

2021

# HARPER MACKEY



## Harper's Story

When Lisa and Ryan Mackey brought baby Harper home they were overwhelmed with love and joy because of the arrival of their beautiful girl, but also concerned about what her future was going to look like. Before her birth, Ryan and Lisa found out that Harper was going to be born with a condition called Bilateral Anophthalmia, resulting in a lack of vision. As her parents, they wanted to give Harper every opportunity that other sighted children have, to ensure she too will reach all the same milestones.



Very early on they were introduced to the Cleveland Sight Center's Early Intervention Program. Brenda, an Early Intervention Specialist, works with Lisa and Ryan on an ongoing basis to help guide and teach them special skills to help aid in Harper's development and growth.

"We feel it is not only a valuable program for our daughter, but for us as her parents. We are also first-time parents wanting to make sure we are doing everything we can for our daughter. Brenda helps give us that reassurance that all parents need. We want Harper to grow to be and do anything she wants. Cleveland Sight Center (Brenda) has helped give us the confidence, skills and knowledge to help Harper do just that. It has helped open our eyes to a new and different way of life, and has taken away any worry that we may have had about Harper's future," Lisa said.

Lisa and Ryan have a new outlook on life thanks to their sweet daughter. They see the world differently now – inspired by how their daughter sees and experiences it.

Lisa, who has been a pastry chef for 17 years, decided to launch her own business a year ago in order to spend more time at home with Harper. Lisa and her sister started an at-home bakery business called "Love is Blind Bakery." Harper is the inspiration behind the name and the business has been doing very well! To check out their bakery, visit their Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/loveisblindbakery>.



*"We feel it is not only a valuable program for our daughter, but for us as her parents. We are also first-time parents wanting to make sure we are doing everything we can for our daughter."*