ORLANDO HEALTH°



ARNOLD PALMER HOSPITAL

For Children

Alex



Alex's Story

Alex was diagnosed with a congenital heart defect before he was even born. His mother was pregnant when her doctors noticed that something was wrong and referred her to The Heart Center at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children. At six days old, Alex endured his first open heart surgery and then spent six weeks in the Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (PCICU).

The Heart Center at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer had vital equipment like medicine pumps, life support machines and respiratory machines that helped save Alex's life. These are the kinds of things partners of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals make possible. Thanks to the care Alex received, he is now a healthy 13 year old boy who loves to play Fortnite, dance and travel! Alex's dream is to become a famous influencer to help other kids succeed no matter their condition while also sharing his life and achievements.



Aryelle



Aryelle's Story

One week before Shantelle expected to deliver her baby girl, doctors noticed a slow heartbeat during a routine visit. She was sent to Orlando Health Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies for an in-depth sonogram and soon after delivered her daughter, Aryelle, by cesarean section.

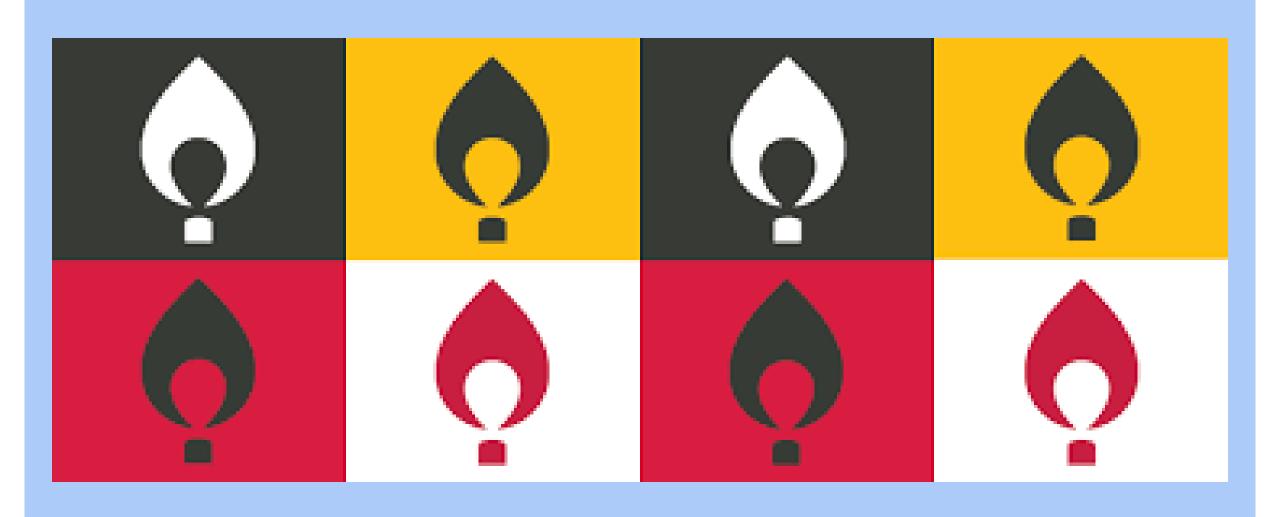
The bottom two ventricles of Aryelle's heart were switched, and doctors diagnosed her with Hypoplastic Right Ventricle, which would require multiple open heart surgeries to correct. Her first open heart surgery at five days old led to complications that kept her on a ventilator for three more weeks, and in the hospital for nearly two months.

Thankfully, her second open heart surgery at six months old was successful and she was able to leave the hospital after just five days. She has had one additional open heart surgery since then, and her cardiologist and pulmonologist at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children regularly monitor her progress.

More than \$1.5 million raised by Children's Miracle Network Hospitals partners have been utilized by The Heart Center at Orlando Arnold Palmer to fund surgical, diagnostic and catheterization lab equipment to help more kids like Aryelle. Today, Aryelle is very active in her Girl Scouts troop and loves being a part of Drama Club at her school!



