Family to ‘Walk for Wizzy’ to give disabled children their first wheels

Thursday 18 August, 2016

A family are taking on a 60 mile sponsored walk on Saturday 20th August 2016 to raise money for the charity who have loaned their daughter her Wizzybug powered wheelchair.

Danny and Clair Rix are planning to walk from their home in Burbage to Hartington, the village where they got married in 2014.

Their daughter Sydney, aged 3, has cerebral palsy and is unable to walk. She has a Wizzybug on loan from the charity Designability who designed them and still build each one in the UK.

Danny said: “Watching Sydney in her Wizzybug and seeing how happy it makes her shows the difference it can make to a young life. It provides her with independence but, on top of that, it opens up the world to her. She can now explore as she wishes and join in playing with friends.

“Our aim for the walk is to raise money to help other children to have their own Wizzybug, and to raise awareness of Designability and the brilliant Wizzybug Loan Scheme.”

The National Grid, who have an office in nearby Hinckley, fundraised to cover the cost of Sydney’s Wizzybug so that the family are able to have it on loan free of charge.

Fiona Cromwell, marketing and fundraising officer at Designability, said: “We are so grateful to any company or individual who goes out there fundraising to help us build more Wizzybugs. The fact that this walk is being organised by a family who have a Wizzybug themselves makes it even more special.

“Mobility equipment is very expensive so we want to make sure more children like Sydney can have access to a Wizzybug to develop important movement and social skills.”

There is generally no NHS funding for powered mobility for children under 5 so Designability rely on donors to fund the Wizzybug Loan Scheme which provides free powered wheelchairs to this age group.

If you would like to sponsor the Rix family to do their sponsored walk challenge, please visit: http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/Walk4wizzy

To find out more about Designability and Wizzybugs, visit: http://www.designability.org.uk or call 01225 824103

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