



**we
are.
family**



Meyer Center
for Special Children



the meyer center works

The Meyer Center works. We witness it every day. It has made a huge impact in the lives of countless children and families in the Upstate. However, we cannot do what we do without you. Through your donations we have been able to accomplish so much and can continue to grow to meet the needs of the community,

- Added an 11th class for the 2022/2023 School Year
- 108 Total Students Enrolled
- 24 New Students This Year
- Student Age Range: Birth through 2nd Grade
- 83% of Caregivers Able to Remain in the Workforce
- 50% of Families Had Difficulty Finding Adequate Childcare Prior to Enrollment
- 20 Students Graduated from the Meyer Center in June 2022

Potential has no limits.

No gift is too small.

The Meyer Center turns obstacles into opportunities, and we need your help to continue Dr. Meyer's vision to help all children reach their maximum potential.

Donate by check, credit card or online at meyercenter.org





Shamir and Hailey are family. They may not have been born as family but after a hard start in life they are now members of the Northcutt family and have been given a chance in life to overcome obstacles and achieve goals that seemed impossible at birth.



Shamir

Shamir was born on April 11, 2017, at only 26 weeks, weighing 1 lb., 7 oz. His first weeks of life in the NICU department at Greenville Memorial Hospital were touch and go. He was diagnosed with multiple conditions including cerebral palsy, chronic lung disease, and eye disease of prematurity. His doctors inserted a feeding tube, and he was placed on a ventilator. At 9 months old, he needed a trach inserted to allow him enough oxygen to live.

Shamir's medical conditions were so severe that he spent the first 364 days of his life in the hospital. On his first birthday, his foster parents Richard and Nicole Northcutt brought him home to live with them and their two children, Talia and Ethan. Over the next year they attended multiple doctor and therapy appointments each week to allow Shamir to thrive as much as possible given the serious health conditions he faced. Eventually, he progressed enough to have the trach removed. After 1 year and 7 months Shamir was adopted, and the Northcutts became his forever family.

During this time, a therapist told the Northcutts about the Meyer Center and how Shamir might benefit from the services offered. At the age of 3, he began attending the Meyer Center, and his family was blown away at the advancements in his overall well-being. Through physical therapy, he is now able to walk unassisted

while before he used a walker for mobility. He is also considered non-verbal but through hard work in speech therapy and with his communication device, he is communicating in ways that were never thought possible. He is learning his ABC's, numbers, colors, and daily living routines. Shamir is happy, has a smile that can light up a room, and a laugh that is contagious.



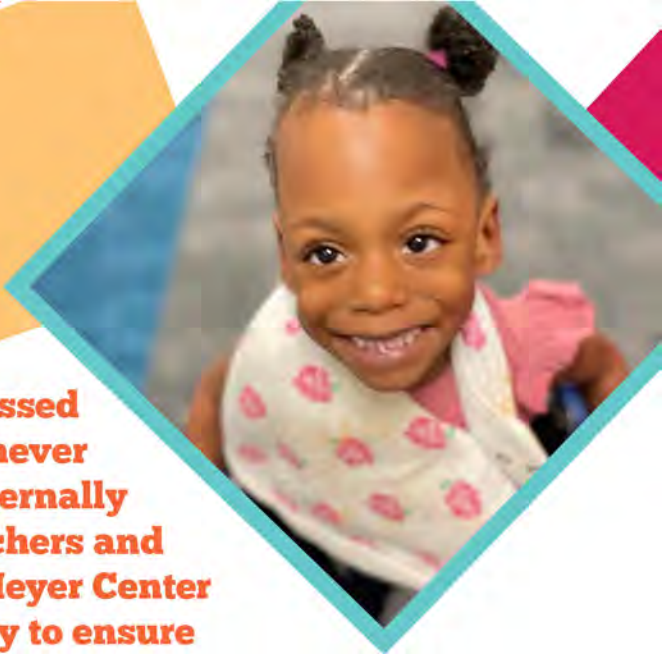
The Northcutt's were so pleased with Shamir's progress that when they were called upon to foster another child with serious medical issues, they knew she had to attend the Meyer Center.

Hailey

Hailey was born in Columbia, SC on June 26, 2019, at 21 weeks, weighing less than 1 pound. The Northcutts were asked to foster her and get her the help she needed. She was an immediate fit for their family — they would now have 2 boys and 2 girls. Richard and Nicole recognized right away that Hailey would need just as much medical attention as Shamir. When she was born, she had a grade 4 brain bleed that required a shunt to be inserted in her head. In addition to the brain bleed, she suffered from numerous other conditions that affected her development: Retinopathy of prematurity eye disease, chronic lung disease, cerebral palsy, slow weight gain, developmental delay, and epileptic seizures. After 6 months of home therapies, Hailey started attending the Meyer Center. Immediately the family started to see major improvements in her development. She is taking steps with no assistance, singing nursery rhymes, and feeding herself with utensils. This once non-verbal child is now communicating in short sentences and has even begun potty training — which is a huge win!



“Our family is blessed in ways we could never imagine. We are eternally grateful to the teachers and therapists at the Meyer Center who work tirelessly to ensure Shamir and Hailey reach their maximum potential.”



By chance, Shamir and Hailey became family. The Northcutts took a chance when they decided to foster and adopt the pair. They also took a chance on the Meyer Center. They put their faith and hope for their children in the hands of teachers, therapists and nurses who strive to empower children with disabilities to reach their maximum potential. Shamir and Hailey are family. **They are Meyer Center family.**

In 1954, Dr. Leslie Meyer took a chance during a time when children with disabilities were not given the same opportunities as their peers. He recognized the potential for success lies in every child. Today, his vision lives on in the lives of children such as Shamir and Hailey. As you count your blessings this year, consider supporting Shamir, Hailey and all of the 108 other students who call the Meyer Center family.



Please make a tax-deductible donation using the enclosed envelope or donate online at meyercenter.org. Your generosity will change lives.



Meyer Center

for Special Children

1132 Rutherford Road • Greenville, SC 29609



NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
GREENVILLE, SC
PERMIT NO. 392

FOLLOW US ON:

