

problems and was eager to resume physical therapy for Mia. Since Mia's parents work full time, she stays with grandpa and grandma during the day and they coordinate Mia's therapy and other appointments.



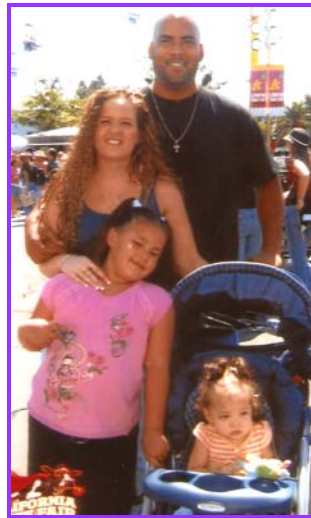
When Denise evaluated Mia she was surprised that Mia had not been referred to an orthopedic doctor. Mia's calf muscle was extremely tight and because of this Mia continued to trip and fall. She will soon receive serial casting, which will progressively lengthen her heel-cord tendon. She will then be fitted for a brace.



This will prevent her from going up on her toes and tripping as much. In the meantime, Mia continues

with stretching and strengthening exercises. The exercises are tailored for her age and abilities and her home therapy program is adjusted as needed.

Mia is a bright and delightful preschooler. Mom describes her as a "girly" girl who loves all that this entails. She enjoys dolls, playing dress up and make believe.



The Burton Family
Dad, Mom, Hailey and Mia

California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc.
5450 E. Lamona Avenue
Fresno, CA 93727-2224
(559) 255-4531 ~ Fax (559) 456-2659
www.chea-elks.org ~ chea@chea-elks.org

2009 Theme Child



Mia Burton

May 16, 2009

California-Hawaii Elks
Major Project, Inc.

Mia made her debut into the world in Redding, California two months before her mom, Christina's due date. She was a welcome addition to the family, which includes her dad, Stanley and her big sister, Hailey, who was five years old at the time. Mia was also warmly welcomed by her loving grandparents, Warren and Nancy Stephens.

Mia weighed four pounds, 15 ounces at birth. Complications were initially few. She required a feeding tube for a few



days until she was able to coordinate her sucking and swallowing. She stayed in the Newborn

Intensive Care Unit for one week and was then discharged to go home.

Initially, all appeared well. After several months it was obvious that there was a problem with



Mia's left arm and leg. Her left hand remained tightly fisted. When she kicked, her left leg remained stiff. She was able to use her right hand well, but was unable to pick up toys with her left hand and when she began feeding herself, it was with her right hand only.

Despite these differences, Mia was very active. She encountered challenges with some motor skills and skipped some of the vital components, such as crawling on her hands and knees.



When she began walking, she was up on her toes. Because of

tightness in her calf muscle, Mia had problems dragging her toes and tripping frequently.

Mia's doctor informed her parents that most likely, Mia suffered a stroke before she was born.



The doctor ordered physical and occupational therapy funded by a state agency. This helped Mia until services were abruptly discontinued when she turned three years of age. It was vital that therapy be continued. Her family was at a loss until Mia was referred to the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project for help.

Grandpa, who is a member of the Redding Elks Lodge, called Denise Wilson, Physical Therapist. He explained Mia's