

Zachary (written by his father: Nathan)

Zachary Charlan is a fighter. He came into this world fighting to breathe and fighting to survive. 10 years later, Zak continues fighting challenges every day. After a month of seizures when he was just several months old, he was diagnosed with spastic quadriplegia cerebral palsy. He also has an auto-inflammatory disease which affects his bones and causes sharp pain with certain movements.

But the diagnoses baggage he carries does not define him and he doesn't let it. As parents, we tried the gamut of traditional western therapies and even some alternatives to help Zak in any way we could to give him the tools for a successful, independent life. But the one amazing therapy-lifestyle that absolutely works for Zak is Conductive Education. It gives him the tools he needs to continue his life-long fight. Zak started at CFCE when he was two-years-old. Since then, Conductive Education has been part of his life. The program instills confidence, independence and strength into Zak and he takes that with him in everyday life. He always gets excited to go to class and loves to do the best he can with any task presented. Through CFCE, Zak walks short distances (and is excited to show off that he can do it!), has learned to be more independent and has a growing confidence in his abilities. This attitude and lifestyle is carried with him into his integrated school setting where he exhibits great social interaction, focused attention, and a positive attitude ready to learn and do his very best. We are very blessed to have CFCE so accessible for us and Zak in Colorado. CFCE is a life-altering resource that has immeasurable benefits in his life. Every parent desires the best for their child, and we are grateful to have the best therapy through CFCE for strengthening Zak's abilities, training our little fighter to take on life's challenges and kick their butt.

