

## EMPOWERING people with disabilities

## Nicole Wuetherick 2015 Youth Ambassador Southern Alberta



Nicole is 18-years-old and was born with VACTERL Syndrome. This means she has lived with health issues her entire life. She has kidney disease and has had over one hundred surgeries in her life. She was on dialysis for eight years and had a kidney transplant six years ago. She also has a colostomy, an ileal conduit, and several other health issues.

Nicole is a very social person and enjoys meeting new people. Some of her favorite things are scrapbooking, singing, dancing, and . . . going to kidney camp!

Nicole says, "Camp has given me a different outlook on my life and it has made me realize how strong of a person I really am. It has provided me with opportunities to connect with other kids like me and has allowed me to attend a camp where I can experience things like other kids.

I have been going to Easter Seals Camp Horizon since I was eight-years-old and I look forward to it every year! It is always one of the highlights of my year."

Nicole's biggest hope and dream would be to graduate with both her high school certificate and high school diploma. Then one day she would love to work as a camp counsellor. She says, "I hope that kids continue to have the opportunity to go to camp and have the experiences that I have had."