

As you all know, my journey in battling Cerebral Palsy has not been done alone. When I was younger, I did not have a CP role model to look up to. There was no one with CP that gave me hope a “normal” life. I had something better, I had my family. I am proud and honored to call myself a Becker. You guys have blessed me with the courage and determination I am so often incorrectly given credit for possessing by myself. For those kids who are not as blessed with a strong family foundation I hope to make a big enough impact on them so that they have someone to look up to. This journey is just as much mine as it is yours. The path I have paved in my life has been laid by you and I hope you will join me as I take the next step. Outside of all of our intrinsic qualities we also have strength in numbers and influence. I hope you will be compelled to send this message out to your entire networks of people. The more people who stumble upon my project the more impact my message may make.

You may have heard that I am traveling to Luxembourg for the fall 2015 Semester as a part of Miami University’s study abroad program. While I will be exploring all that Europe has to offer and enjoying a once in a lifetime opportunity with my classmates, I will also be executing my most recent Cerebral Palsy awareness venture, the Pave Your Path Project. As most of you know, I have been an advocate for Cerebral Palsy for many years by raising funds for Cincinnati’s Children’s Hospital and sharing my story with others. To me, my greatest individual accomplishment in life has been to go to college. When I was born, doctors told my parents: if by some miracle your son goes to college, he will not be walking independently. When I was accepted into MU’s Luxembourg program, I realized I was being given an outlet to raise awareness for CP and to bring hope to kids and families struggling with the disability. I believe this is a great opportunity to show a behind the scenes look of the day-to-day obstacles kids with CP are challenged with during their various struggles in life. I find it important to give the general public a firsthand account of a disability that affects over 17 million people.

Through the Pave Your Path Project I will be documenting my travels in Europe by using my blog, Youtube channel, and by using various other social media, as well as making a documentary. I will be highlighting in my videos and blog posts the various challenges and physical feats such as hiking in the Swiss Alps or biking around Rome. In each video I will be dedicating these accomplishment to someone who has inspired me to overcome my obstacles and pave my own path to success. I will not only document my success but also my struggles and daily perseverance. Each challenge I participate in will have a story behind it relating to my journey growing up with CP. I want to display a holistic view of every impact CP has to help show others that their dreams can be realized despite challenging circumstances. This semester will not only be taxing on me physically, but mentally and emotionally as well. If I can help just one person or family, suffering from CP than it will be all worth it.

Today I am asking you to assist me in my journey. I have been working vigorously this summer saving every dollar in order to fund my trip. After conversing with my family, friends, and mentors, I was advised to create a Kickstarter campaign to help me fund my project. My goal, within the next month, is to raise at least \$3,000 to help cover my

transportation, event and Pave Your Path challenge expenses. I am also offering various rewards for contributing to my project. If I do not reach my goal of \$3,000 by September 8th 11:59 PM, all investor's money will be refunded to them. I would love to have all of you join me on my journey of raising awareness for CP and giving the gift of hope to so many in need! There is more info on my kickstarter page.

If you feel compelled to donate please see my Kickstarter page:
<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/402629616/the-pave-your-path-project>

If it is not within your means to donate I completely understand! Your prayers and thoughts I will be equally grateful for. You can also still be apart of my journey by following me on my various social media sites as well as emailing any suggestions you have. The most important part is helping to spread the word of my project! I hope you can also pass my project and its mission along to your friends and family. You can contact me and follow my journey on these various platforms:

Blog: <https://paveyourpathproject.wordpress.com/>

Email: paeyourpathproject@gmail.com

Instagram: @paveyourpath

Twitter: @paveyourpath

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTkNcZbtz90LUrQ1xCsMKIA>

Thank you for your time. I hope you will join in helping me carry out my mission to raise awareness for the 17 million children and their families challenged with CP. May God Bless you and help you as you pave your own path.

God Bless

Sam Becker