



Izzy is Making Strides!



Cyndi and Sam were over the moon when she delivered two healthy identical twin girls, Isabelle (Izzy) and Olivia. Even though the twins were born at 30 weeks, doctors assured their parents they were healthy baby girls. However, as they watched the girls grow, Cyndi noticed that Izzy was not meeting her milestones like her sister. She pushed for answers even though everyone insisted things were fine and that is when she found Easter Seals, the light at the end of her tunnel.

"Easter Seals met my needs by validating my feelings that something wasn't right. They listened to me. If you know something is wrong, fight for it. Easter Seals is the place to start," Cyndi says. "Easter Seals took a one-year-old who couldn't do anything for herself and gave her independence. She has made significant strides with Easter Seals."

Diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy, Izzy was unable to speak, sit up, eat foods other than pureed foods, or play with her sister when she started at Easter Seals. After just a couple of months, Izzy said her first word "mommy", which melted Cyndi's heart.

"Before speech therapy with Easter Seals, Izzy didn't speak or form words," Cyndi says. "Now she can express her needs where before she would get frustrated. I love all the therapists. I know they have plenty of children they treat, but it's like Izzy is the only child they are treating. They don't treat Izzy differently because of her disability and neither do we. We treat Izzy just like Olivia. They treat her like any other child."

Now at age two and a half, with speech, physical and occupational therapies, Izzy is able to talk, sit up, walk with the assistance of a gait trainer (a device that gives Izzy support at her hips allowing her to walk) and is working on building muscle strength to one day walk with a walker. She has also recently obtained a power wheelchair to further increase her independence.

A trusted provider of children's therapy services for more than 65 years, Easter Seals Delaware & Maryland's Eastern Shore specializes in treating children ages birth through eighteen years with a variety of challenges. To learn more about how Easter Seals helps children and adults with disabilities, call 1-800-677-3800 or visit www.de.easterseals.com.