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FRONT





Meet Tanvi

When Nick and Julie brought their 21-month-old daughter Tanvi home from India after a long road to adoption, it soon became clear to them that a new journey was about to begin. Tanvi had never seen a doctor and was extremely malnourished, weighing only 14 pounds at almost 2 years old. After being home for only two days, Tanvi's needs became urgent and Nick and Julie took her to the emergency room at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Tanvi has caudal regression syndrome, a rare disorder in which the lower end of the spine doesn't develop properly in the womb. She was born without a sacrum, missing some vertebrae, and she had other anomalies that required reconstructive surgery.

Tanvi is now 3 years old. She has had a total of four surgeries to date, and she is learning to use a walker with the help of physical therapy. Her needs will be lifelong, and there may be more surgery in her future, but she's taking it all in stride and already surpassing expectations.

"The first time I saw her walk on the walker, I was just blown away. I started crying—she put that walker on her, and she just took off," Nick says. He sums it up perfectly; "I have seen miracles happen in her life already. Just seeing her walk on her walker, seeing her sit up for the first time, just seeing her go from being so malnourished to being so healthy...We've seen one miracle after another."

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John Smith,

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As one of the country's leading not-for-profit pediatric healthcare organizations, Children's is committed to making kids better today and healthier tomorrow.