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Form **990-EZ**

# Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No 1545-1150

**2011**

**Open to Public  
Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code  
(except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)  
▶ Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds, organizations that operate one or more hospital facilities,  
and certain controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990 (see instructions)  
All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000  
at the end of the year may use this form  
▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

**A** For the 2011 calendar year, or tax year beginning January 1, 2011, and ending December 31, 20 11

**B** Check if applicable:  
 Address change  
 Name change  
 Initial return  
 Terminated  
 Amended return  
 Application pending

**C** Name of organization: **The Shannon Foundation**

Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite  
**1624 Market Street 302**

City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4  
**Denver, CO 80202-1518**

**D** Employer identification number: **84-1284718**

**E** Telephone number: **303-436-1224**

**F** Group Exemption Number ▶

**G** Accounting Method:  Cash  Accrual Other (specify) ▶

**H** Check  if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

**I** Website: ▶ **www.theshannonfoundation.com**

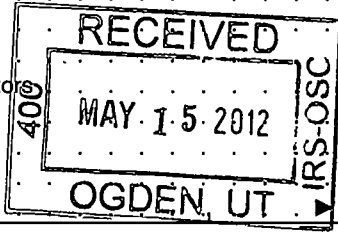
**J** Tax-exempt status (check only one) —  501(c)(3)  501(c) ( ) ◀ (insert no.)  4947(a)(1) or  527

**K** Check  if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization or a section 527 organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$50,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required though Form 990-N (e-postcard) may be required (see instructions). But if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

**L** Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, line 25, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ . . . . . ▶ \$ **38,588.64**

**Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances** (see the instructions for Part I.)  
 Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I . . . . .

		1	2	3	4	5a	5b	5c	6a	6b	6c	6d	7a	7b	7c	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received . . . . .															38,405.00												
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts . . . . .																											
	3	Membership dues and assessments . . . . .																											
	4	Investment income . . . . .															183.64												
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory . . . . .																											
	5b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses . . . . .																											
	5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a) . . . . .																											
	6	Gaming and fundraising events																											
	6a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000) . . . . .																											
	6b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000) . . . . .																											
6c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events . . . . .																												
6d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c) . . . . .																												
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . . . . .																												
7b	Less: cost of goods sold . . . . .																												
7c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a) . . . . .																												
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .																												
9	<b>Total revenue.</b> Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8 . . . . . ▶															38,588.64													
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O) . . . . .															16,254.31												
	11	Benefits paid to or for members . . . . .																											
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits . . . . .																											
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors . . . . .																											
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance . . . . .																											
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping . . . . .																											
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .																											
17	<b>Total expenses.</b> Add lines 10 through 16 . . . . .															16,254.31													
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9) . . . . .															22,334.33												
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return) . . . . .															23,300.25												
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O) . . . . .															(113.00)												
	21	<b>Net assets or fund balances at end of year.</b> Combine lines 18 through 20 . . . . . ▶															45,521.58												



SCANNED JUN 13 2012

*Handwritten initials and number 109*





	Yes	No
<b>46</b> Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I . . . . .	46	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts only.** All section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.  
 Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI . . . . .

	Yes	No
<b>47</b> Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II . . . . .	47	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>48</b> Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E . . . . .	48	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>49a</b> Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? . . . . .	49a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>b</b> If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization? . . . . .	49b	<input type="checkbox"/>

**50** Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
None				

**f** Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 . . . . . ▶ -0-

**51** Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
None		

**d** Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 . . . . . ▶ -0-

**52** Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note:** All section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A . . . . . ▶  Yes  No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

<b>Sign Here</b>	▶  Signature of officer	▶ <u>5-8-12</u> Date
	▶ <b>Fritz L. Fisher, President</b> Type or print name and title	

<b>Paid Preparer Use Only</b>	Print/Type preparer's name <b>N/A</b>	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN
	Firm's name ▶			Firm's EIN ▶	
	Firm's address ▶			Phone no	

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions . . . . . ▶  Yes  No

**SCHEDULE A**  
**(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

**Public Charity Status and Public Support**

OMB No 1545-0047

**2011**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

The Shannon Foundation

Employer identification number

84-1284718

**Part I Reason for Public Charity Status** (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box.)

- 1  A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2  A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E.)
- 3  A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4  A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5  An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 6  A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7  An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 8  A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 9  An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III.)
- 10  An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 11  An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2). See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h.
  - a  Type I      b  Type II      c  Type III—Functionally integrated      d  Type III—Other
  - e  By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2).
  - f If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box
  - g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?
    - (i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization?
    - (ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above?
    - (iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?

