



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY



Jared Hagar

**40 years old
Long Beach, CA**

AN ACTIVE LIFE REBUILT — THANKS TO MEDICAID

Jared Hagar grew up skating with his twin brother in Tehachapi, California. From skate parks to snowboarding mountains, Jared has always lived life in motion — until a traumatic brain injury stopped everything.

In 2019, Jared slipped and hit his head while skateboarding. He fell into a coma and woke up two weeks later, missing half his skull. As a carpenter working as an independent contractor and without employer-provided health insurance, his first question

wasn't *"Will I walk again?"* It was, *"How will I pay for this?"*

Medicaid was his lifeline. Especially during the two and a half years he lived without half his skull.

During the hardest months of surgeries and recoveries — Medicaid covered it all: hospital stays, seizure treatment, medications, ambulance rides, and the skull implant that put him back together. He lived at Rancho Los Amigos for months before and after surgery, building not just physical strength, but a deep connection with a healing community.

Today, Jared is living his best life — back on his board, driving again, working with his hands, and dreaming big. He's surrounded by the community that lifted him up and is giving back to others on their own healing journeys. **He's alive. Independent. Thriving.**

"I'm still me. I was there the whole time."

He's planning for a future as a surgical tech — combining his love of tools with a new passion for helping others. **Medicaid didn't just help save his life — it gave him the chance to build a new one.**

That dream is only possible because of Medicaid.

Without Medicaid? ***"I wouldn't be here,"*** he says simply.

ABOUT RANCHO LOS AMIGOS NATIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER

Rancho is an award-winning national rehabilitation center that provides world-class care for over 75,000 people each year recovering from strokes, spinal cord injuries, brain injuries, amputations, and other complex conditions. It's part of LA Health Services — the second largest public health system in the country. Like the rest of LA Health Services, Rancho relies heavily on Medicaid to fund the majority of its care. Rancho's top programs include inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation, prosthetics and orthotics, brain injury recovery, stroke care, and cutting-edge research to help people regain independence and improve quality of life.



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