



May, 2011

I simply cannot put into words how grateful I am to have received the grant from Cradle of Hope. It allowed my daughter and me to remain in our home while I continued to look for work and take care of her.

My pregnancy was healthy and normal. As it came to an end, I went in for a routine checkup to find out I was in early labor. My baby's heart rate soared from 140 beats-per-minute to 300 bpm. I was rushed into the operating room for an emergency C-section. I have never felt more helpless and it would be two days before I could hold my daughter, Makenzie. She was born with 'Supraventricular Tachycardia', meaning that her heart can sometimes beat much more rapidly than normal.

As Makenzie's mom, I was trained to be her first responder and was thoroughly educated on her heart condition. Part of that training involved learning how to convert her heart rhythm at home.

The grant from Cradle of Hope paid for my rent and allowed me to spend the precious time with Makenzie that I needed to during her hospitalization and beyond. Makenzie is now three months old and is doing great! She is on a new medication that has been working to keep her heart rhythm normal. Her growth and development show she is thriving.

Thank you for giving me that time with my daughter!

Katie

