

White Rock's Junior Race Director shows how race proceeds are helpful

Since its relationship with Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children began in 1997, fundraising efforts through the Dallas White Rock Marathon have resulted in almost \$1 million in gifts to the hospital, which go toward general patient care.



and race finishers.

In addition to monies raised, every year the marathon selects a patient from Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children (TSRHC), to serve as the Junior Race Director, representing the thousands of children treated at the hospital each year. In this role, the Junior Race Director helps participants and sponsors understand how TSRHC benefits from the support of friends like the marathon. The Junior Race Director takes part in race festivities by offering pre-race words of encouragement to participants as well as meeting and greeting spectators

Robert Bumpass, who recently turned 9, has been a patient at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children since he was seven weeks old. The Plano resident was born with developmental dysplasia (DDH) of his right hip, or an abnormal hip socket formation. When Robert was six months old, he was placed in a soft, fabric brace, in an attempt to help keep his hip from being dislocated. A short five months later and to help correct his hip further, Robert underwent surgery at TSRHC. He spent the next two months in a hip spica cast, used to immobilize the hips and that usually extends from the mid-chest down to below the knee. At age five, Robert underwent his second surgery and was again placed in a hip spica cast. During his recovery, Robert re-learned how to walk with the help of physical therapists. Now pain free and walking independently, Robert excels in sports. He plays baseball and golf and enjoys running and swimming. According to his family, Robert has a special name for his affected right hip calling it his "power bionic hip."

His exuberant, happy-go-lucky nature perfectly compliments his love for acting and the arts. He plays the piano, is a fan of Pokémon and one of his favorite television shows is "American Idol."

Patient Champions from Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children Starting in 2007, several TSRHC patients offered to help represent the many bright faces treated at the hospital by becoming a patient champion. The patient champion program is a way for the community to participate in race-weekend activities and raise funds on behalf of a patient. Runners can raise funds individually or via teams on behalf of one of the TSRHC patient champions.