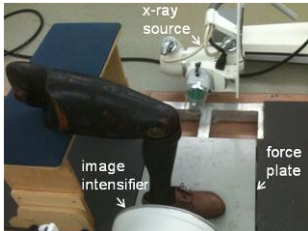


## Major Grants Provide Fluoroscopy System at SHC - Chicago



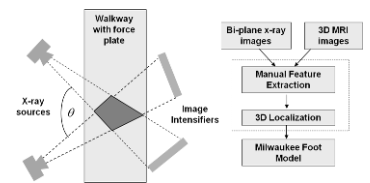
Grants from an anonymous Chicago foundation and the new Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center have provided funding to develop a new analytical system for biplanar fluoroscopic assessment of the foot and ankle during walking. The system was designed under the direction of Jerry Harris, PhD, director of the motion analysis laboratory (MAL) here at SHC – Chicago (photo, below). Three years in development, the one-of-a-kind system was placed into our laboratory two weeks ago. Working with the Medical College of Wisconsin, Dr. Harris and our MAL team at

Shriners, Adam Graf and Joe Krzak, modified a standard x-ray gantry into a fluoroscopic system, capable of recording video x-ray images while a subject walks in the lab (image, above). Surgeons Dr. Peter Smith and Dr. Haluk Altioek plan to study internal bony alignment and correction of deformities as the foot is loaded during walking by the weight of the body. There is also great interest in tracking the dynamic alignment of the bones of the foot and ankle with braces, corrective footwear, and following surgical repair. These advances have numerous applications at Shriners because we so often see children with bony foot deformities, misalignment fractures, and other serious conditions related to the foot. The exciting new technology has completed initial testing at the Medical College of Wisconsin and has been set up in the MAL at SHC – Chicago. Following final research board approval, testing will begin on Shriners' patients, most likely in early 2012. After data collection is completed with Shriners' patients and any "bugs" are worked out, the entire system will return to the biomedical engineers in Wisconsin to add the second x-ray gantry, allowing 3-dimensional recording of the bones and joints of the foot (diagram, right). We are



very grateful to the forward-thinking anonymous Chicago foundation for providing the necessary resources to develop the current system and stimulate additional interest by NIDRR to fund a second gantry and complex, "high-tech" software.

This foundation-hospital partnership is illustrative of the cooperation fulfilled over the years and the synergy generated by our partnership, which has brought to SHC – Chicago the most advanced pediatric medical care available anywhere—and we are deeply grateful.



## Mizpah Noble Achieves Milestone as Shrine Van Driver, Friend of Kids

Jerry Purdy, *Mizpah* Noble from North Manchester, IN, says that the kids he has brought to SHC – Chicago are "his kids." Since Jerry and his Lady Marcea have no children of their own, they lay claim to the scores of children Jerry has brought here in the 304 trips he has made since 1997, for *Mizpah* Shrine. Each trip averages 350 miles, round-trip, and takes between 12-14 hours. "Every trip is a 'first trip,'" Jerry says with a smile, "and I love it!" Noble Jerry stands beside his van on a recent trip to Chicago. We are so grateful to Jerry and the hundreds of van drivers, who play a key role in the care of children at SHC.

