

Shriners celebrate charity work during awareness event

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When Marty Sheedy was born, his family was told he would never walk by multiple doctors in the Detroit area. Sheedy had a rare condition called arthrogryposis that affected his joints and muscles and gave him club feet and scoliosis. In desperation, his family turned to Shriner's Hospital in Chicago. After 19 years in the Shriner's program, Sheedy can walk.

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"Living life with a disability has not defined my life," Sheedy said.

He spoke Saturday at the Jackson Shrine Club's Child Care Night at the Artesian Wells Sports Tavern. The event raises awareness of the life-saving work being done by Shriner's Hospitals across the country. Sheedy is now the Imperial Ambassador for Shriners National.

"I am standing here today because others said I wouldn't be able to walk at all," Sheedy said.

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