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Meet the young man who is grateful for
the "Safety Net" that saved his life.



Travis Menesini is a eight year-old boy who
lives with his mother Melissa in Yerinoton.

EXHIBIT J Senate Committee on Finance

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The cost of health care was a hardship

Travis's mother Melissa, a single parent, works as a waitress at a local casino. Travis was uninsured. Melissa, although making ends meet, was unable to afford health insurance for Travis. She took advantage of immunization services from the Lyon County Public Health Nurse and took Travis to the local clinic when necessary but financially the cost of health care was a hardship on this single mother.

Melissa heard about Nevada Check-Up from a local health advocate. The advocate encouraged her to apply for the program. Travis was approved! He became one of 25,000 children who now had increased access to health care services through the Nevada Check-Up program. This was only the beginning.

Travis's mother began to access primary and preventative services for her son at a local clinic. She also found a pediatrician in Reno that accepted Nevada Check-Up and began to take Travis for his well-child check ups, etc. During one visit, Melissa had talked with the pediatrician about several things that were worrying her about Travis. The doctor suggested they do some blood tests and see if there was something that could be the cause of the things Melissa had described. Travis was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes.

Melissa and her family, who were extremely supportive and provided Melissa and Travis with a "safety net", had to learn about juvenile diabetes. A specialist, who they accessed through Nevada Check-Up, educated and counseled the family regarding a proper diet for Travis, medication, lifestyle, and providing the emotional support necessary for a young child diagnosed with this disease. Although it was a long haul, both emotionally and physically, for the entire family, Travis and Melissa are doing well. Travis has learned he must have his injections to remain well. Melissa has learned about nutrition, lifestyle, and yes, she gives Travis his injections daily.

Travis is now in the second grade. He is playing t-ball, riding his bike, playing with his friends, learning to read, and is flourishing. *Being insured saved his life.*

Please support our Governor's budget for increasing funds for the Nevada Check-Up Program.

This success story has been brought to you by:

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