Aryelle



Isaiah



Isaiah's Story

There are some dates you never forget. For Isaiah's parents, that date is October 16, 2012 – the day they found out their two-year-old boy had a cancerous brain tumor.

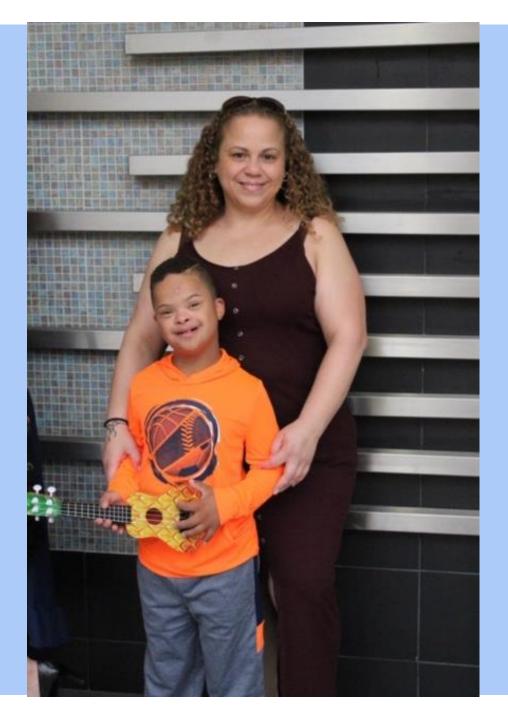
Isaiah was brought to the Emergency Department at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children due to terrible headaches and eventually made the hospital his home for 10 weeks. During this time, he went through a 12-hour brain surgery, received 33 radiation treatments, had a tracheotomy and was fed through a feeding tube to keep him alive.

Today, Isaiah is cancer free! He loves all things Star Wars, visiting the dolphins and whales at SeaWorld, as well as playing Legos, and swimming with his older brothers. From his time spent with the Music Therapy staff and in the Child Life playrooms (his favorite part of the hospital), to the oncologist that helped save his life, Isaiah and his family benefited from the funds raised by Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.



Isaiah





Isaiah H.



Isaiah H.



miracle network dance marathon

John



John's Story

John Parker was just seven when he was severely injured while playing with neighbors on the upstairs balcony of his family's rental home.

"John Parker was out playing with his friends," explained his dad Tim. "They were playing spy games. He took a look over the upstairs balcony fence to see if he could spot his friends on the swing. He stepped up on the wall and tried to jump back, and his shirt somehow got stuck on the top of the fence. As he fell, he was pulled forward and the spike at the top of the picket pierced his neck."

After calling 911 and getting John Parker downstairs, the firefighters who responded to the emergency call loaded him into the ambulance as quickly as they could. His mom, Sarah, accompanied John Parker and Tim was ready to follow once he got John Parker's brother and sister situated with neighbors. When Tim asked where they were taking his injured son, the firefighter in charge immediately replied with an answer of the trauma center at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children.

"The hardest part of an event like this is turning your child over to someone else," said Sarah. "The EMTs said that they were taking him to the right place. They told us that without a doubt, we're going to Orlando Health Arnold Palmer. They have the best trauma unit. That's where you need to be." Luckily, John Parker narrowly missed severing any arteries or puncturing his spinal cord and only needed surgery to repair the wound. Today John Parker is doing well and his family is grateful for the live-saving care their son received from the team at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer.

John





JP



JP's Story

When JP was born, he could barely move, constantly slept and wasn't eating regularly. It wasn't until he was nine months old that he was able to hold his own head up, and that's when doctors began to fear that JP would never be able to walk.

