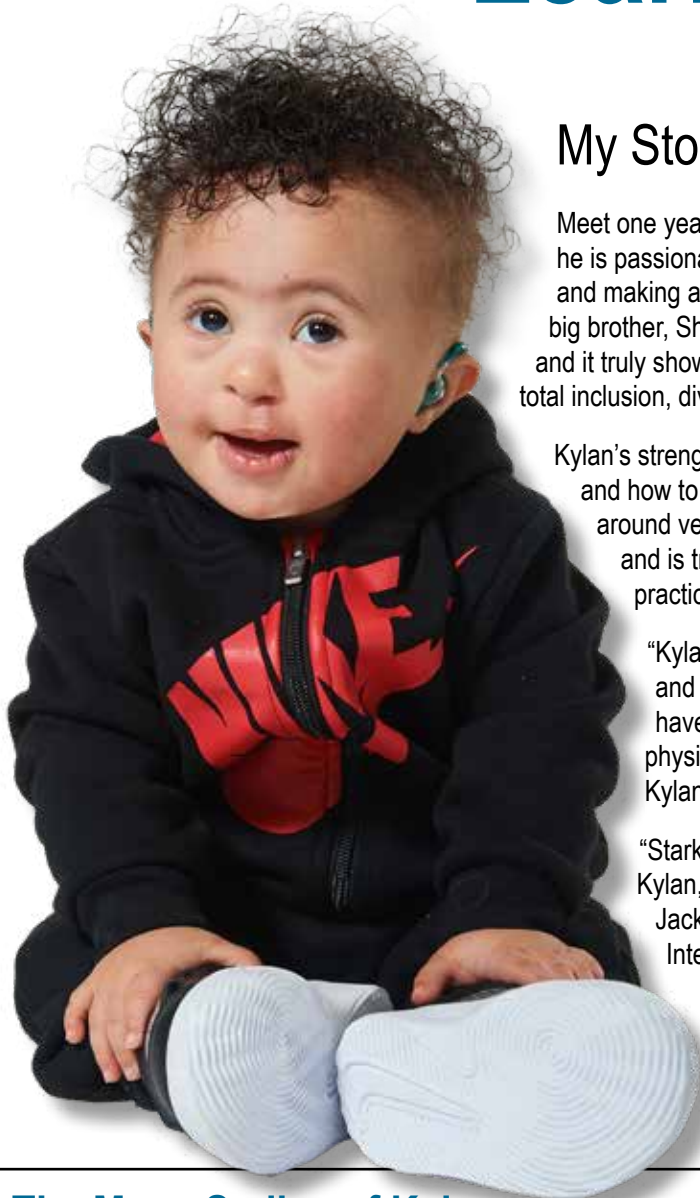


# Know Me

NAME **Kylan**

PASSION **Learning New Skills**



## My Story

Meet one year old Kylan Barnes. According to his parents, Dwayne and Krissy, he is passionate about learning new skills, practicing the ones he already knows, and making all his friends and family smile. He loves playing with his mom, dad, big brother, Shane, sister, Dayana, and his doggie, Sissy. Kylan loves everyone and it truly shows. In the future, perhaps his passion may be living in a world with total inclusion, diversity, love and acceptance.

Kylan's strengths and talents are making everyone smile. He learns new sounds and how to wave and clap. Kylan is learning how to crawl, but he moves around very well and quickly. He is getting very good at eating by mouth, and is trying new foods. Kylan is always trying to master milestones he is practicing, while working on new tasks.

"Kylan primary diagnosis is Down Syndrome. He has overcome cleft lip and cleft palate repairs. He is also learning to eat by mouth so he can have his g-tube taken out," said Krissy. "Kylan is always working on physical development and will only continue to get stronger every day! Kylan is also overcoming hearing loss."

"Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities has helped not only Kylan, but they have also helped our whole family too. Tami Garner and Jackie Lucey, Akron Children's hearing specialist, Stark County Early Intervention, are always encouraging positive growth and development. Jackie has helped with communicating with Kylan by showing us how to sign with him, and giving us tips and tricks to foster growth

*continued*

## The Many Smiles of Kylan



in this area. Tami gives us ideas on how to work with Kylan to get stronger physically. Both have been a huge support and we always look forward to our meetings,” said Krissy.

Tami Garner, Developmental Specialist for the Stark County Board of DD’s Early Intervention Program first met Kylan and his family last July when he was just 6 months old.

“At that time, Kylan had his cleft lip repair surgery a few weeks prior and had just been fitted for his first set of hearing aids. The focus of our visits began with working on Kylan getting used to wearing his hearing aids and being able to sit up and roll in both directions. Kylan’s mom, Krissy, has been great to work with from day one,” said Tami. “Our program is based on a coaching model where we address the family’s concerns and goals for their child’s development and give families ways to work with their child during daily routines to foster their growth. Krissy has been very receptive to coaching and suggestions on ways to work with Kylan to further his development. Her patience and consistency are allowing him to blossom!”

“Since we began our journey, Kylan has had his cleft palate repaired and recently celebrated his first birthday. He is not letting the diagnosis of Down Syndrome hold him back, making steady progress in all areas of development,” added Tami. “Kylan is beginning to move on his tummy and get up on his hands and knees to crawl. He loves being read to and playing with his toys. He’s very social, smiling and laughing often and showing his emotions through his many facial expressions. His personality is really beginning to shine! Kylan is understanding language, attentive to all sounds around him and will babble to others and shout for attention. He’s eating and drinking by mouth and enjoying new experiences every day. It is a privilege to be able to share in his growth with his family and support them in all of the opportunities ahead.”



Kylan with Tami Garner,  
Stark DD Developmental Specialist

# Know Stark DD



Stark County Board of  
Developmental Disabilities

Supporting People with Disabilities & Their Families