





Foley Family
Georgia VT



Hi! I'm Owen.

- I love to be silly, play board games and have books read to me.
- I am verbal and can read and do math at a kindergarten level
- I have Sturge-Weber Syndrome which for me means that I have had seizures since I was 2, have had brain surgery twice, and take medicine to help control the seizures.
- I have generalized anxiety and OCD
- I am 20 years old

What is working well:

- Mainstream in elementary/grammar school
- Great support for individuals with developmental disabilities grades K - 12
- Being together in community and peers during these years provides great growth for all

Post High School Adult Support Ask:

- More choice, community and support for wonderful people like Owen
- Recognize the value that individuals with special needs bring to the community
- Owen is home with mom and dad 100% of the time
- He is beautiful and should be shared with his community
- Need more programing to make this happen for him and others who will add value to their communities

Specifically:

- **Options:** More choice for service supported stable and permanent housing
- **Will do best:** Owen will do best if can live with peers, a structured day, and with support
- **Independence:** Owen will very likely outlive mom and dad and needs **now** to learn how to live more independently
- **Mental health:** Owen and people like him need access to therapy and psychiatry – it is challenging to access for people like Owen
- **High School graduation cliff:** We need programs and options that will continue to support and help people like Owen grow post high school graduation
- **Funding:** Need to have funding available to start and continue to develop service supported housing for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities each year

