



fondation en cœur

Sarah's Story

“Thomas and I are happy to act as ambassadors for the En Cœur Foundation, an incredible organization that provided us with invaluable support during our stay in the hospital.

Following his birth in May 2015, we discovered Thomas's congenital heart defect: a bicuspid aortic valve (the same defect was recently detected in me) which, in his case, led to severe aortic stenosis of his left ventricle. From his 4th day of life, we were taken care of by the incredible pediatric cardiology team of the CHUL in Quebec City. The close monitoring of the first weeks predicted a stable condition. However, during a follow-up appointment, when Thomas was only 3 months old, we were told that the situation had evolved very quickly and was now critical.

Intensive care for our baby: hospitalization, catheterization and open-heart surgery. It's his heart that needs fixing, but it's mine that's bleeding. A dagger in the chest. Our stay lasted 32 days; more than a month away from home during which the En Cœur Foundation supported and reassured us daily. A relief for the worried and distraught new parents that we were.

Now 6 years old, our big boy is doing very well, but he will have to undergo more open-heart surgeries in the future to replace his aortic valve. It's reassuring to know that the En Cœur Foundation and its extraordinary volunteers will once again be there for us.”