	Yes	No
11g(i)		
11g(ii)		
11g(iii)		

h Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1–9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
(A)									
(B)									
(C)									
(D)									
(E)									
<b>Total</b>									

**Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**  
 (Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
<b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") . . . . .						
<b>2</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf . . . . .						
<b>3</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge . . . . .						
<b>4 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 3 . . . . .						
<b>5</b> The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f) . . . . .						
<b>6 Public support.</b> Subtract line 5 from line 4.						

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
<b>7</b> Amounts from line 4 . . . . .						
<b>8</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources . . . . .						
<b>9</b> Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on . . . . .						
<b>10</b> Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.) . . . . .						
<b>11 Total support.</b> Add lines 7 through 10						
<b>12</b> Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) . . . . .					<b>12</b>	
<b>13 First five years.</b> If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and <b>stop here</b> . . . . .						<input type="checkbox"/>

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

<b>14</b> Public support percentage for 2011 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) . . . . .	<b>14</b>	%
<b>15</b> Public support percentage from 2010 Schedule A, Part II, line 14 . . . . .	<b>15</b>	%
<b>16a 33 1/3% support test—2011.</b> If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>b 33 1/3% support test—2010.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2011.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2010.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>18 Private foundation.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)**

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
<b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	45,355	51,105	42,352	37,375	38,405	214,592
<b>2</b> Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>3</b> Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>4</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>5</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>6 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 5 . . . .	45,355	51,105	42,352	37,375	38,405	214,592
<b>7a</b> Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons . . . .	8,010	7,075	9,102	7,100	6,000	37,287
<b>b</b> Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>c</b> Add lines 7a and 7b . . . .	8,010	7,075	9,102	7,100	6,000	37,287
<b>8 Public support</b> (Subtract line 7c from line 6.) . . . .						177,305

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
<b>9</b> Amounts from line 6 . . . .	45,355	51,105	42,352	37,375	38,405	214,592
<b>10a</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources . . . .	1,055	113	80	167	184	1,599
<b>b</b> Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975 . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>c</b> Add lines 10a and 10b . . . .	1,055	113	80	167	184	1,599
<b>11</b> Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>12</b> Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.) . . . .	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>13 Total support.</b> (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.) . . . .	46,410	51,218	42,432	37,542	38,589	216,191

**14 First five years.** If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here** . . . .

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

<b>15</b> Public support percentage for 2011 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) . . . .	<b>15</b>	82.01 %
<b>16</b> Public support percentage from 2010 Schedule A, Part III, line 15 . . . .	<b>16</b>	81.52 %

**Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage**

<b>17</b> Investment income percentage for 2011 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) . . . .	<b>17</b>	0.739 %
<b>18</b> Investment income percentage from 2010 Schedule A, Part III, line 17 . . . .	<b>18</b>	0.858 %

**19a 33 1/3% support tests—2011.** If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . .

**b 33 1/3% support tests—2010.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . .

**20 Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions . . . .



Schedule to Form 990-EZ (2011)  
(Part I, Line 10 and Part III)

