Owen and Noah's Story

by Natasha and Grant

As first-time parents, when you dream of welcoming a new addition, you imagine cuddles, family time and lots of fun firsts. I was only 28 weeks and five days along when our twins, Owen and Noah, came into the world at 7:30 am on September 22, 2021. They were rushed to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and we didn't get to see them until 5:00 pm that day. It would be five days later before we were allowed to hold them.

Our first visit to the NICU to see our little boys, Noah at 2.25lbs and Owen at 3.5lbs, was terrifying. They were completely dependent on equipment to breathe. They were so little. So helpless. But once we met the respiratory team, we knew wholeheartedly that they were doing everything they possibly could to help our babies. We saw what they were capable of. They carefully explained all the equipment to us and answered all the questions we had. Once we were comfortable with that part of it, we knew we could handle it.

Noah was lucky and only needed respiratory help for a short period of time, but Owen had more serious lung issues and spent almost eight months at the Janeway receiving respiratory care. I'm sure there isn't a piece of equipment there that we didn't use!

But through it all we truly believed that in the end they would be ok. Without the Janeway, without the NICU, without the respiratory department, without these resources, our two little boys wouldn't be here.

Now, at a year old, our boys are growing and getting stronger each day. They are two absolute bundles of joy and as much as our Janeway family made last Christmas a special one, we are looking forward to our first Christmas at home.

Thank you for supporting families like ours, kids like Owen and Noah, and the amazing team at the Janeway this holiday season.

"They were scared. They were worried. Not only did they have one child in NICU they had two there. Especially Owen who was so challenging. I can cry thinking of what they went through because I put myself in their shoes as a mom. It's comforting to know I could be there for them and other families at one of their darkest times."

Kim Burry, Respiratory Therapist,
who cared for Owen and Noah at the Janeway