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NEWSLETTER

Disability Rights of West Virginia



"It doesn't matter what you are born with, it matters what you do with it."
- Drew Ann Long

If you have a loved one with a disability, young or old, you know that a trip to the grocery store can be an overwhelming and sometimes frustrating event. When Drew Ann Long realized that her special needs daughter would soon outgrow the traditional shopping cart, she knew something needed to be done.

Article by: Sarah Cavendar, DRWV Advocate

In 2008 Drew Ann began developing the Caroline's Cart, a new and innovative way to make a trip to the local grocery store with a loved one with a disability easier than it ever had been before. Named after her middle child, who has Rhett syndrome, Caroline's Cart was created to help a variety of individuals with their daily shopping needs. The cart features a front facing seat allowing easy access for the individual to ride along in the cart. It also comes with a five-point harness and

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Caroline's Cart *(cont'd)*

two front wheel and one back wheel brake system. The cart has a weight limit of up to 250 pounds. Caretakers no longer have the burden of maneuvering a shopping cart and a wheelchair at the same time.

Caroline's Cart's mission is to make the cart available to retailers everywhere, providing a quality product for special needs children that further enables their participation in mainstream society with their family through the common activity of grocery shopping.



Large retail box stores like Target, Wal-Mart and Lowes are making the carts available at many of their locations. Caroline's Cart's Facebook page (facebook.com/CarolinesCart) even provides directions for the store managers on how to order for their store. Their page is also full of encouraging stories and photos of families using the cart and supporting each other.



Caroline's Cart promotes inclusion. That is what families want. We have it in our schools, we want it in our communities. Caroline's Cart promotes inclusion in every grocery store making it accessible and that is why it is so important that it is in every community.

Client Comments

"The advocate was very informative, understanding and professional. She had the knowledge to help solve my sister's problem with a thorough understanding of the I/DD Waiver program."

"Thank you so much for your hard work and dedication. We are in a very difficult situation and any and all input was very much appreciated."