



**Australian
Cranio-Maxillo
Facial
Foundation**

craniofacial.com.au
changing the face of the future



"Mummy. They're staring at me. Tell them to look away . . . I don't want them to stare at me!"

These heartbreaking words from a young girl to her mother some 6 years ago, began a long and frightening journey for both herself and her parents Abdul and Yousra.

Such overwhelming courage and determination forms part of the ongoing story to

Mariam's Miracle

Meet Mariam Mezher. She suffers from a rare craniofacial condition called Treacher Collins Syndrome. Her facial features are under-developed which makes it difficult for Mariam to breathe, to hear, speak and eat. It isn't hereditary in her family, so there was no warning for Mariam's mum Yousra before the birth.

"When I first saw her" Yousra recalls, "I don't think there are any words to describe what it felt like. There were a lot of mixed emotions. Added to the joy of bringing a child into the world came the sadness of realizing the struggles she would have to go through during her life."

When Mariam was just 4 years old, she wore this Mandibula Distractor for 4 months. Even though it looks like a form or torture, this device was a life-saver. It forced her jaw out 28mm, which became an essential part in helping her to be able to breathe and speak easier. Mariam devotes her life in helping care for Mariam. The family lives in Sydney, so much time is spent at the Craniofacial Unit in Adelaide which is only one of a few in the world. Many amazing miraculous transformations take place here.

(Continued on page 3)



Creetings to you from us all at the Craniofacial Foundation...

Here are our Thoughts at this Season with Gratitude for Your Faithful Support

"I love to see the hope in the patient and parent's eyes, and the confidence they have in Professor David."

Bob Snewin, CEO

"The generosity of our donors is truly wonderful. I know it makes a difference to the lives of our patients"

Pia Rossi

"Our patient's remind me why we should keep fundraising as a priority. I am so proud of them all!"

Bronwyn Chant

"My life has been changed as I see the joy on children's faces who have gone through so much in their short lives."

Keith Birks

"The patients – their stories – their courage – their smiles – their renewed life journey inspires me."

Elizabeth Dalwood

"I feel privileged to be a part of the patient care process and see the changes in these individuals lives"

Margot Hoerner

"I greatly respect patients who are willing to support our Foundation in opening their hearts with their time and effort"

Chris Evans

"Prof David is an inspiration to us all, and makes my job as a Collector from the general public so rewarding."

Rex Symons

"The greatest gift is that of HOPE and I like to think this is what we give to each and every patient."

Deborah Dixon

With special thanks to our Sponsors -

