. I like to look them in the eye and talk to them man to man. I know it works, because my students at my school ask about Charlotte, and then they parrot the information we share back to me. Please do anything and everything you can do to help Senator Stivers as he moves toward preventing Charlotte's story from being repeated.

Charlotte's Care Cost

Item	Daily Cost	Weekly Cost	Monthly Cost	Annual Cost
Feeding				
Feeding Bags	\$ 12.50	\$ 87.50	\$ 380.21	\$ 4,562.50
Pro-Vitamin	\$ 2.50	\$ 17.50	\$ 76.04	\$ 912.50
Formula	\$ 3.00	\$ 21.00	\$ 91.25	\$ 1,095.00
Extenders	\$ 1.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 30.42	\$ 365.00
IV Sponges	\$ 0.50	\$ 3.50	\$ 15.21	\$ 182.50
Diapers	\$ 4.00	\$ 28.00	\$ 121.67	\$ 1,460.00
Misc.				
Nebulizer Kits	\$ 3.50	\$ 24.50	\$ 106.46	\$ 1,277.50
Tape	\$ 0.15	\$ 1.05	\$ 4.56	\$ 54.75
Toothettes	\$ 0.60	\$ 4.20	\$ 18.25	\$ 219.00
Oxygen probe/suction kits	\$ 5.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 152.08	\$ 1,825.00
Chucks	\$ 0.50	\$ 3.50	\$ 15.21	\$ 182.50
Medicines				
Zyrtec	\$ 1.35	\$ 9.45	\$ 41.06	\$ 492.75
Zantac	\$ 7.65	\$ 53.55	\$ 232.69	\$ 2,792.25
Diazepam	\$ 1.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 30.42	\$ 365.00
Phenobarbital	\$ 0.20	\$ 1.40	\$ 6.08	\$ 73.00
Carbamazepine	\$ 1.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 30.42	\$ 365.00
Nasonex	\$ 1.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 30.42	\$ 365.00
Prevacid	\$ 6.50	\$ 45.50	\$ 197.71	\$ 2,372.50
Pulmacort	\$ 10.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 304.17	\$ 3,650.00
Miralax	\$ 0.66	\$ 4.62	\$ 20.08	\$ 240.90
Syringes	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.70	\$ 3.04	\$ 36.50
Nursing/Therapy				
Initial Hour	\$ 50.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 1,520.83	\$ 18,250.00
Remaining Hours	\$ 181.75	\$ 1,272.25	\$ 5,528.23	\$ 66,338.75
Occupational Therapy	\$ 10.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 304.17	\$ 3,650.00
Care plan/Supervisory visit	\$ 6.50	\$ 45.50	\$ 197.71	\$ 2,372.50
Physical Therapy	\$ 10.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 304.17	\$ 3,650.00
Totals	\$ 320.96	\$ 2,246.72	\$ 9,762.53	\$ 117,150.40

*** All costs are close approximations

Charlottes Medical Costs

Routine Medical Care

Doctors Visits	Cost	Frequency	Annual Cost
Physician Care Plan oversight	\$ 120.00	12	\$ 1,440.00
Neurologist Visits	\$ 140.00	2	\$ 280.00
Physical Medicine Visits	\$ 140.00	2	\$ 280.00
Orthopedic Surgeon Visit	\$ 140.00	3	\$ 420.00
Gastroenterologist Visit	\$ 140.00	2	\$ 280.00
Annual Physical	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00
Medical Procedures			
Laboratory / Blood Work	\$ 126.00	2	\$ 252.00
Feeding Tube Change	\$ 3,500.00	3	\$ 10,500.00

Equipment Costs

Medical Equipment			
Feeding Pump	\$ 300.00		
Suction Machine	\$ 1,500.00		
Oxygen Saturation Monitor	\$ 2,000.00		
Aerosol Machine	\$ 700.00		
Adaptive Equipment			
Orthotics (Braces for hands, feet, knees, and torso)	\$ 3,000.00	Annual Replacement	
Wheel Chair	\$ 5,900.00		
Bath Seat	\$ 1,000.00		
Positioning Chair	\$ 2,900.00		
Stander	\$ 2,500.00		
Accessible Vehicle	\$ 49,000.00		