

“ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:6-7



In 2018 Brandon and I found out we were expecting our first child and we opted to wait until birth to know the sex of the baby. For most people the news of becoming parents is exciting; however, for us this news came with some unexpected challenges. We were informed at our

twenty-week anatomy scan our baby would have hand abnormalities alongside other medical scares.

Doctors were unsure what the baby's hands would physically look like and what kind of diagnosis would come alongside this type of birth defect, but they had several ideas for us. All of them leaving an uneasy feeling.

Fast forward to the birth of our sweet baby boy who was in fact born with bilateral ectrodactyly and would need multiple hand surgeries, along with seeing a list of specialists. My husband and I had been seeing several specialists during the pregnancy in hopes to be prepared once the baby was here. Fast forward six months, and we were still without a diagnosis. We met with an amazing First Steps intake coordinator who thought Jase Tucker would benefit from services they provided, and with this, she was able to track down some test results. Jase Tucker had a chromosome deletion labeled 2q31.1q31.3 microdeletion syndrome. This chromosome deletion meant his future looked a little different than your average kiddo. Doctors made comments like, "He may never speak like you and I do", "Failure to thrive", "Be sure to have special trusts set up for his future", "He'll more than likely live with you for his whole life." Jase Tucker stayed with First Steps until he aged out of the program at age three. At this point he was having a feeding tube placed. Leaving us with a big question, "What's next for him?"

Our physical therapist mentioned a school geared towards kiddos with special needs would be opening and we met with Kerry, Director of Little Light House Central Kentucky (LLHKY). The school is a Christian

based, tuition free school with staff and volunteers, all made possible with sponsorships and donations. Staffed with a nurse, physical therapist, speech therapist, occupational therapist, teachers, teachers aids and so many others that make it possible for us to have everything we need four days a week under one roof. We had jumped through the hoops for him to attend public pre-school, but when the class sizes were 20 plus and there was a shared nurse for the entire school system, we knew LLHKY was the school for us.

Jase Tucker started attending LLHKY summer of 2022 as one of the first students to help open the school! We cannot express what a blessing this school has been to us, and how much progress he has made since becoming a student here! His social skills have improved tremendously and we've met physical and occupational therapy goals because of his AMAZING team, and he is EXCITED to be here!! This school is so incredibly important to us and our little guy. We are beyond blessed to have LLHKY for Jase Tucker, and we know God is shaping his life though his time there. While he's on his own schedule developmentally, the team turns those milestone goals into inchworm goals and make it so easy to celebrate our kiddos!

Written By Jacqui Miller, Jase's Mom



Support families like Jase's today by giving to the Gift of Hope. Return the envelope included with this letter, visit LLHKY.org or scan the QR code to give.

Thank you for your continued support.

