



UCP of Greater Cleveland
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Embracing Children. Empowering Adults.



FIND UCP OF GREATER CLEVELAND AT:



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#GivingTuesday

Black Friday. Cyber Monday.

#GIVINGTUESDAY

December 3, 2019

We have two days for getting deals—Black Friday and Cyber Monday. On #GivingTuesday, we have a day for giving back. #GivingTuesday is the beginning of the giving season: a reminder of “the reason for the season.” Occurring this year on **December 3**, #GivingTuesday is held annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving to encourage philanthropy and to celebrate generosity worldwide. We invite you to make a gift to UCP of Greater Cleveland to help empower children and adults with disabilities to advance their independence and inclusion in the community.

Make a donation online at www.ucpcleveland.org/donate or mail a check to UCP of Greater Cleveland at 10011 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, 44106.



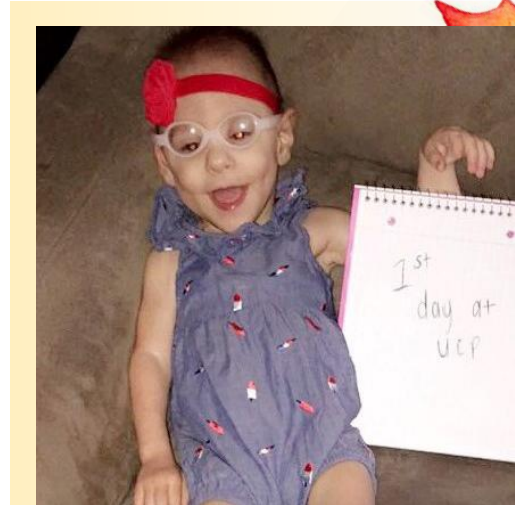
ARYIA'S STORY

Aryia is a sweet, feisty and persistent four-year-old girl who has spastic quadriplegic cerebral palsy, epilepsy and various other medical conditions. Born at 26 weeks and weighing 12.7 ounces, she spent six months in the NICU at Cleveland Clinic. Although she was deemed the sickest baby on the unit, she proved early on that she would never give up.

Aryia started attending LeafBridge therapy services at UCP in June 2017 for physical, occupational and speech-language therapies. Her therapeutic goals include increasing her communication skills, working on swallowing skills and building her core strength. The team at UCP has helped Aryia achieve “firsts” that her family thought they may never see. She has learned to hold her head up, take steps in a gait trainer, and even dance the Cha Cha Slide thanks to her therapist, Carrie!

In addition to learning to move her body, she is working on using a communication device which helps her sassy personality shine through!

Aryia's remarkable progress is attributed to her UCP therapy team and her family's commitment to implementing her home program. If Aryia has achieved all this in just two years, there's no telling what more this determined little girl will accomplish!



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Dear Donors,

If I have learned nothing else over my 12-year service as UCP of Greater Cleveland's President & CEO, it is to speak less of *what* we do and more of *why* we do it: to afford everyone served the opportunities in life that they deserve—*independence, productivity and inclusion*. In fact, I have also learned to speak less, in general, in deference to asking those who receive our services to voice *their* UCP experience. Parents of the children who receive our therapy services tell me everything from “you have kept our child alive” to “we now know our little girl's personality” to “our little boy can now walk and we never thought that would be possible” to “**your therapists see my child's abilities, not disabilities, and work together tirelessly to make the impossible possible.**”

I have heard from some young adults we have helped to obtain employment that not only did they “get a job,” but they were placed into a job that *they truly like*. Here again, the UCP staff serve every client as an individual with their own desires and needs. While it takes more time and effort than a cookie-cutter approach, it is all worth it. This “above and beyond” approach with individuals who have the most significant and complex disabilities (more than CP) is what UCP of Greater Cleveland is known for...and very proud of!



This newsletter includes information about our agency's operation flexing to the needs of our clients, Wells Fargo's generous funding as well as the support of a wonderful community-organized event, the Nedly Golf Outing and Pig Roast. As I remarked at the podium of our **An Autumn Affair** gala on October 5th (pictured to right), while our clients count on us, we must count on you—corporate and community foundations, agency and community-run events, and individual donors. *Every donated dollar makes a difference* right here in our community and will be stewarded with extreme care. Please help us to meet our \$125,000 individual donor fundraising goal by year end. Together, we can get there!