2011 Disbursements

<u>Date</u>	<u>Donee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1-20-11	Jose Gonzalez	\$31.75
2-22-11	Jose Gonzalez	\$31.75
3-28-11	Jose Gonzalez	\$31.75
4-18-11	Jose Gonzalez	\$31.75
5-17-11	Jose Gonzalez	\$31.75
1-24-11	Sophia Prunty	\$371.00
3-11-11	Sophia Prunty	\$371.80
4-18-11	Sophia Prunty	\$371.80
2-2-11	Adamaris Rodriguez	\$1,500.00
2-2-11	Elijah Ketley	\$170.00
2-17-11	Jaqueline Martinez-Delgado	\$540.00
2-21-11	Bailey Van Winkle	\$83.94
3-28-11	Bailey Van Winkle	\$79.69
4-18-11	Bailey Van Winkle	\$79.69
5-17-11	Bailey Van Winkle	\$79.69
6-21-11	Bailey Van Winkle	\$79.69
7-22-11	Bailey Van Winkle	\$79.69
3-2-11	Tyler Baker	\$235.00
5-2-11	Tyler Baker	\$235.00
7-11-11	Tyler Baker	\$235.00
9-13-11	Tyler Baker	\$235.00
11-28-11	Tyler Baker	\$235.00
3-8-11	Caleb and Jacob Walle	\$470.00
4-13-11	Caleb and Jacob Walle	\$470.00
5-25-11	Caleb and Jacob Walle	\$940.00
8-3-11	Caleb and Jacob Walle	\$705.00
9-22-11	Caleb and Jacob Walle	\$235.00
10-31-11	Caleb and Jacob Walle	\$704.00
12-29-11	Caleb and Jacob Walle	\$470.00
3-28-11	Austin Hill	\$69.94
3-28-11	Levi Martinez	\$420.00
11-15-11	Levi Martinez	\$200.00
6-8-11	Jeani Wagner	\$253.95
8-17-11	Jed Jellouli	\$259.90
9-13-11	Aziah Jones	\$124.23
9-23-11	Aziah Jones	\$35.00
10-31-11	Aziah Jones	\$109.23
11-17-11	Aziah Jones	\$74.10

12-29-11	Aziah Jones	\$30.77
10-28-11	Destiny Burton	\$142.50
11-28-11	Destiny Burton	\$427.50
11-15-11	Alexis Aguilar	\$190.00
11-28-11	Alexis Aguilar	\$190.00
11-15-11	Shawn Wallace	\$3,649.50
11-28-11	Nicholas Weber	\$293.00
12-7-11	Micah Van Horn	\$235.00
12-8-11	Michael Smith	<u>\$414.95</u>
		\$16,254.31



## SCHEDULE TO FORM 990-EZ (2011) - PART III

THIS COPY OF THE FOUNDATION'S 2011 ANNUAL LETTER TO CONTRIBUTORS SHOWS GENERALLY HOW FUNDS WERE SPENT IN 2011.  
Helping to fund necessary medical care for children in need

December 7, 2011

Dear Family and Friends:

I'd like to introduce you to Jeani, a 10 year-old girl who lives in Quarryville, Pennsylvania. Jeani has cerebral palsy, restrictive lung disease and Dandy Walker Syndrome, which is a brain malformation involving the part of the brain that controls movement. Until recently, Jeani had not been able to speak or communicate with others. A speech therapist at her school has begun working with Jeani to use various communication devices and has had success with them. The therapist has recommended that Jeani use similar communication devices at home to help her to progress. Jeani's adoptive mother is a nurse but has not been able to work since adopting Jeani, because her care is too demanding. Jeani's mother has also adopted two other girls; one of them is autistic and the other was born drug addicted and has developmental delays. The family's health insurance would not cover these devices and Jeani's mother could not afford the cost, so The Shannon Foundation paid for two communication devices for Jeani.



The Shannon Foundation is a non-profit organization that I formed in September of 1994. It is named after my daughter, Shannon, who passed away as an infant in 1993. The purpose of the Foundation is to help pay for the medical care and related expenses of sick children from families in need.

Working through social workers from hospitals throughout the country to identify kids in need, The Shannon Foundation has paid for medicine, medical tests and procedures, equipment (such as wheelchairs, ventilators and communication augmentation devices), hospital visits, surgery, medical co-pays, chemotherapy and physical therapy.

