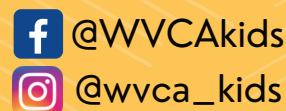


**Address:** 1133 Wyoming Avenue  
Forty Fort, PA 18704  
**Phone:** 570-714-1246  
**Email:** info@wvcakids.org  
**Website:** www.wvcakids.org

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



## MEET THE GERNHART FAMILY



November 16, 2023

Dear WVCA Supporters,

When we decided to move our family back home to the Wyoming Valley in September 2021, our goal was to have our two children, Matthew and Abigail, grow up closer to our families. As they say, it takes a village to raise children. That village is especially important when raising a child with special needs. **The Wyoming Valley Children’s Association (WVCA) has supported so many children and their families; our daughter Abigail being a prime example.**

Our daughter, Abigail Grace Gernhart, had a significant brain bleed in utero due to a rare genetic mutation: COL4A1. As a result, Abigail has Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy and Expressive Language Disorder. Abigail’s medical team stressed how important consistent, quality support and intervention would be to her future success and overall development. Our prayers were answered when we discovered the exceptional staff and programming at WVCA.

From the cutting-edge sensory room to student-centered activities, **WVCA creates a fun and engaging educational and therapeutic environment to target the diverse needs of ALL students.** Since becoming a part of the WVCA family, Abigail has made significant developmental progress over the past two years due to the consistent efforts of her teachers and occupational, physical, and speech therapists. Abigail was once working on simply standing independently. Now, she uses steps unassisted and chases her friends around the classroom. She is gaining skills to increase independence, and she has gained a voice!

**WVCA staff spare no efforts to ensure all student needs are met.** From welcoming community-agency nurses into school to monitor for seizure activity to incorporating her communication device into the classroom, Abigail’s unique needs have been supported in every step of her journey. Staff provide ongoing communication and collaboration that are crucial for student success. We have witnessed Abigail increase meaningful participation in activities throughout the school days due to the work of WVCA staff.

In addition to providing exceptional care to children with special needs, WVCA serves typically developing children as well. Our son, Matthew, attended preschool at WVCA for two years. He always came home from school excited to share the new things he learned each day. Now in Kindergarten, we are looking forward to seeing how Matthew builds on the great educational foundation the WVCA staff established for him.

WVCA has been an integral part of both Abigail and Matthew’s development. We are forever grateful for their support. **With your support, WVCA can continue to positively impact the future of children in northeast Pennsylvania. You can be a part of the larger village needed to help children grow!** Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts.

*The Gernharts*

Amanda, Vern, Matthew and Abigail

## YES! I WANT TO HELP WVCA KIDS GROW!



Please tear off and enclose in the supplied return envelope.













**Enclosed is my one-time gift of:**

\$25   \$50   \$100   \$250   Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

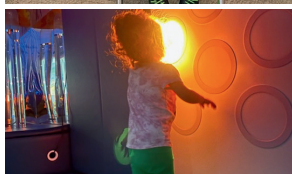
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!**



## DELAYS & DISABILITIES SERVED AT WVCA:

-  Autism Spectrum Disorder
-  Down Syndrome
-  Premature Birth
-  Cerebral Palsy
-  Sensory Integration Disorders
-  Developmental Delays
-  Gross Motor Disorder
-  Speech & Language Delays
-  Muscular Dystrophy
-  Intellectual Disabilities
-  Seizure Disorder
-  And more...

WVCA prides itself on being inclusive to children of ALL abilities. WVCA serves children in their critical developmental years in our Infant/Toddler, Preschool, and Kindergarten programs.



## LAST YEAR BY THE NUMBERS

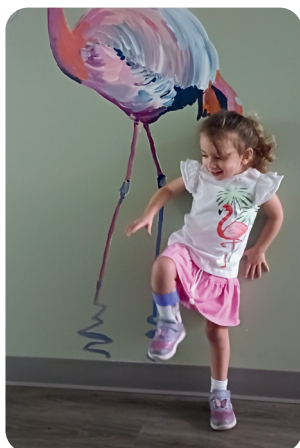
- 409** CHILDREN SERVED
- 20,699** EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
- 4,643** OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SESSIONS
- 1,904** PHYSICAL THERAPY SESSIONS
- 7,586** SPEECH THERAPY SESSIONS
- 11,239** CHILDCARE SERVICES
- 69** CATCH SESSIONS  
(CHILDHOOD AUTISM TEAM CHECK)
- 367** LOCAL UNIVERSITY FIELD PLACEMENT SESSIONS

**46,507** TOTAL SERVICES RENDERED

## WVCA'S MISSION STATEMENT

WVCA's Mission is to provide the highest quality of early childhood education to ensure the greatest developmental potential of ALL children in partnership with their families, including therapeutic support services as needed.

**"It takes a village to raise a child, and it takes extraordinary educational and therapeutic staff to support a child with unique needs. WVCA has been an integral part of both Abigail and Matthew's development. We are forever grateful for their support."**  
-Amanda & Vern Gernhart



- A check/cash donation is enclosed (Made Payable to WVCA)
- Please charge my credit card info below:  
Card Type:  VISA  MasterCard  Discover  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sec. Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Please send me more information about WVCA's **Leapfrog Legacy Society** and planned giving options.

### ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS:

Visit [www.wvcakids.org/donate](http://www.wvcakids.org/donate)

- Our online payment site is fast, safe, and secure
- Sustainable monthly giving options
- Round-Up Program - donate your spare change!
- Go GREEN and give online!

Visit [www.wvcakids.org/donate](http://www.wvcakids.org/donate)

Thank you! As a valued donor, please indicate how you would like to be listed in our Annual Report or if you would like to remain anonymous:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please notify us below if you do NOT want your name printed in the Annual Report OR if you would like it listed differently:

\_\_\_\_\_