

NATIONAL POLICE DEFENSE
FOUNDATION

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“OPERATION KIDS PROGRAM”

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
09:00 A.M. EDT,
August 20, 2015

“OPERATION KIDS” HELPS FOUR YEAR OLD DOMINICAN GIRL IN NEED
OF FACIAL RECONSTRUCTION

MORGANVILLE, NJ, AUGUST 20, 2015: Executive Director of the National Police Defense Foundation, Joseph Occhipinti announced today that NPDF officials will be traveling to the Dominican Republic on September 2, 2015 to help secure a medical visa for four year old Ashley Ambrose who is scheduled to undergo facial reconstruction surgery.

The plight of Ashley came to the attention of the NPDF Executive Director in March 2015 from an American tourist who met the child and her parents while vacationing in the Dominican Republic. Ashley was born with facial deformities and underwent several surgeries in the Dominican Republic but requires additional procedures that cannot be done in her country.

Ashley is scheduled for a pre-operative appointment on September 8, 2015 and will undergo surgery on October 26, 2015 by Dr. Russell Reid who is the director of Craniofacial Surgery at the University of Chicago Medicine, Comer Children’s Hospital in Chicago. The

toddler will also need to have follow-up treatment at 3 month intervals for up to one year after the surgery.

All medical treatments will be funded through the Fresh Start Caring for Kids Foundation which transforms the lives of disadvantaged infants, children and teens with physical deformities caused by birth defects, accidents, abuse, or disease through the gift of reconstructive surgery and healthcare services. (<http://www.freshstartkids.org/>)

The National Police Defense Foundation will be paying for related air transportation, lodging and related expenses in the United States and Santo Domingo for both Ashley and her mother. The "Operation Kids" program, a congressionally recognized child safety initiative of the National Police Defense Foundation, is credited for arranging numerous lifesaving operations and medical treatment for critically ill children worldwide. The program demonstrates law enforcements commitment to protect our children from criminal elements and life threatening illnesses.

Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr. is assisting in this humanitarian mission with the U.S. State Department in the procurement of this non-immigrant visa for Ashley and her mother.

For further information contact NPDF Executive Director Joseph Occhipinti at 732-617-2330 or cellular, 732-616-9600.

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