Sincerely,
 Trish Otter
 President & CEO



RONRICO'S PATH TO EMPLOYMENT

OakLeaf Services restructured in January 2019, moving from a four-program to a two-program model. The department now consists of two distinct lines of programming: **Community Integration**, serving individuals who have significant disabilities and/or are medically fragile who desire to engage more fully in the community through field visits and sensory building experiences; and **Community Employment**, serving individuals who are on the path to either part-time or full-time employment, and/or wish to engage in meaningful volunteer activities.

Twenty-six-year-old Ronrico has been in UCP's Job Training program for more than three years completing tasks such as shredding and data entry. He recently set a goal to find a job in the community and completed the Career Exploration process. After learning about Ronrico's love of sports, OakLeaf Partners staff assisted him to obtain a job in 2018 as an usher at Cleveland Browns' First Energy Stadium. While continuing his seasonal employment, Ronrico requested additional assistance from OakLeaf Partners to find a full-time job. This April, Ronrico completed a successful two-week assessment at Oatey and is now employed with UCP's OakLeaf Group Employment site there. Ronrico, like many other clients, is gainfully employed in the community, building dignity and self-worth.



FEATURED AGENCY PARTNER



Wells Fargo has a long legacy of serving and supporting communities. The company, through its business and the Wells Fargo Foundation, uses its resources and expertise to solve complex societal problems and pave a path to stability and financial success for underserved

communities. UCP of Greater Cleveland's OakLeaf Partners Transition Services programs for high school students with disabilities was the recent recipient of a \$35,000 high-impact grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation. Throughout 2019, our Transition programs are collectively serving approximately 150 high school students with the goal of finding meaningful employment post-graduation.

In describing Wells Fargo's partnership with UCP, Nicole Dix, Wells Fargo's VP—Customer Service Manager for the Ohio Commercial Banking Offices commented, “Wells Fargo's support of the OakLeaf Transition programs is a result of the great efforts of UCP to empower children and adults with disabilities to advance their independence, productivity and inclusion in the community. Our vision and values align perfectly with their efforts as we aspire to be a leader in economic opportunity and social mobility while focusing on diversity and inclusion. We are grateful to be partnering with UCP.”

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING EVENT SPOTLIGHT



Ned Koster had a vision—a vision to support individuals with cerebral palsy. Ned, who just celebrated his 60th birthday, lives a full life with cerebral palsy. One summer night while staring up at the stars, Ned shared his thoughts for starting a golf event with his good friends, Wendy and Dave Carbone. Without hesitation, Wendy and Dave said, “We would be happy to help.” The first Nedly Golf Outing and Pig Roast was held in July of 2013 where 48 golfers helped Ned to raise \$5,000 for UCP of Greater Cleveland. The seventh annual event, hosted this past June, welcomed 116 golfers and resulted in a net total of more than \$11,000!

The Nedly Golf Outing is a true community event: the sponsors and golfers are all from Ned's amazing network of lifelong friends, including his Sigma Nu fraternity brothers from his days spent at Ashland University. It is easy to see everyone's heartfelt pride in Ned's successes and the various obstacles he has overcome. UCP of Greater Cleveland is grateful to Ned Koster, Wendy and Dave Carbone, and Ned's countless supporters over the last seven years who have raised a cumulative \$48,845!

If you would like to organize an event to benefit UCP of Greater Cleveland, please contact Renee Canfield, UCP of Greater Cleveland's Director of Development, at rcanfield@ucpcleveland.org or 216-791-8363, ext. 1228.

YEAR-END GIVING STATS*

70% OF DONORS
 70% of donors make gifts through multiple channels (mail, online, social media)

31% OF TOTAL ANNUAL GIVING
 31% of total annual giving occurs in December

50% OF NONPROFITS
 50% of nonprofits receive a majority of their annual donations in the last three months of the year

\$48 BILLION
 \$48 Billion is the average total amount donated annually to nonprofits in November and December

* Source: Winspire.com