



## **11-Year-Old Track and Field Record Holder Selected as First Junior Member to National Team for People with Foot Drop Paralysis**

*TeamUP members are chosen from across the U.S. to help educate and inspire others who live with the same condition they do to "Get Back Up"*

**Pittsburgh, PA – January 13, 2015** – From a young age, Trent Clayton has always loved to run anywhere and everywhere he could, and sometimes places he shouldn't, according to his mother. Even partial paralysis couldn't hold him back from his passion.

Now, Trent is an 11-year-old track & field record holder from Pittsburgh, PA, and has recently been appointed to the first and only national team of people with foot drop paralysis, Allard USA's TeamUP. Each of the 12 team members face paralysis in one or both of their lower legs, ankle, or foot, a condition known as foot drop. Trent is the first child to join the team since its inception in 2013.

Shortly after his first birthday, Trent was diagnosed with hemiplegic cerebral palsy, which makes the muscles on the right side of his body weak, consequently resulting in foot drop paralysis. Trent, and each of the members, have overcome their limited mobility with technologically advanced, carbon fiber orthotic devices made by Allard USA, known as the ToeOFF® family of braces.

Trent's mother Darla Clayton says, "Trent's first love is running. I'd have to tell him to slow down and that the grocery store was a 'no running zone.' Otherwise, he'd take off down the aisle. That's why being a member of TeamUP is so important to him. What a great opportunity for Trent to encourage other kids to simply show up or maybe try something new."

Trent loved running so much, he and Darla created Strong as Steel Adaptive Sports, a program that facilitates track and field competition for kids with disabilities. A self-proclaimed competitor, Trent holds the national record in the 'under 11' age group in long jump and discus throw, designated by Wheelchair & Ambulatory Sports USA.

The TeamUP members' participation in athletic events and public education efforts support its Get Back UP Today movement, which is designed to encourage others with foot drop to overcome mobility issues and take back their lives.

Among the causes for the paralysis associated with foot drop are partial foot, cerebral palsy, stroke, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, Charcot-Marie-Tooth Disease (CMT), spinal cord injury and many other conditions. Meet the TeamUP members and learn more about their efforts to help others overcome foot drop at: [www.GetBackUPToday.com](http://www.GetBackUPToday.com).