

# California's 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Capitol Tree Lighting

## About Rebecca & Jude Kessler

Rebecca and Jude are siblings from Southern California. Early last year, the twins and their parents lost their Altadena home, car, and all personal belongings in the Eaton fire. Thanks to their parent's support and advocacy, Rebecca and Jude are slowly adjusting to their new routine.

Both children receive services and supports from the San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center, which has become an important part of their routine. Their mom, Sandy, says their weekly gymnastics class gives Rebecca a sense of security while helping to improve her gross motor skills and Jude has benefitted from engaging and socializing with peers his age.

When they're not at gymnastics, they're busy being creative and playing outside. Rebecca enjoys coloring, painting, and all things Christmas. She wears her Santa hat and carries around her stuffed reindeer year-round. Jude enjoys drawing, listening to music, and picking flowers. He also likes books and tasting different foods.

Rebecca and Jude were selected to help Governor Gavin Newsom and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom light this year's California State Capitol Tree in Sacramento. Rebecca and Jude represent the more than 450,000 Californians with intellectual and developmental disabilities who receive services from the state's 21 nonprofit regional centers.



### QUICK FACTS

- **Age:** 5 ½ years old
- **Hometown:** Altadena
- **Hobbies:** Gymnastics, arts, playing outside



[Watch this video from the Kesslers](#)



Questions? Please contact the San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center at [ygratianne@sgprc.org](mailto:ygratianne@sgprc.org) or the Department of Developmental Services at [pio@dds.ca.gov](mailto:pio@dds.ca.gov)



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