

## Children's Fund helps local family get around

Pinnacle staff report

Community Foundation for San Benito County announced the latest grant recipient of the Martin Rajkovich Children's Fund, local middle school student Amy Miller.

Miller is a very happy 14-year old girl riding in her family's new mobility van. The purchase of the van was made possible through the Martin Rajkovich Children's Fund - operated through the Community Foundation for San Benito County, dedicated for special needs children living in San Benito County.

"This is the first modified vehicle the family has ever owned," said Stephanie Hicks, director of Community Outreach and Leadership Development for the Community Foundation, in a press release. "This couldn't have come at a better time for the Miller family as getting around town with the simplest of errands was becoming a daunting task in their current SUV. Karen had to physically lift Amy in and out of their current vehicle, creating a physical strain on both Karen and Amy. They needed an easy access vehicle that allowed Amy to remain safely in her wheelchair. The wheelchair van was a perfect solution—and an answer to their prayers."

The Community Foundation worked with Ford-Tiffany Motors in locating this specially-designed vehicle.

"We want to thank Tiffany Motors for their full vehicle safety inspection and we are especially grateful to Bob Tiffany for spearheading the efforts in locating the van, helping to make the Miller's family dream a reality," said Gary Byrne, president and CEO of the Community Foundation.

"Amy has to be placed in a special car seat for safety reasons," said her mother Karen. "She knew when she was walking towards our vehicle, she did not want to be confined and thus she would evade and elude the car altogether. It was an extreme challenge to convince her otherwise and I often needed the assistance of another person to get Amy in her seat. Now with the Mobility Van, I am able to secure her in her wheelchair, guide her up the ramp and safely latch the Wheelchair in place and go. It is an awesome blessing. I am deeply grateful to the Community Foundation for helping to making this possible for us."

For information regarding the Martin Rajkovich Children's Fund from the Community Foundation for San Benito County, please contact the Community Foundation at 630-1924, or visit their website at [www.cffsbc.org](http://www.cffsbc.org).



SPECIAL TO THE PINNACLE

Karen Miller stands outside a specially-designed mobility van that makes it easier to get her 14-year-old daughter Amy into a vehicle for trips around town. Miller contacted Community Foundation for San Benito County to find out about the Martin Rajkovich Children's Fund, which helped find and fund the van.