

# A Sneak Peek into William's World

William is 4.5 years old and now his disability shines brighter to the world as people see him compared to his typical peers.

- He jumped for the 1<sup>st</sup> time (with help) at intensive physical therapy this March! Typical folks might take this skill for granted; for him, he must work hard on his strength, balance, coordination, body awareness and motor planning to make it happen.
- “No” might mean “yes!” It is hard for him to shake / nod “yes” because that actually takes quite a bit of core strength. One of many communication challenges. Being non-verbal, he grunts, cries, points, flap his arms, or uses other gestures (along with using his iPad). A lot more challenging than just speaking words to express feelings or get your needs met.
- He needs help still to hold a pencil, draw shapes, and participate in activities that most kiddos can do independently.

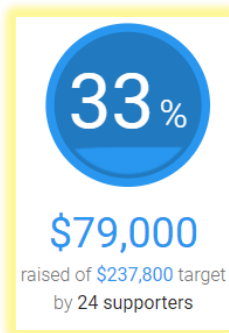
That said, he moves through the world with a smile on his face. He problem solves, if he falls, he gets right back up, he has a great attitude, and fights like hell every day! It's a good time to reflect on our own lives, looking at the obstacles we must overcome and how we react. **If William CAN, so can WE!!** And remember... *“Sometimes angels are disguised as kids with special needs to teach us how to be better people.”*



## February 2022

Thank you to those who showed support for International Angelman Syndrome Day (IAD) on February 15<sup>th</sup>! It was fun to see blue around the town!

We celebrate on the 15<sup>th</sup> in February in recognition of the 15<sup>th</sup> chromosome being affected in Angelman syndrome, and February as it is International Rare Disease month.



Thanks to the new and repeat donors who have gotten us to 33% of our goal. We have 5 months left! There is still time to give large or small today to support a cure for Angelman syndrome. \*See if your company matches donations or donates for volunteering ([LINK](#))

**DONATE TODAY**  
[\(LINK\)](#)

## March 2022

Meghan & William traveled to Northern California to visit UC Davis' Angelman Syndrome labs and attend our “Wine with William” fundraiser. A great weekend connecting with scientists who support AS, other AS parents, and our donors!

[It Takes a Village, and a Vineyard](#)  
(FAST Blog by Meghan)

[Why we believe in FAST](#)  
(FAST Video featuring Meg & William)

