

Davey Jean

“Not only did Valley Children’s save Davey Jean’s life, but they also changed our lives. We were treated like family.”

– Brittney Stanley, Davey Jean’s mother

Brittney Stanley’s baby hadn’t even been born, yet she was facing the fight of her life.

Tests showed Davey Jean had serious heart defects – a condition known as tetralogy of Fallot with absent pulmonary valve syndrome. She would need almost immediate corrective surgery, so her worried parents quickly turned to Valley Children’s.

“We grew up with the Hospital,” Stanley said.
“We love that Hospital.”

Valley Children’s medical team was involved before Davey Jean was born. Her first diagnosis was tetralogy of Fallot, or four congenital defects that affect the heart function. The defects – a hole between chambers, an enlarged right ventricle, a narrowing of the pulmonary artery and an overriding or misplaced aorta – restrict the heart’s ability to move blood to the body and lungs.

She also was diagnosed with absent pulmonary valve syndrome due to a deformed pulmonary valve that compromised blood flow to her lungs. The two diagnoses occur in just one of every 25,000 births.

Shortly after her birth in December 2013, Davey Jean was transported to Valley Children’s, where she responded so well to treatment that doctors delayed a corrective procedure to give her – and her heart – time to grow.

In March 2014, pediatric cardiothoracic surgeons Dr. Malcolm MacDonald and Dr. Frank Hanley performed surgery. They repaired the tetralogy without installing an artificial valve – allowing Davey Jean to indefinitely delay another open-heart surgery. She will need a replacement as demands increase on her heart.

At Valley Children’s, Davey Jean has received care from several departments ranging from genetics to orthopaedics. Davey Jean is missing a small section of chromosome 22 – a condition known as 22q11.2 deletion syndrome, which can produce heart-related and other health problems.

Today, Davey Jean is an energetic toddler who is “doing great,” her mom said. “She’s an amazing little kid.”

Futures Worth Fighting For.