

Julie Pelletier
Cape Elizabeth

In April of 2018, we had our third child, Claire. She benefited from the Maine newborn screening panel, which led us to her diagnosis of cystic fibrosis at only five weeks old. She's thriving due to the comprehensive care and attention provided by the Maine Medical Partners Division of Pulmonary Medicine, the Maine Medical Center Specialty Pharmacy Program, and the social workers, respiratory therapists, physical therapists, research coordinators, nutritionists and nurses who we see on an almost monthly basis.

The Children With Special Health Needs Assistance Program has been tangible evidence to us that the state of Maine is deeply invested in ensuring access to care for all children and infants with these unexpected and complex medical conditions. Despite having medical insurance, frequent copays and out of pocket responsibilities for specialty care, non-generic medication and durable medical equipment add up for our family; the CSHN Assistance Program has lightened that financial burden from our family and have helped us keep Claire healthy and compliant with her medical treatments.

We have this always felt fortunate that Claire was born in the state of Maine. We hope to see her access still considered for the Children With Special Health Needs programs.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Julie and Scott Pelletier, Claire's parents