

Know Me

NAME

Ellie

PASSION

Laughing

My Story

Eleanor "Ellie" Kidder loves to laugh and entices her family to be silly to bring out her laughter! She is a social toddler who enjoys reading, music, and spending time with her family and dog. People can't help but smile in her presence!

Ellie was born a month early and spent three weeks in the NICU. During this time her parents, Ryan and Rachel, learned she had a cleft palate, congenital heart defects (Tetralogy of Fallot, ASD, SVT), and microcephaly. Ellie had open heart surgery at 4 months old, with more repairs expected when she is older. In addition, she has had ear tubes placed twice due to frequent ear infections, a g-tube placed because of extensive feeding difficulties, and surgery to repair the cleft palate. There have been numerous other hospital stays for illness, including time on a ventilator due to respiratory failure in 2019.

As a result of these complications, Ellie was identified as globally delayed and receives Early Intervention with Stark DD, speech, occupational, physical, and feeding therapies to help her thrive. With resources from her EI coordinator and speech therapist she is using a combination of sign language

cont.

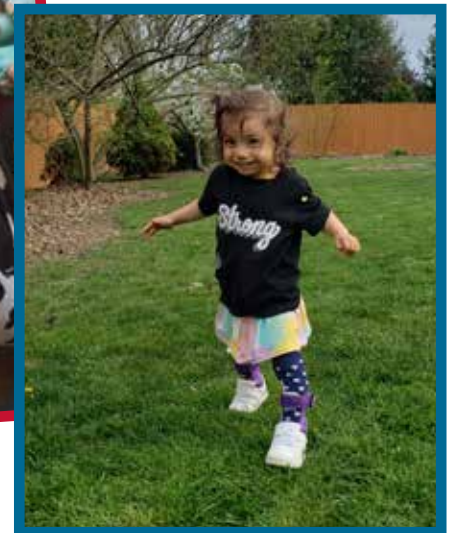
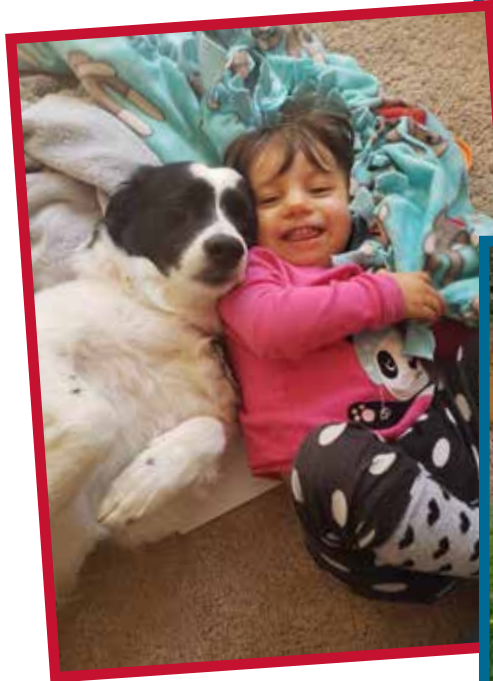


YouTube

and a PEC (picture exchange communication) binder to improve communication skills. Ellie recently started using a walker to assist in mobility. With her new found independence she often races through her house and at therapy with a huge grin on her face.

Early Intervention helped bring Ellie from a quiet, but happy baby into a thriving toddler with a big heart!

Amanda Haga, Stark DD Early Intervention Service Provider said, *“Ellie and her family have made it fun and enjoyable to work with them. Ellie is a delight and because she prefers to do things on her own terms, coaching has been a great strategy in order to meet their needs. I have been able to come in and observed Ellie and the families routine and with their permission introduce new ways to play to continue to progress Ellie and her skills. I have been able to collaborate with other therapist and agencies to present Ellie with a collaborative coaching approach to meet her IFSP outcomes. Ellie’s smile after an interaction makes even the hardest days perfect.”*



Know Stark DD



**Stark County Board of
Developmental Disabilities**

Supporting People with Disabilities & Their Families