



November 22, 2018

Dear Friend,

It is amazing how your vision for **the future can change in an instant**. That's what happened when my triplets were born early at just 25 weeks, weighing just a few pounds each.

I was devastated when, shortly after the girls were born, Corinne passed away from a rare heart defect, and Addison and Jocelyn both suffered brain bleeds. Words can't express the pain and fear I felt. As I grieved the loss of Corinne, I was also told that **if Jocelyn and Addison survived, the bleeding would cause cerebral palsy**, a life-long disability caused by brain damage near the time of birth.

I was overwhelmed. At that point, I just needed the doctors to save my two babies.

Thankfully, Addison and Jocelyn did not meet the same fate as my little Corinne. However, I couldn't help but think about how living with cerebral palsy would impact their lives. Would they be able to walk, run, jump and play? Would I ever hear them say, "I love you, mommy?"

When Addison and Jocelyn were discharged from the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, I was referred to UCP of Orange County (UCP-OC) where they began programs like physical and occupational therapy, which they still receive today.

Your donation to UCP-OC will help children like Addison and Jocelyn reach their full potential. These programs wouldn't be possible without support from generous people like you.

Now at four years old, I can't get them to sit still or stay quiet for long, but I wouldn't want it any other way. UCP-OC helped my girls improve their mobility and find their voices, allowing me to hear them say "I love you mommy" after all.

I feel so lucky that my girls were able to access UCP-OC's amazing programs immediately after I was referred. **Now, UCP-OC has a waitlist of over 200 children who need their services.** I can't imagine how painful it is for parents to have to wait months to help their child reach their full potential.

Your contribution today will allow children to get the services they need at the most impactful stage of development. During this holiday season, I hope you will donate to UCP-OC so that children like Addison and Jocelyn can receive the support they need to live a Life Without Limits.

With love and appreciation,

Darcie Stress

P.S. Your tax-deductible donation will help children with disabilities like Addison and Jocelyn reach their full potential and live a Life Without Limits. Thank you!





“A casual onlooker would not know that my daughters have cerebral palsy.”



From the NICU to their first therapy session, from limited use of their hands to making sandcastles at the beach, UCP-OC has truly empowered my girls to live a Life Without Limits.

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