



## What is Cerebral Palsy?

Cerebral Palsy is an umbrella-like term used to describe a group of chronic disorders impairing control of movement that appear in the first few years of life and generally do not worsen over time. The term cerebral refers to the brain's two halves or hemispheres, and palsy describes any disorder that impairs control of body movement. Thus, these disorders are not caused by problems in the muscles or nerves. Instead, faulty development or damage to motor areas in the brain disrupts the brain's ability to adequately control movement and posture. At this time, it cannot be cured, although scientific research continues to yield improved treatments and methods of prevention.

## How Many People Have This Disorder?

The United Cerebral Palsy Association estimates that more than 500,000 Americans have Cerebral Palsy. Despite advances in preventing and treating certain causes of Cerebral Palsy, the number of children and adults it affects has remained essentially unchanged or perhaps risen slightly over the past 30 years. This is partly because more critically premature and frail infants are surviving through improved intensive care. Unfortunately, many of these infants have developmental problems of the nervous system or suffer neurological damage. Research is underway to improve care for these infants, as in ongoing studies of technology to alleviate troubled breathing and trials of drugs to prevent bleeding in the brain before or soon after birth.

## Mission

To provide wheelchairs to handicapped children afflicted with Cerebral Palsy living in Palm Beach County who are financially unable to purchase them on their own and who do not qualify for public funding or other charitable assistance.

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If you would like to make a donation to help buy a wheelchair for a child with CP or if you have a wheelchair to donate, please contact Denise Jungbert at (561) 752-0799.

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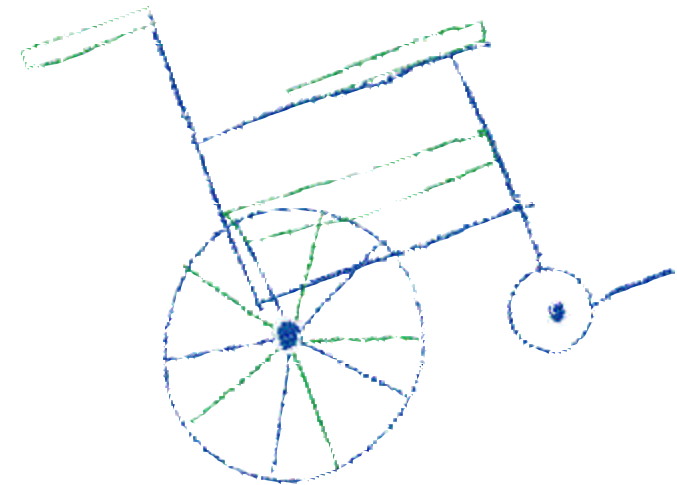
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