

Rowan (written by his mother, Stephanie)

Rowan is a joyful and energetic 5 year old boy. He was born with Spina Bifida, which limits his strength and control of his legs. Spina Bifida is a birth defect that develops during the first 4-6 weeks of gestation. His spinal column did not fully close and this caused nerve damage. He has had physical therapy consistently since he was about 6 months old.

We found out about CFCE in a summer camp packet provided by Rocky Mountain Human Services. We didn't know what "Conductive Education" meant so we did some research and contacted Jennifer Doyle for an evaluation and observation. Rowan has attended CFCE for approximately a year and a half. He also attended a two week summer camp.



There are several specific areas where we have seen growth and development in Rowan as a result of his consistent attendance at CFCE. The group therapy approach has been a motivator and encouragement for Rowan. Goals are jointly developed between the parent and the therapy team to make Rowan more independent in his daily life. Rowan has gained significant confidence in his ability to use his legs in the past year. We have seen significant improvement in the use of his walker, to the point that he rarely uses his wheelchair. Not only is he improving his gross motor skills, but he is also learning every day skills such as dressing himself, brushing teeth, and making a snack.

CFCE provides a safe, fun and caring environment for Rowan. The variety of physical activity, crafts, songs, and games is very enjoyable for Rowan. He legitimately enjoys CFCE, and that's not always the case in therapy programs.

Jennifer has spent countless hours outside of class conversing with us about home accommodations, vehicles, education, shoes and braces, and guidance for doctor appointments. She has come to our home and to Rowan's school to help provide guidance for accommodations that will enable Rowan to be more independent and successful.

We are grateful for the CFCE community and the support they provide Rowan and our family. This program has truly benefitted Rowan greatly!