

Child:

Joslynn Belle Trausch  
March 5, 2009  
3 pounds 7 ounces  
29 weeks premature

Parents:

Andrew Trausch  
Custom Applicator, Cargill  
Roseland, NE

Erin Trausch  
Stay at home mom  
Roseland, NE

Grandparents:

Catherine Rinn  
Roseland, NE

Norb and Kathy Trausch  
Hastings, NE

Hobbies:

Books, playing with her big brother and being outside.

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*"My first thought after seeing her was there is no possible way a baby that small can survive..."*

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# Reflections

from a

## march of dimes ambassador family

My husband, Andrew, and I, and our three-year old son, Taiton, were anxiously awaiting the arrival of our daughter in late May. It was a long, hard journey to even get pregnant again, and who knew it would end so suddenly and abruptly.

While shopping for Valentines gifts for our sons pre-school class, I suddenly wasn't feeling so great, and noticed some spotting. After a quick visit to the Dr. Office and then to the local hospital, it was best decided to transport me by ambulance to Omaha's Nebraska Medical Center to be put on strict bed rest. This was a three hour trip away from all friends and family. This was such a tough time for our family. My husband and son would come and visit on Friday night and leave Sunday afternoons. It was like ripping my heart every time to say goodbye till the next visit. This is when The **March of Dimes** made such a huge impact. The NICU Family Support Specialist became a regular visitor of mine to help me emotionally to prepare for what may come our way.

After four long weeks on bed rest, only being able to get out of bed for a short shower and one wheelchair ride a day, the scary news came that our daughter's umbilical cord had prolapsed and she was in serious danger. The doctors explained the dangers of remaining pregnant, but also the hard fight for a baby being born at just barely 28 weeks. Later that afternoon our beautiful baby girl, Joslynn Belle, was born weighing in at 3lbs 7ozs, and 15" long. My first thought after seeing her was there is no possible way a baby that small can survive, I thought the worst. Her battle was just beginning. She had severe apnea, Bradycardias, and a Grade I brain bleed. We had many ups and downs. It was hard to keep a smile after being told something positive, only to follow with the negative. After only being 10 days old, we were told that Joslynn had a condition called Periventricular Luekomalacia (PVL) and that she would be high risk for Cerebral Palsy.

Joslynn had a full 57 days in the NICU, when we could FINALLY return home as a family, all four of us together, made that three-hour ride home. Joslynn is now almost two years old, and yes has been recently diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy.



Before Joslynn, we were like many who are not fully aware of how The **March of Dimes** helps every baby born. We are truly blessed to be a part of something so much bigger than us, and as one of the **March of Dimes** Ambassador families, we look forward to spreading that awareness, and give back to a mission that impacts so many!