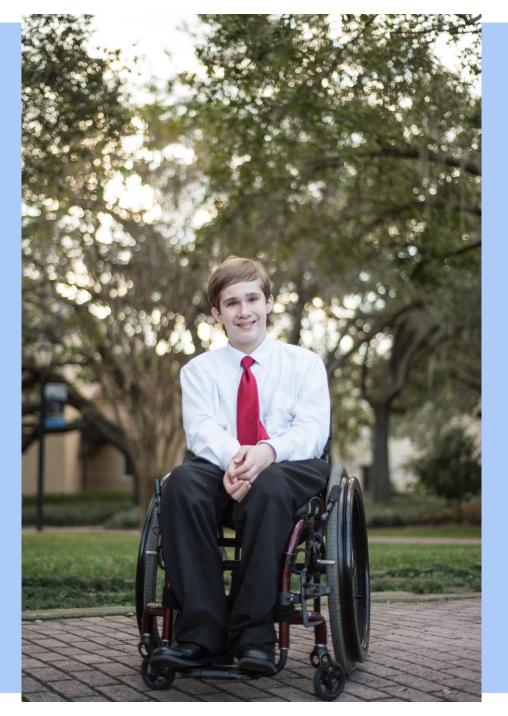
At the early age of 3 months old, JP was referred to specialists at The Howard Phillips Center for Children & Families, part of Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children, who recommended occupational and physical therapy. Just before his second birthday, JP was diagnosed with Potocki-Lupski Syndrome (PTLS), a very rare health condition caused by a duplication of a gene in chromosome 17. PTLS causes many of the complications that JP experienced, including his developmental delays, speech problems, low muscle tone, feeding difficulties, and many other conditions.

Thanks to the early intervention at The Howard Phillips Center and the continued care at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer, JP can walk, run and dance with his seven siblings. With the funds raised through Children's Miracle Network partners, The Howard Phillips Center had the staff, technology and equipment to help him overcome challenges in his development. Today, JP continues to surpass all expectations. He runs, swims, and even dances. He enjoys being a part of Boy Scouts of America and loves performing on a stage. His smile and laughter brings joy to everyone he meets!



JP

ONE DAY WE WILL DANCE IN CELEBRATION ... UNTIL THEN WE WILL DANCE FOR A





Andrew & Katelyn's Story

Nine weeks before the due date for her twins, Andrew and Katelyn, Momma Lumm was admitted to Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children after her water broke unexpectedly. Fortunately, the skilled medical team were able to delay their birth, giving the twins an extra four weeks to develop in the womb.

Five weeks before their due date, Andrew and his twin sister Katelyn were born. After a short stay in the NICU, Katelyn was able to go home in good health. Andrew was diagnosed with spina bifida, hydrocephalus, and club feet. He had surgery on his spinal cord before he was even one day old. He weighed four pounds. Ten days later, he had a shunt implanted to drain the fluid that was putting pressure on his brain.

Over the years, Andrew has known the joy of being able to walk independently from ages 3 to 11, and has faced the reality of losing that ability due to the challenges of spina bifida. Andrew has persevered through nineteen surgeries and is getting stronger everyday. At age 15, the twins are proud that after these surgeries, therapies, and hard work, Andrew is now able to walk short distances with forearm crutches.

Andrew says that having a twin sister to cheer him on is truly the best medicine for his recoveries. Katelyn is proud to have such a brave brother.

Thanks to funds raised through Children's Miracle Network partners, the Child Life Specialists at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer are able to provide education and distraction tools to ease the anxiety that surgeries can give children. Andrew lights up when the Child Life team visit him and can really sense the care and compassion they have for him.

Today, Katelyn keeps herself busy running on the cross country and track team at her school. She also enjoys running the behind-the-scenes tech for school plays, playing volleyball, and reworking denim. Andrew enjoys watching movies, playing video games, and playing sports such as sled hockey, wheelchair basketball, and wheelchair baseball.



Andrew & Katelyn

SATURDAYS ARE FOR THE KIDS

Kendall & Carson



Kendall & Carson's Story

Twins Kendall and Carson are honor roll students who love playing sports and spending time with friends. But when their mother went into labor 20 weeks early while pregnant with them, it was hard to imagine ever getting a chance to watch them grow up. But thanks to the specialized team at Orlando Health Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies, doctors were able to delay delivery and keep the twins in utero for an additional 47 days, eventually delivering at 26 weeks.

