

#GiftofGrowingUp



2012
EYE SURGERY



2014
TOOK FIRST STEPS



2017
LOST 1ST TOOTH!



Addison Lebanon

Addison was born at 25 weeks and spent 87 days in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Penn State Children's Hospital. Her mom, Stacy, recalls "Her skin was almost transparent. We could see her heart beating in her chest, and her eyes were fused shut." Just before she delivered Addison, Stacy was on bed rest watching our Telethon, which raised money for the same incubators Addison would soon need. "It was very reassuring to see that funding would help babies like Addison," says Stacy.



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Lakeisha & Lelani Lebanon

These miracle sisters are both fighters! At just 10 months old, Lakeisha was diagnosed with leukemia. During her 15 hospital stays and 23 trips to the emergency room, Child Life helped Lakeisha through play therapy. Lakeisha is now cancer free! Lelani was diagnosed with hydrocephalus, a buildup of fluid on the brain. Today, both are healthy and pursuing their creative passions.



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2016
BRAIN SURGERY
FOR A CHIARI
MALFORMATION



2018
STARTED
MIDDLE SCHOOL



2018
LIVESTREAMED
MINECRAFT FOR EXTRA LIFE



Christopher Duncannon

Christopher fell and suffered a concussion. During his treatment, doctors discovered he had Chiari Malformation Type 1, a neurological disorder where part of the brain falls out of the skull into the spinal area. Christopher underwent brain surgery. To help him recover, Child Life continuously encouraged him to sit up for activities and visit the playroom to regain mobility. His favorite game is Minecraft, and when we asked him to stream his gaming during our 24-hour Extra Life marathon, he said, "I've wanted to do that my whole life!"



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Madeline York

In October 2015, Madeline's babysitter accidentally forgot to put Madeline in the car and backed the car over her. Madeline was flown by Life Lion to Penn State Children's Hospital where she was treated for lacerations to her lungs, kidney, and liver and multiple pelvic and foot fractures. She spent eight days in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. Once discharged, Madeline needed physical therapy to relearn to walk. Madeline is proof that accidents happen, but so do miracles!



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NICU
GRADUATE



HEART PATIENT



ROCK STAR



Lilly York Haven

Lilly was born at 29 weeks after her mom, Wendy, was in a horrific auto accident. Lilly suffered a brain hemorrhage and needed heart surgery. Wendy was also critically injured. Unable to move her neck, nurses held up a mirror so Wendy could see Lilly in her arms. As the only hospital in Pennsylvania to provide both a Level 1 (highest) pediatric and adult trauma unit, Lilly's family is grateful that both mom and daughter could be together during their treatment and recovery. Today, Lilly loves to dance to rock music and help kids like her as our 2019 CMN Hospitals Champion for Penn State Children's Hospital.



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2016
LAST OF 21
ABDOMINAL
SURGERIES



2017
FINALLY ABLE TO
EAT BY MOUTH



2017
GETS ANKLE
BRACES AND
WALKS THE
NEXT DAY!



Emma Harrisburg

Emma was born with severe abnormalities in her bowels, which required 21 surgeries. She spent three months in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and five months in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. In 2017, she was finally cleared to eat by mouth, and just one day after getting her ankle braces, she took her first steps! Emma receives ongoing therapies, but is continuing to meet developmental milestones. She loved visiting Disney World with her family!



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