

From that day forward, I realized that CAH is a serious condition and one that would keep my beautiful newborn baby in and out of the NICU for the first year of her life. The following year was spent trying to regulate her meds to get her well enough to have surgery. I never felt confident in her doctor's care then I came across the CARES Foundation and we referred to her amazing team of doctors that she has now. Without Dr. Karen Su and Dr. Dix Poppas in our lives, I don't know where we would be today! Prior to having these angels in our lives, Hails was over-medicated and treated by doctors who were pretty much googling their way through my daughter's condition.

Four months ago, Hailey had her surgery and it was one of the most trying times in our lives but I am so glad that we chose to do it. I always knew my little Chippy was strong because she has had countless bloodwork done, takes all of her meds daily like a champ, spent way too many days & nights in the hospital, and has had IV's in and out more times than I can count, but seeing her go through surgery and the healing process at such a young age, made me realize what a strong warrior she is!

CAH has reared its ugly head into my family's life. It has put us in the hospital more times than I could imagine, caused many sleepless nights, made my baby endure pain no child should ever have to feel and it brought fear into our hearts, as we never know just when a crisis might set in again. CAH may be a part of our lives but it DOES not and WILL not define us. CAH also means my entire world – Cindy, Artie, Hailey, and together we will manage this disease as a family while also appreciating the life we have and enjoying every minute we have in this beautiful world.

Hailey Jane has SWCAH but more importantly, she has a huge heart, a sweet and angelic voice, a need to always please those around her, an inquisitive nature, a kind manner, a smile that melts your heart, the strength of a warrior, and an amazing and beautiful soul!

THIS IS CAH

Cynthia Catalano

