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Bellevue 6-year-old donates 'Locks of Love'

By: Bethany Fischer, Leader Staff Writer

Carly Moore, 6, sat very still as stylist Jill Hogan cut off her ponytail. This was a day Carly had been anticipating for a long time - the day she could finally donate 10 inches of her dark, wavy hair to Locks of Love.

"We've had to measure every other day," said Linda Moore, Carly's mom.

Carly wasn't the only one giving, though. She was getting a free haircut at the Pediatric Therapy Center, 10791 S. 72nd St., during the Super Special Clip Event on Aug. 25.

The event was created especially for children with special needs.

"We see a lot of kids who struggle getting haircuts for various reasons. We thought, 'Why not do it here where we have therapists that can help out with [the children's] sensories and other things?' " said Candice Mullendore, an occupational therapist.

Mullendore and another occupational therapist, Stephanie Adam, opened PTC earlier this year.

Four stylists donated their services during the Super Special Clip Event.

Therapists were present also, coaxing, calming and chatting with the children when needed.

When the Moores, who live in Bellevue, saw the advertisement in the Omaha World-Herald for the event, the timing was perfect because Carly was going to donate her hair this week anyway, said Lonnie Moore, her dad.

The event had 25 open slots for children to get their haircut. All haircuts were free, although donations for the stylists' time were accepted.

After cutting off Carly's ponytail, Jill asked Carly if she could wet her hair down to begin styling it, promising to stop if she didn't like it.

After a few sprays, Jill and her parents asked Carly if she minded.

"Oh, I love it!" she said with quiet enthusiasm.

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