Kendall and Carson were immediately placed on life support in the Alexander Center for Neonatology at Orlando Health Winnie Palmer, which was just the beginning of their journey. Both twins had an intraventricular brain hemorrhage and were diagnosed with chronic lung disease. Carson was also battling hydrocephalus and had to have a shunt placed to drain the fluid which was creating pressure on brain.

Today, Kendall and Carson are thriving thanks to the amazing medical care and rehabilitative services they received at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children, and their parents are grateful that their babies born weighing less than two pounds are happy and healthy!

SHAMPIONS

Kendall & Carson





Lauren

Lauren's Story

When Lauren was born at Orlando Health Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies, there was no indication that she was anything but a completely healthy baby. The next day, she was taken to complete standard newborn testing in order to prepare their family to go home. Testing took longer than expected and Lauren's parents, Melanie and Patrick, were informed that she had not passed her Pulse oximetry screening, a test that measures the level of oxygen in the blood.

Following two echocardiograms, the images were clear - they showed that Lauren had a congenital heart defect which required open-heart surgery immediately. Like zombies, they walked across the bridge connecting Orlando Health Winnie Palmer to the Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care Unit at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children where Lauren was prepared for surgery. Amazingly, 11 days after her surgery, Lauren was discharged and her family was finally able to go home.

Melanie and Patrick are forever grateful for the high level of care that Lauren received, as well as the state of the art equipment that is used at The Heart Center at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer where she will continue her follow up care into adulthood.

Lauren





Patrick & William



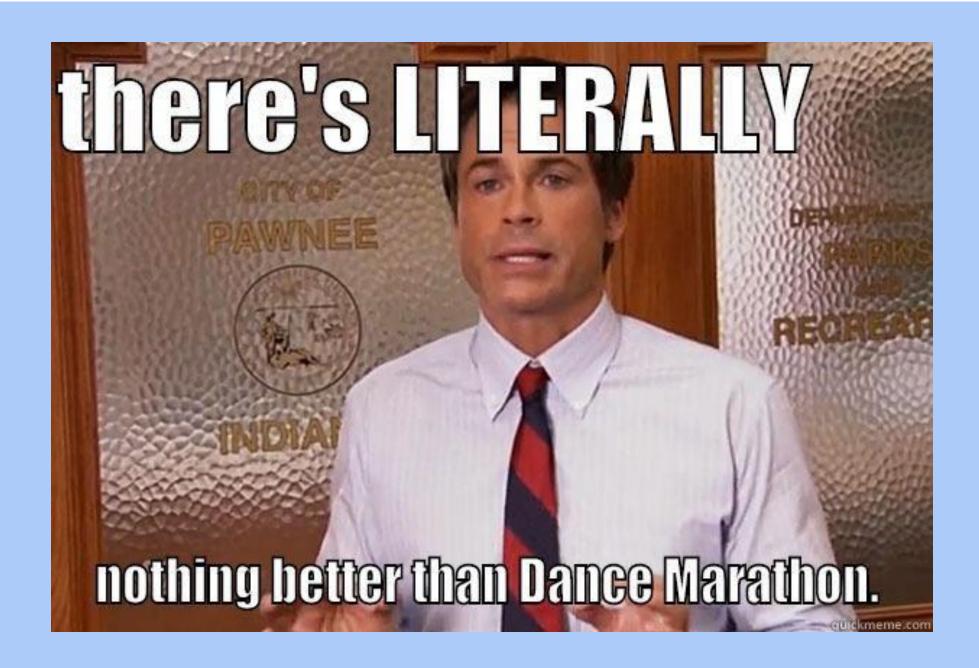
Patrick & William's Story

Patrick and William were born when their mom was only 26 weeks pregnant. Patrick, born weighing 1.13 pounds, and William, born weighing 1.14 pounds, are surviving triplets, and say they received their fighting spirit from their brother Hunter whom they were blessed to spend 4 days with.

Both Patrick and William underwent cardiac surgery before they were 12 days old. While fighting numerous infections and overcoming several setbacks, the boys spent nearly four months in the Alexander Center for Neonatology at Orlando Health Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies. During their stay in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), they were in special incubators called Giraffe Beds, which were purchased with funds raised by Children's Miracle Network partners.

