



“ ...because of the unpredictable nature and frequency of my seizures, I cannot be left alone.

McKenna Birka had her first seizure on Mother’s Day at just eleven months old and then again on Father’s Day. Since then she has had thousands of seizures and been through countless medical treatments. Not to mention the long list of medications that has made life very interesting for her.

She lives with the challenge of her condition each day and because of the unpredictable nature and frequency of her seizures, she cannot be left alone. Without warning, her life can be in danger. Her parents have been her protectors for all of her life and they’ve done everything to keep her safe. Her older siblings have been tremendously helpful even at the expense of their own wants and needs. As McKenna gets older and more independent, she just wants to do some of the things that normal kids her age do. >> READ MORE

*Inspiring  
your way  
to care...*





McKenna wants to jump on her bike and ride down the block or even spend time in her own room without someone having to watch over her.

Now entering middle school, having a service dog gives McKenna the freedom and security to help overcome some of her limitations. In addition to giving her family peace of mind, her service dog can even save her life. Her dog, Phoebe, is uniquely sensitive to her seizures and is specially trained to alert people around her of a possible seizure so she can get to a safe place.

McKenna has had a dream come true, as she is now allowed to walk across the street to the Dollar Store by herself... well, with her service dog, of course.

McKenna's story is just one of the lives where Domesti-PUPS service dogs create opportunities for independence.

“

**My service dog gives me the freedom and security to help overcome some of my limitations.**

*Your gift  
will make  
a difference  
in the lives of  
people like  
McKenna*

