

J. D. McCarty Center

for children with developmental disabilities



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Boeing Employee Community Fund Gives Grant to the J. D. McCarty Center

Assessments of children with the need for augmentative communication devices has just gotten better at the J. D. McCarty Center thanks to a grant for \$7,524 from the Boeing Employee Community Fund of Boeing Aerospace Operations in Midwest City.

"The grant money was used to purchase special computers and software that allows us to simulate many different kinds of augmentative communications devices," explained Reni Hanley, director of communication disorders at the McCarty Center. "This eliminates the need for us to have a large investment in numerous devices," she added.

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Many children with developmental disabilities do not have the ability to communicate using their voice. Today's technology provides many possible ways for a child to communicate their needs and wants. Through the use of this equipment, the McCarty Center can find the best communications tool for each child in need.

"Prior to getting this equipment, we couldn't do a comprehensive assessment without borrowing equipment and waiting for it to be delivered to the hospital. Now it is more convenient for our patients. There is no delay. Not only does this equipment allow us to do assessments, but it also allows the patients to practice while they are waiting on the delivery of the equipment chosen for them through the assessment process," said Hanley.

The employee community fund is funded through volunteer contributions from the employees of Boeing in the Oklahoma City area. What makes the fund unique is that the fund is managed by local Boeing employees who select the local charities to be supported through grants from the fund.

The J. D. McCarty Center is Oklahoma's center of excellence in the care and treatment of children with developmental disabilities from birth to age 21. Originally founded to treat just one diagnosis...cerebral palsy...the McCarty Center has now treated more than 70 different diagnoses in the developmental disability category.

For more information about the McCarty Center visit www.jdmc.org.