The Shannon Foundation has received section 501(c)(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service, so donations to the Foundation are tax deductible. One of the most important aspects of The Shannon Foundation is that, unlike most charities, 100% of the donations it receives (other than those that are specifically earmarked by the donors for the Foundation's endowment) are used for charitable disbursement; no portion of its revenues are used for administrative or any other purposes. For boys and girls like Jeani, your contributions to The Shannon Foundation can make a world of difference. You can learn more about the Foundation by visiting its website, at [www.theshannonfoundation.com](http://www.theshannonfoundation.com).

I am sending this letter to ask you to help us in our efforts to provide medical care and related equipment to needy kids. Every week, I receive requests from social workers around the country, asking the Foundation to help out kids who aren't receiving necessary medical care because their families can't afford to pay for it. There are countless kids living right here in the United States who are not receiving the medical care that they need. If someone doesn't step up to help these kids, they simply won't receive that medical care.

For those of you who have contributed to The Shannon Foundation in the past, thank you so much. I hope that this letter lets you see that your contributions have been put to good use.

#### Recent Foundation Disbursements

Here are some of the other kids, in addition to Jeani, whom The Shannon Foundation has helped over the past year:

- Austin, a 12 year-old boy in Colorado Springs, Colorado, has cystic fibrosis. The Foundation has been paying for his supplies of hypertonic saline, which is used to provide him with better lung function. The family, which includes two other children with special needs, has limited income and cannot afford the cost.
- Tyler, a six year-old boy in Lakeland, Florida, has cerebral palsy, epilepsy and dysphagia. The Foundation has been paying for his expensive seizure medication, as both parents are unemployed and cannot afford the cost. Tyler is covered by the Florida Medicaid health insurance program, but the program does not cover the medication that he needs.
- Elijah is an eight year-old boy in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, who was diagnosed a few years ago with neuroblastoma. After undergoing chemotherapy, radiation treatments and two stem cell transplants, Elijah is now dealing with the side effects related to those treatments. He currently needs glasses and will eventually need cataract

surgery. The Foundation paid the cost of his glasses because his family, which is struggling financially, could not afford the cost.

- Jaqueline is a 12 year-old girl in Edwards, Colorado. She has cystic fibrosis and needs supplemental oxygen at night. She is in the Colorado Indigent Care Program, but this program does not cover oxygen, so the Foundation has been paying for Jaqueline's needed supply of oxygen.
- Bailey is a six year-old girl in Martinez, Georgia, who has hydrocephalus and intractable epilepsy, among other physical issues. She had been having at least 10 seizures per day, which was inhibiting her development. The Foundation has been paying for her expensive seizure medication. The family, which has been having financial difficulties, qualifies for Georgia Medicaid, but that program does not cover the cost of Bailey's needed medication.
- Aziah, a two year-old boy in Taylor, Texas, was diagnosed last year with diabetes. The Foundation has paid the expensive co-pay amounts for medical bills, doctor visits, diabetic supplies and insulin for Aziah. His mother has applied for assistance through SSI and Medicaid, but could not afford these payments pending approval of her application.
- Jed is a seven year-old boy in Naperville, Illinois, who has been diagnosed with infantile epileptic encephalopathy. The Foundation has helped with the cost of his expensive seizure medication, which is not covered by the family's health insurance, because it is not FDA-approved
- Kade, a 12 year-old boy in Austin, Texas, had been diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma. After he completed the necessary treatments to address this condition, he still needed follow-up surgery to decrease the risk of infection. With his father just having been laid off, the family could not afford the cost, so the Foundation paid for the surgery.
- Shyla, a three year-old girl, lives in Trenton, New Jersey. She has been diagnosed with West's Syndrome (infantile spasms) with intractable epilepsy encephalopathy, as well as a number of other conditions. Due to her epilepsy, she is required to follow a diet that is almost devoid of many of the needed vitamins and minerals that are part of a normal diet. In order to supplement her nutritional intake, Shyla must take certain daily vitamins in tablet form. The Foundation has paid the cost of these vitamins. Shyla's mom, who is a single parent on Medicaid, has a very limited income and cannot afford the cost.
- The Foundation has been paying the monthly health insurance premiums for Jose, a seven year-old boy in Denver, Colorado, who has spastic quadriplegic cerebral palsy. His mother, who is a single parent of four children, works evenings at a restaurant

and can't afford Jose's health insurance. Without this health insurance, Jose cannot receive the medical care that he needs.

