

Ceilya (CeCe) Joy Salsbery

CeCe was born in January of 2014 at just 32 weeks. She was 3lb 1 oz of pure Joy! Her big brothers Cordel (12), and Cash (11) could hardly wait to finally meet her. They had watched her regular ultrasounds anxiously waiting, hoping, and praying for a healthy delivery. She always loved hearing the boys' voices and put extra effort into her ultrasound shows for them.

CeCe's birth story started at just 21 weeks gestation, when mom's water broke unexpectedly. She was only 1lb 2 oz at that time. This was the beginning of nine weeks of hospital bedrest for mom and baby girl. CeCe was basically pinned in the womb without water to help her move around for the remainder of her time in the womb. We learned later that the movement is a critical part of proper hip development. Additionally, CeCe's lungs were underdeveloped due to a lack of pressure in the womb. She spent her first 2 months after birth in the NICU in Bismarck, ND. She was on oxygen and required special care. She was finally able to go home at two months old, and meet her brothers in person. They didn't mind the oxygen cords; it was just another tool that helped to get her home with all of us sooner.



Our local doctors referred us to Shriners Hospital in Minneapolis, MN, where they confirmed the diagnosis of hip dysplasia. The Shriners' facility in Minneapolis was not able to handle her case due to her lung complications. Our next step was to head off to the Spokane Shriners' Hospital. This is when we as a family decided it was time to move back home to Malta, MT to be near our family. Our local, Malta Shriners had heard about her upcoming visit to Spokane and jumped into action. "How can we help?" Throughout multiple trips for checkups, cast changes, and follow up surgeries our local Shriners group went above and beyond to help our little lady.

Each visit to Shriners Hospital was an amazing experience. They provided us with the resources, knowledge and support to make the best decisions for CeCe's future. Dr. Bronson, and all of the staff that we worked with, were exceptionally knowledgeable and kind. Each visit made us feel as if we were still in Malta, with the community rallying around us. No matter how many times we went back for appointments, CeCe was excited to return to see new and different things in the hospital, play in their great toy room, and meet the other kids that were there visiting. At 12 months old CeCe underwent her first surgery to correct the dysplasia. We were all very hopeful that a closed reduction surgery would work, however she ended up having to do an open Pavlik surgery the following day. She came home in a double leg spica cast. She was in her first cast for nearly 3 months.

We had a follow up appointment to see how things were progressing and found that her hip was in the socket, but that her socket was not developing as desired. With Dr. Bronson's help we opted to undergo a Pemberton Osteotomy to create a hip socket in the pelvis. She again was in a spica cast that was a similar shape for another 3 months. The surgery was a success!!

Today CeCe is a happy healthy 8 year old that is so full of life and energy. She runs, jumps and cheers her brothers on without pain. She will continue to have annual visits to Shriners until she is done growing. To all the Shriners, and staff at the many hospitals, you are true blessings to so many! We are grateful and admire your commitment to creating opportunities for children and families in need.

