

Newborn Screening Saving Colorado's Babies



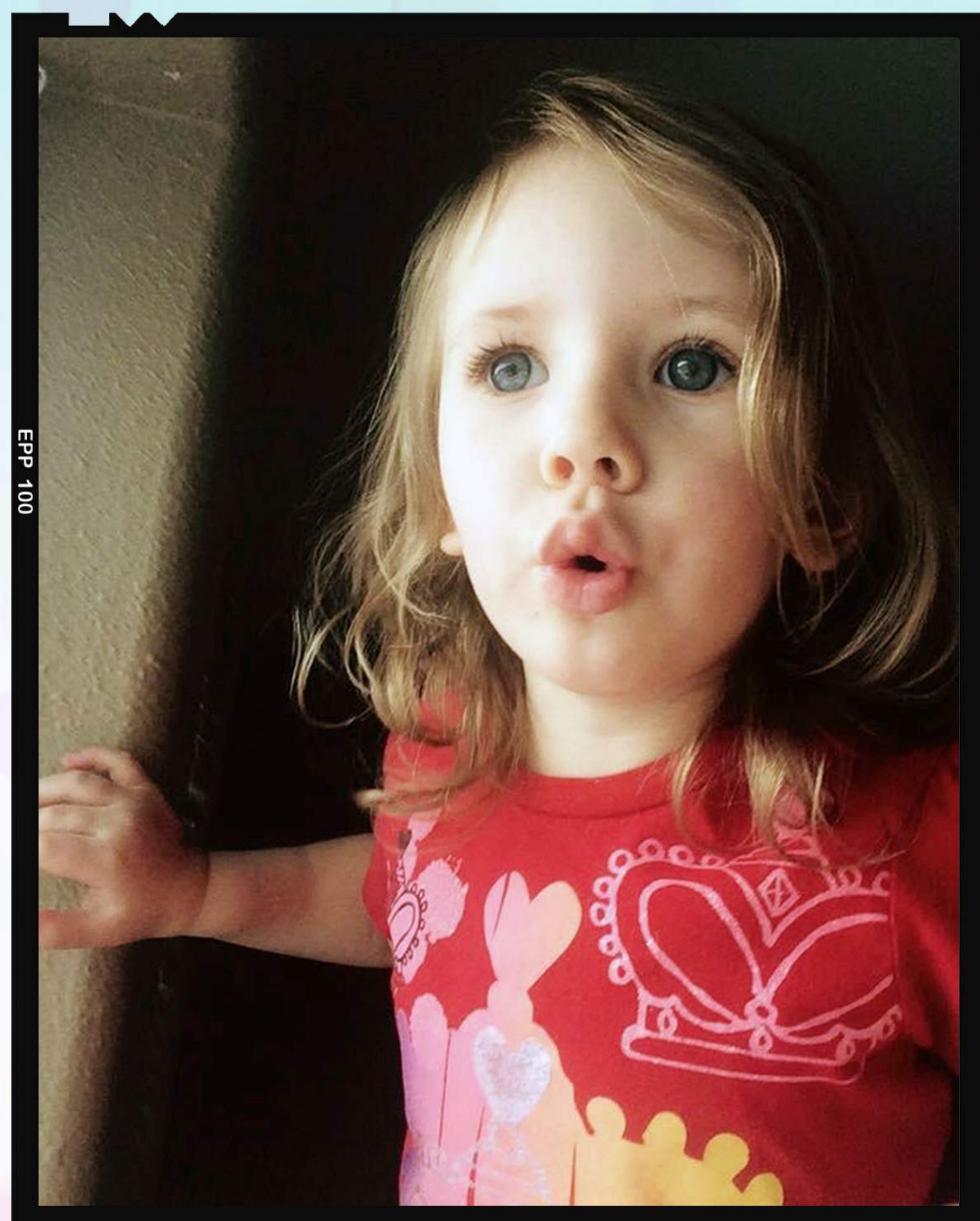
Colorado began voluntary screening for PKU in 1965, but it wasn't until 1979 when the mandated newborn screening program began. Each year, Colorado's newborn screening program receives more than 150,000 samples, performs 900,000 analyses for over 35 disorders, and makes on average 1,000 reports of abnormal screening results to providers. Since 1979, more than 2 million babies have been screened and 1,677 babies have been diagnosed. Additionally, approximately 120 babies are identified every year as deaf or hard of hearing through Colorado's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program.

No Story is the Best Story

"The wonderful thing about my daughter's story is that there is no story. Because of newborn screening..."

Honey's daughter, Maren, was full-term and an easy delivery. She ate, slept, and made all the right noises. The doctors and nurses agreed: she was beautiful, strong and healthy. But all the time, inside Maren's tiny body, acids and toxins were slowly building up to dangerous levels, putting her at risk of severe brain damage or even death.

Not quite two weeks after Maren was born, Honey got a call. It was a local doctor asked to contact her by a geneticist in Denver. Some numbers on Maren's newborn screening were higher than normal. The newborn screening had picked up evidence of a rare condition, propionic acidemia. Maren had been born without an essential enzyme required to break down proteins. Every kind of food, including breast milk, was like a poison to Maren. But newborn screening helped catch it in time. With treatment and a special diet, Maren would live — even thrive.



Scan the code
for more of
Maren's story



Newborn Screening: Saving Minnesota's Babies



Minnesota began a newborn screening program in 1965. Each year, our public health laboratory screens every one of the 68,000 babies born in the state for genetic conditions. Hearing loss is tested soon after birth at the hospital or birthing center.

Over the last 20 years, Minnesota has screened 1,403,187 babies, of whom 2,772 tested positive for a genetic condition or hearing loss (verified data for 1991-2011).

The Minnesota Twins: A Homerun for Newborn Screening

Grace and Sam are twins born in Minnesota who are now busy doing all the things normal two-year-olds do – learning new words, playing with dolls, making truck sounds, and climbing on everything. But these twins are different from most Minnesota children: They have PKU, a condition that can cause lifelong intellectual disability if not identified and treated promptly with a special diet.

Fortunately, Minnesota's public health lab detected their condition, and a team of local healthcare providers and genetic specialists followed with effective treatment. Says their mom, "We are so fortunate that our children were born in a time and place where a simple test saved their lives."



Scan the code for
more of Grace and
Sam's story



Newborn Screening

Saving Lives Creating Futures



Beginning with PKU, North Carolina began its statewide screening program in 1966. Over the decades, the program has expanded to screen for 40 disorders due to advances in technology and medical interventions. The North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health (NCSLPH) currently performs newborn screening on all infants born in North

Carolina. Annually, North Carolina tests approximately 135,000 specimens, screening over 118,000 newborns. In 2014, approximately 230 infants with disorders or traits were detected as a result of the screening process.

History of Testing at the NCSLPH

- 1966 – Phenylketonuria (PKU)
- 1979 – Primary Hypothyroidism (CH)
- 1987 – Hemoglobinopathies (Non-universal)
- 1988 – Galactosemia (GAL)
- 1989 – Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (CAH)
- 1994 – Hemoglobinopathies (Universal)
- 1999 – Tandem Mass Spectrometry (25 Amino Acid, Organic Acid, & Fatty acid Oxidation disorders)
- 2004 – Biotinidase Deficiency (BIO)
- 2009 – Cystic Fibrosis (CF)
- 2015 – Tyrosinemia Type 1 (TYR1)
Malonic Acidemia (MAL)
Argininemia (ARG)