As early as their time in the NICU, the boys underwent physical, occupational, and speech therapy to make sure they hit milestones, but overtime Patrick struggled to eat and gain weight. He was diagnosed with Failure to Thrive at six months old and at 18 months old, Patrick was diagnosed with Periventricular Leukomalacia and Cerebral Palsy. Patrick has had many more procedures and medical complications in his life, but despite the frequent hospitalizations, procedures and weekly therapy treatments that he receives, nothing stops him and his brother from being bright, inquisitive and energetic. William, despite his reduced lung capacity with Chronic Lung Disease, plays competitive soccer, and Patrick has recently relearned to walk and is walking better than ever before!







Hannah

Hannah's Story

Hannah was in pre-school when an unusual spot on her stomach landed her in her pediatrician's office. She was immediately referred to Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children and at only 21 months old, she was diagnosed with Stage 5 Wilms Tumor, a type of cancer affecting her kidneys. Hannah underwent surgery to remove one of her kidneys and one-third of the remaining kidney. Following the surgery and many weeks of chemotherapy, Hannah was declared cancer free when she was two years old!

By the time Hannah was nine years old, she had finally gone a full year without having to have a cancer scan. Being an active young lady, Hannah found her passion in many school activities including soccer, volleyball, choir and the bible team. Hannah and her mom felt life was finally normal and that Hannah she finally living every day, just like the other children around her.

Upon going in for a routine check-up in 2016, scans revealed Hannah's cancer was back. Hannah immediately underwent surgery, which

Upon going in for a routine check-up in 2016, scans revealed Hannah's cancer was back. Hannah immediately underwent surgery, which left her with a half of one kidney to function as two. Hannah endured a six-month regime of chemo, countless checkups at the hospital and came through cancer free once again!

Sadly, in 2017, just shy of her 12th birthday, Hannah began having symptoms and upon evaluation the family was told that Hannah relapsed again; however, this time, it not only affected her remaining half-kidney, it spread to her lung. Five surgeries, seven months of chemo and over 35 rounds of radiation, Hannah and her mom could report the news that Hannah was again, cancer free!

Today, Hannah is a 13-year-old three-time survivor of bilateral metastatic Wilms' tumor. In spite of all of the challenges Hannah has faced along her journey fighting and concurring cancer three times, Hannah continues to live her life full of family, friends, laughter, grace and faith.



Hannah

PRADING THIS
YOU SHOULD
BR FTK

Justice



Justice's Story

Justice was born 17 weeks early, weighing one pound, five ounces. A surviving twin, she was able to finally leave the Alexander Center of Neonatology at Orlando Health Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies after 92 days, and went home an oxygen machine and a gastric feeding tube.

Justice battled Chronic Lung Disease and had five cardiac surgeries during the first 20 months of her life to repair the hole in her heart. She continues to have cardiac catheterizations every other month, and attends therapy sessions for help with eating, speech and movement. When she was 4 years old, Justice learned to walk and run around, and since then, she shows no signs of slowing down.

Justice is now in 5th grade and really looking forward to middle school next year. She enjoys 80's & 90's music, singing, dancing, playing games like Roblox and Gotcha Life, and watching youtube videos!

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Justice

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Maleah



Maleah's Story

Maleah was three years old when her parents noticed her swollen glands and grew concerned. After visiting a nighttime clinic and yet another hospital emergency room, Maleah's primary doctor sent her to Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children for blood work. Her glands were getting bigger and her white blood count was rapidly increasing, and Maleah was ultimately diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. After having surgery to insert a broviac catheter in her chest, she began chemotherapy treatments.

The day Maleah's hair fell out she looked at herself in the mirror and exclaimed, "Mommy, I have a cute head!" At that moment, Maleah's mom said she realized they would make it through their journey. The caring staff made every effort to make both Maleah and her family comfortable. They are considered extended family and will be loved by Maleah for the rest of her life. Today, Maleah loves to cheer, choreograph new dance routines, facetime her friends and family, and take naps!

