

April 12, 2018

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To Whom It May Concern:

I wanted to write to let you know what a blessing the Ohio Amblyope Registry at Nationwide Children's Hospital has been for my daughter and our family. When we were told our daughter had been diagnosed with amblyopia, we had no idea what that meant. She is a competitive dancer and could not be dependent on glasses for the rest of her life. The Ohio Amblyope Registry at Nationwide Children's thoroughly educated us on amblyopia, what needed to be done, and what to expect. The literature they provided and the resources they had available on their website from the statistics and misconceptions, to the *Parent's Corner* gave us hope.

We could not believe that The Ohio Amblyope Registry is the first and only statewide program in the United States designed to serve the needs of children with amblyopia. Once our daughter was diagnosed we met so many other families going through the same thing. The financial burden patching can have on a family is underestimated. We met another family who told us what they had paid for a box of patches for their son, and thanks to The Ohio Amblyope Registry at Nationwide Children's Hospital we did not have to feel that burden. They provided our daughter with patches and fun stickers to make her patching not so different or scary.

The compliance assistance they provided our family helped my daughter complete her patching in 21 months, and her "lazy" eye went from nearly legally blind to 20/20 vision! This may not seem like a big milestone to most, but The Ohio Amblyope Registry at Nationwide Children's Hospital saved our daughters sight and future. I can not tell enough people what a great program they have to keep kids eyes healthy with prevention, screening, education, and support! I will be forever grateful and thankful for what The Ohio Amblyope Registry has done for us and so many other families who would not know what else to do.

Sincerely,

Mallory M. Hartsook

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