



# Holiday Cheer!!

*MOMS Club of Rocklin – South and Love, Olivia (non-profit company providing Gifts of Love for Special Needs Families)*

## 2011 Adopted Families

*Below are mini bios of a child with special needs. Each of these children and their families were recommended for adoption by local non-profit organizations serving Northern California. Each family has been impacted financially due to job loss and/or extreme medical expenses. With the community support, the MOMS Club of Rocklin & Love, Olivia will provide each family with gift certificates, toys, and clothing for the children. If you wish to support our efforts, please contact Love, Olivia at 916-752-8192 or send an email to [loveoliviacharity@yahoo.com](mailto:loveoliviacharity@yahoo.com).*

### **Emma – 6 Months**

*Emma is the definition of miracle in every sense of the word. After being delivered by emergency cesarean section, Emma's first 20 minutes in the world were spent being resuscitated to be given a chance of life. Emma spent nearly seven weeks in the neonatal intensive care unit. Emma's parents found themselves at Emma's side - seeing her on a ventilator, with a feeding tube, and IV's.*

*Emma's father was laid off from his job during the pregnancy, but had secured a new job prior to Emma being born. Because of the time he spent at the hospital, he ultimately lost that job as well. He is now working occasionally as an in-home support worker. Emma's mother stays home to provide Emma with around the clock medical care that she needs.*

*Emma is now 6 months old and is improving each and every day. She receives weekly physical therapy, child development services, and speech therapy. Her family takes joy in each and every milestone, that is often taken for granted.*

### **Ben – 4 Years Old**

*Ben has a very rare seizure disorder stemming from a structural brain abnormality. Basically, one side of Ben's brain is smaller than the other side.*

*Up until 18 months, Ben functioned like any other boy his age. Ben was very happy and enjoyed playing with his older brother Sam and his older sisters Hailey and Laney. In February 2009, Ben had a massive 16-hour seizure. Ben was put into a coma state to stop the seizure and to avoid possible brain damage and death.*

*Since Ben's first seizure, he has been rushed to the hospital and put into a chemically induced coma over 2 dozen times. Additionally, Ben has been on several combinations of anti-seizure medications. Unfortunately, none of them thus far have stopped the seizures. Contrary, the medications have awful side effects. As a result, Ben has to be monitored vigilantly.*

*Ben's parents have already spent three quarters of a million dollars on Ben's care, lost their home, and need assistance covering expenses.*

### **Kim – 3 Years Old**

*Kim's family arrived from Vietnam in April 2011. They arrived with their 2 children Kim and Cang. They came to Sacramento without any family ties.*

*Kim was a typical developing/thriving toddler until age 14 months. At age 14 months, Kim contracted spinal meningitis while still living in Vietnam. Kim became very ill and regressed. She lost all of her previous motor functions (rolling, sitting up, walking, and vocalizing). Kim is severely disabled now. Kim has been hospitalized frequently. Due to the severity of her condition, she requires a full-time nurse.*

*The family is searching for work and assistance.*

### **Alana – 4 Years Old**

*Alana is the youngest of 4 children. Alana doesn't have a specific diagnosis, however she is at risk due to failure to thrive. Alana is unable to eat/digest food like other children her age. Due to the severity of her condition, she has to use a feeding tube to get food/nutrients. Additionally, Alana is susceptible to infection so she currently has to be home schooled.*

*Alana's mom, Catherine, is a cancer survivor. Catherine still has medical battles related to the cancer. Because of her illness, her employer couldn't keep her job open and let her go.*

*The family has been through a lot over the years including the passing of one of Alana's siblings. Alana's brother died several years ago from lung failure and a seizure.*

*Catherine and her 4 children need much support and assistance.*

### **Wyatt – 14 Years Old**

*Wyatt is a 14 year old boy with cancer – specifically Medulloblastoma. He is currently in treatment for his condition as the tumors recently returned. Wyatt has a 1 year old brother. Both children need toys and clothing this holiday season.*

*Additionally, the family needs grocery cards, gas cards and towels.*