Maleah





CBDM 2020 raised over \$7,000 for the kids!

Sam



He visited CBDM 2020!

Sam's Story

Upon going in for their 20 week ultrasound, Sam's parents learned that he would be born with spina bifida and hydrocephalus - a buildup of fluid inside the skull that leads to brain swelling. Sadly, the doctors believed that Sam would have brain damage and be wheelchair-bound with no quality of life and recommended that Sam's parents terminate the pregnancy.

Despite these recommendations, Sam's parents knew that he would be a fighter if they brought him into this world. Sam was born at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children and received two life-saving surgeries within the first 24 hours of his life; one to close his back which was open at birth, and one to place a shunt in his brain to remove the excess fluid.

Sam, whose smile lights up every room that he enters, is now a full time "wheeler" as his family calls it. Although he has undergone more than 30 surgeries, he loves the special attention he gets from his medical team. He even prepares his post-surgery wish list that his team uses to make his time there better after each surgery-including chocolate milkshakes.

Today Sam is dual enrolled in college. He is learning to drive and he enjoys working out and listening to his favorite band, Twenty One Pilots. Sam is also training for a marathon with his hand cycle! He is extremely bright, active and can often be found popping wheelies or swimming in the pool alongside his service dog, Ledger.

Sam

Sam at CBDM 2020!







EST. 2020



Ashton

Ashton's Story

After enduring five heartbreaking miscarriages, Matt and Amy were overjoyed to hear they were pregnant and expecting healthy, twin boys. But just 21 weeks into the pregnancy, that excitement turned into anxiety when Amy was told she was at risk for pre-term labor.

Immediately admitted to Orlando Health Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies, Matt & Amy's medical team hoped to delay labor and give the babies the best chance of survival. Sadly, their first son, Baby Brandon, was born just one week later at only 22 weeks into the pregnancy, alive, but too small to survive.

All of the focus was now on their second son, Baby Ashton, and on Amy's birthday, Day 1 of the 23rd week of pregnancy, he was born. Weighing only 1 pound and 4 ounces, Ashton arrived on the earliest day considered viable for babies to survive. Treated in the Alexander Center for Neonatology at Orlando Health Winnie Palmer, Ashton was immediately intubated to receive oxygen and help him breathe.

The day Ashton was extubated was the first time Matt & Amy heard their son cry, which they describe as the most beautiful music to their ears. After 111 days, Baby Ashton had his oxygen line removed and began breathing 100% on his own. This was not the "expected" journey for a baby born at just 23 weeks, but Matt & Amy credit that miracle to the exceptional care Ashton received from his medical team – a team they believe loves their son as much as they do.

Today Ashton is in kindergarten, but when he's not in school you can find him swimming in the pool, jumping on his trampoline, playing with his monster trucks and hot wheels, or spending the day at Disney!

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Children's Miracle Network Hospitals



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RAVE TO SAVE

Celeste



Celeste's Story

During her 20-week ultrasound, Akosua and her husband, Fernando, were excited to find out the gender of their second child. But they could tell from the ultrasonographer's reaction that something was not right. The following Monday they received the diagnosis — their baby had spina bifida.

Through research, Akosua learned that Orlando Health was beginning to offer fetal surgery and contacted the Fetal Care Center at Orlando Health Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies. By the following week, Akosua had an appointment set up and began to go through an extensive evaluation process to see if she and her baby would be candidates for in utero surgery to repair her baby's spina bifida. Thankfully, they were found to be, and at 25 weeks pregnant, she underwent surgery.

Everything with the surgery went smoothly and at a little over 32 weeks, baby Celeste entered the world at 4 pounds, 10 ounces. Akosua recalls, "when she was born, she cried and did everything a healthy baby was supposed to do."

After spending a few weeks in the NICU to make sure that everything was OK, Celeste was able to go home at 38 weeks. As she continues to grow, Celeste will be cared for through the Spina Bifida Clinic at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children. Akosua and her family are grateful for the life-changing surgery they were fortunate to have, and for the remarkable team at Orlando Health for providing them with compassionate care during their journey.

