



Kid Captain: **RYLEE HOPPER**

"RMHC has meant a lot to us. Having a place to stay and wonderful people that supplied meals each evening really helped ease the stress for our family." – Brenda Hopper (mom)

Rylee was born hard of hearing in her left ear. By the age of 10, in addition to developed speech difficulties, Rylee had lost 80% of her ear bones due to many years of infections. She and her family stayed at RMHC four times during surgeries to replace her ear bones. RMHC helped to calm Rylee's nerves and provide stress relief and much-needed distractions before each surgery, such as visits to the treasure closet, arts and crafts, and pet therapy visits. It also eased the financial burden on her family.

Today, Rylee is doing great and her hearing is better than it ever was! She's a normal teenager who can now better engage with peers.