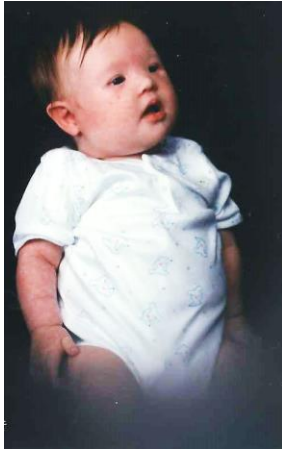


Growing with PAVE

A look into one family's journey



Carolyn's relationship with PAVE started with the birth of her son Wyatt. He was just like his older sister; same ocean blue eyes, wispy blonde hair, chubby little fingers and toes. They were even the same size and weight. Besides being a boy, Carolyn's son has the condition of [Down syndrome](#). She and her husband immediately decided that they needed to know more. Their goal was to take advantage of the therapies available ensure the best development of their child. Carolyn's connection with a PAVE advocate immediately had her family networking with other families that also had children with the condition of Down syndrome. Meeting children of different ages, Carolyn caught glimpses of their possible future for Wyatt.

Inspired by this hope she began volunteering for PAVE and continued to learn more about how to be an advocate for her cherished boy.

Fast-forward over 26 years, Wyatt has graduated from High School, volunteers in his community, works, loves to travel, and is a champion for emergency services which is supported by many police and fire officials who likewise appreciate Wyatt. Wyatt's zest for life, those he loves and all he enjoys is reflected by all who know this exceptional young man. Thanks in large measure to his family who undaunted dove in to learn, grow and support their son. In turn Carolyn has generously donated countless hours so that other families may also know the hope and roads to travel for their loved one.

Since his birth, Carolyn has been part of most services offered at PAVE. Her longest endeavor is ["Mom's \(and Dad's\) Night out,"](#) where families of children with Down Syndrome get together to share in a safe place, their joys, their frustrations, their hopes and dreams for their little ones. Most importantly, parents find that they are not alone.

Advocacy is life-long venture for Carolyn's family and many others who contact PAVE. Why? Unlike typically developing children after age 18 or college or other marker in one's life our children do not suddenly shed their disability. Therefore the passion to build inclusive communities is a constant, real component for all of us at PAVE. Your financial support is the bridge that ensures PAVE can help families learn, advocate and journey with their beloved children. We all need hope. Your gift of any size will make it possible for families like Wyatt's in Washington to find information for needed therapies. Connect with other families for support. Educate themselves as their son or daughter grows. We can't do it without you. [Join us. Click here to donate!](#)

