

For Immediate Release
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Tuscarawas County

Board of Developmental Disabilities

TuscBDD Shares Story Of Kimber Poorman

New Philadelphia, May 20th, 2026 - TuscBDD is excited to share the story of Kimber Poorman, a member of our Early Intervention (EI) Program. Weighing less than 1 pound, a condition known as retinopathy of prematurity resulted in blindness at birth. Pair this alongside bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD), a developmental disability that affects the lungs while requiring the use of a ventilator, and at 10 months old Kimber has already faced more challenges than most at 10 years. However, regardless of all that stood in her path, she never once gave up.

Following an early eye surgery, Kimber's sight was restored. Despite being born in the dark, she never lost that inherent sense of wonder and discovery that all of us have. Now she smiles at everything she sees. As for her BPD, she is able to breath for 7 hours a day without a ventilator thanks to the help of her physical therapist. The next step in Kimber's journey involves working with her new TuscBDD EI Developmental Specialist Carie Kline to meet crucial life-stage goals; suffice to say, the future is looking brighter than ever.

Kimber can now spend time doing the things that make her truly happy. She loves to watch Mickey Mouse Clubhouse alongside her favorite toy, a cow plush named Moo-Moo. Whenever a song comes on, it's impossible to keep her from dancing! However, what still brings the biggest smile to her face is seeing her Mom and Dad.

Kimber's story is just getting started.

For more details about TuscBDD and its initiatives, please visit www.tusbdd.org.

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Photo Caption Information: Kimber, a Member of the TuscBDD Early Intervention Program