



American
Heart
Association.



MEET BOWEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S HEART HERO, CHASSIDY!

Chassidy's amazing story,
as told by her courageous
and loving mother...



Chassidy is an active and normal seven-year-old, as many would portray. Chassidy was born with a congenital heart condition called Double Outlet Right Ventricle, a form of hypoplastic left heart. I was nineteen weeks gestation with Chassidy when I got the terrible news that one of her ventricles looked a lot smaller than the other. The only thing that I could feel was true heartbreak. I had no idea of what that meant for me or for my baby.

Chassidy was born at exactly 39 weeks. A few days post-delivery she coded and I knew quite then that this road we were traveling was not going to be easy. Chassidy had her first surgery, the Norwood at just one week old. Her second surgery, the Glenn was performed when she was five months old. She completed her corrective procedures in 2015 at the tender age of four with the Fontan. The Fontan stage was the hardest of them all. Seeing my daughter in so much pain was devastating because the only thing I could do was pray and motivate her while she successfully recovered.

Chassidy is now in the second grade and is as active as ever. She was totally overjoyed when she learned that we were adding to our family. Her baby brother Nathan was born last year and she has enjoyed being a big sister greatly. Although, she still faces many challenges, in her short time here on this earth she had succeeded immensely past my greatest expectations.

My hope in sharing Chassidy's story is to encourage other parents to keep the faith and to show them that they can persevere through heart disease. I hope to also inspire those who may not know the importance of Jump Kids Heart Challenge. Essential research for heart disease, such as the one my daughter has, is necessary because it can open doors to information that I may not have had even just seven years ago.

I encourage you all to tap into your own ability to ensure continuous heart health.

As the largest private funding source for cardiovascular disease and stroke research next to the federal government, the AHA continues to fund research for medicines and treatments to improve the overall health of heart patients like Chassidy.



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