

# Local non-profit wins \$20K grant

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The **Now I Can Foundation** has been awarded \$20,000 as part of the Chase Community Giving Summer 2010 Program. This online giving program helps fund small and local charities across the United States.

Two hundred charities were selected to receive funding from among the 20,000 non-profits who entered this nationwide competition.

The winning charities were selected based on the number of votes they received during the Chase Community Giving Facebook campaign. The Now I Can Foundation received 1,629 votes out of the more than 2.5 million votes cast nationwide. This put them in 131st place and allowed them to claim a \$20,000 prize.

Tracey Christensen, co-founder and director of Now I Can, launched a Facebook, Twitter, and email campaign to recruit family, friends, friends of friends, strangers, and anyone willing to listen to cast their vote for the charity. On the last day of the competition, she even spent time outside the Provo Macey's grocery store to solicit support, while volunteers went door-to-door at student apartment complexes.

Founded in 2006, the Now I Can Foundation strives to help children with disabilities reach their full potential and greatest independence. To do this, Now I Can offers traditional physical therapy, intensive suit therapy, and feeding therapy to those with neuromuscular challenges.

Now I Can is the result of the vision of dedicated parents Joel and Tracey Christensen, whose oldest child, Colby Anne, was born with hemiplegic cerebral palsy. After seeing only limited results working with Colby in traditional therapy, the Christensens traveled to Poland to enroll her in a month of intensive physical therapy. The results were so incredible that they determined to bring the Intensive Model of Therapy to the Intermountain West and founded Now I Can.

Today, Now I Can serves children from all over the country who have disabilities such as cerebral palsy, spina bifida, muscular dystrophy, brain injuries, etc. The name of the foundation comes from Colby Anne Christensen who, while in therapy, would proclaim "Now I can use 'righty' better," or say "Now I can ..." to announce other improvements she was making.

Now I Can is also one of 75 national charities in the final phase of the APX Gives Back Facebook contest sponsored by Utah-based company APX Alarm. Similar to the Chase Community Giving program, APX Gives Back is awarding grants worth up to \$100,000 to charities that receive the most votes on Facebook.

For more information on the Now I Can Foundation, or for instructions on how to vote for Now I Can in the APX Gives Back contest, visit [www.nowican.org](http://www.nowican.org).

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