

Know Me

NAME

Mary

PASSION

Music

My Story

Mary Jones is a 19-year-old student at Rebecca Stallman Southgate School. She is a great friend. Mary is also a very good card player. She loves music and dancing.

According to her mom, Mary had overcome multiple illnesses/hospitalizations as a young child, including a major surgery on both legs to help her walk.

“Stark DD has helped Mary to grow and develop into the strong independent young lady she is. She began PT and OT as a baby. The classroom setting and therapy she has received over the years has given her the opportunity to grow intellectually and physically. She has come leaps and bounds! We couldn’t have done it without the assistance and resources of Stark DD,” said Mary’s mom.

Stark DD school staff also describe Mary as enthusiastic and always on the go.

RS Southgate School Adaptive PE teacher Ron Leonard said *“Mary is an extremely positive and enthusiastic student. During physical education she always enters class in an enthusiastic manner, is always the first to volunteer, and gives 110% when performing any activity. During recess, she is always on the move. When any activity is taking place, she always joins in, whether it is throwing a football, or another type of ball or shooting baskets – she is always right there.*

Mary is always very willing to try different tasks too. For example, although shooting a ball at a regulation height 10’ basketball hoop is a real challenge for her, that is the one she always goes too instead of a



basket that is available to her. Mary is truly an inspiration to all!"

Through her school years, Stark DD has helped Mary by working with her to improve her use of an augmented communication device to help her let people know what she needs. Stark DD has also provided her with occupational/physical therapy, and adapted physical education services to build her core strength so she can participate fully in any activity.

"Whether it is bowling with the Stark Strikers All-County Bowling League, or interacting with her friends, she is motivated, persistent and always open to trying new things," said her classroom teacher.

Mary works hard in all areas during her school day, but is most excited when going to work with the Community Education Department. Mary prefers work that involves art or helping others. She has also increased her physical stamina and is able to stand while working for longer time periods.

In the future Mary would love to participate in activities/employment with her peers in the community.



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**Stark County Board of
Developmental Disabilities**

Supporting People with Disabilities & Their Families