- Levi is a 17 year-old boy in Tucson, Arizona, who had been treated for a brain tumor. Early this year, his doctors became concerned that the tumor may be returning, and they recommended that Levi be given an MRI to determine whether this was the case. Levi's mother, who is a single parent, works as a housekeeper in a local hospital. In late 2010 she had worked extra hours to have money for the holidays, and the extra income pushed her over the eligibility threshold for Arizona Medicaid. Without assistance from Medicaid, the family could not afford the MRI, so the Foundation paid the cost.
- The Foundation has continued to pay the cost of medication for Caleb and Jacob, 10 year-old twin boys in Spring Hill, Florida who have developmental delays, uncontrolled seizures, respiratory system disease and other physical problems. Their father is a single parent who also cares for their two siblings. Their seizures can only be controlled by Clobazam, but the family's health insurance will not cover this medication, and the twins' father cannot afford the cost.
- Ada is a five year-old girl in Round Rock, Texas who was diagnosed last year with autism. Ada qualified for a grant from the Center for Autism and Related Disorders, but the grant only covered a portion of the cost of the services needed for Ada, and the family could not afford the balance of the cost. The Foundation has continued to pay the balance of the cost of therapy services to teach Ada certain adaptive skills and life skills.
- Destiny is a six year-old girl in Lafayette, Colorado, who has been diagnosed with intractable epilepsy. The Foundation has paid the cost of her expensive seizure medication. Destiny's mother is disabled, and the family cannot afford the cost of Destiny's medication.
- The Foundation paid for orthotics for Nicholas, a 15 year-old boy in St. Anne, Illinois. Nicholas has cerebral palsy, spastic quadriplegia and seizure disorder. The orthotics will help him to stand up straight and will improve his ability to walk.
- Shawn is an eight year-old boy who lives in Canton, Ohio. As recently as August of this year, Shawn was enjoying his summer and awaiting the start of the third grade and tackle football in the fall. Then one night everything changed for Shawn. He was standing on the front porch of his home, talking with his brothers and friends, when he was shot in the neck. The gunshot was reportedly the result of a gang-related altercation between two men who parked near Shawn's house and ran through the nearby yards. When the shooting started, one of Shawn's brothers tried to shield him, but a stray bullet hit Shawn, lodging in his spinal cord and leaving him partially paralyzed. Medicaid has paid for a power wheelchair for Shawn, but would not pay

for a second wheelchair. Shawn needs a second, specialized manual wheelchair to enhance his portability. Shawn's family doesn't own a car – the manual wheelchair will allow him to be transported by friends and extended family members who cannot accommodate the power wheelchair. This will make it easier to get Shawn to necessary medical visits and will assist him in gaining independence and improving the quality of his life. Shawn's family, which includes 12 children, could not afford to pay for the second wheelchair, so the Foundation paid the cost.

### How You Can Help

Over the past 17 years, The Shannon Foundation has provided assistance to children from more than 22 states throughout the country, as well as the District of Columbia. The Foundation's reach continues to expand -- this year, for the first time, we helped kids from Georgia and Arizona. The children that The Shannon Foundation helps are those from needy families who could not otherwise afford the medical care and related equipment for which the Foundation pays. There are a lot of kids out there who need our help. Whatever money you can provide to the Foundation will find its way to a child who is in need of medical care that he or she would not otherwise receive.

The current state of the economy has resulted in there being more families out there who cannot afford to pay for needed medical care for their kids. It is difficult to keep up with all of the requests that we receive for help. We need contributions now more than ever. Even if the bad economy has hit you hard, please consider making even a small donation. Your contribution will be used to help kids like those described in this letter, and can literally change a child's life. If we don't help these kids, no one else will.

Thanks very much for your support of The Shannon Foundation. Please help us to help more kids.

Very truly yours,



Fritz Fisher