## Ways to Help

We are in need of generous hearts who can support our annual 5k run to raise money and awareness of CHDs, help with fundraising efforts throughout the year, and share in our overall mission.

Volunteers are the heart of our foundation. If you would like to join our volunteer family, please let us know. We would love to have you share your time and talents with Lexiam Heart Foundation.

To volunteer, visit our website and fill out the Volunteer Interest Survey.



### Apply for Help

We want to be an encouragement, provide help, and offer resources. If your family has been affected by CHDs you can apply for support. Please visit the Request Support page on Lexiam Heart Foundation's website. Lexiam Heart Foundation Board of Directors

Brittany Behenna Griffith Co-Founder/President

Leslee Schneider Co-Founder/Vice-President

> Courtney Grassham Secretary

> > Zach Mikelson Board Member

Mary Ann Collings Board Member

Visit Us Online www.lexiamheartfoundation.org



### **Lexiam Heart Foundation**

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Providing support to children and families in New Mexico affected by Congenital Heart Defects



www.lexiamheartfoundation.org

# **Our Story**

We chose the name *Lexiam* to highlight the two sides of Congenital Heart Defects (CHDs).



The first part tells the story of Lexi, who is fighting the daily battle of CHD. She has Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome, meaning the left side of her heart didn't form correctly. Lexi has to routinely go to doctor appointments, get tests done, weekly blood draws,

and she has had three open heart surgeries.

Liam, for whom the last part of *Lexiam* is derived, lost his earthly battle the day he was born. He was diagnosed with Double Outlet Right Ventricle, Transposition of the Great Arteries, Ventricular Septal Defect, and Pulmonary Stenosis. He went through open heart surgery just hours



Liam

after birth, but passed away at 21 hours old. His parents continue to honor Liam by raising awareness of CHDs.

Our story doesn't end here. We have turned our tragedy into our life's purpose. By starting Lexiam Heart Foundation, we have taken action, and we are here to tell you that you, too, can do that which you think is impossible.

# What is CHD?

Present at birth, a Congenital Heart Defect (CHD) results when the structure of the heart or blood vessels near the heart don't develop normally in utero. CHDs can involve the walls of the heart, the valves of the heart, and the arteries and the veins near the heart. They can disrupt the flow of the blood through the heart.

### **Facts About Congenital Heart Defects**

- 1. The two types of heart disease in children are "congenital" and "acquired."
- 2. Congenital Heart Defects are the #1 birth defect in America.
- 3. One in 100 babies are born with a CHD. This means that about 40,000 newborns are affected each year.
- Approximately 25% of children born with a CHD will need surgery or other intervention to survive.
- 5. CHDs are approximately 60 times more prevalent than all childhood cancers combined.
- 6. CHDs are a leading cause of birth defect associated infant illness and death.



## **Our Mission**

The mission of Lexiam Heart Foundation is to provide support to children and families affected by Congenital Heart Defects, with priority given to families residing in New Mexico, through financial assistance, community resources to support education and emotional wellness, and to raise public awareness of Congenital Heart Defects.



### 501(c)(3) Organization

Lexiam Heart Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your gift is tax-deductible.

#### **Individual Gifts**

All donations, large or small, are appreciated. You may make your gift "In Honor of" or "In Memory of" your heart warrior. Put your heart warrior's name on the memo line of your check.

#### **Corporate Sponsorship**

Make a statement as a company by supporting "Heart Warriors" throughout New Mexico. A sponsorship packet is available on our website, under the Donate tab.

### Legacy Giving

Make a lasting gift by remembering Lexiam Heart Foundation in your will or living trust.

### Amazon Smile

Lexiam is partnered with Amazon Smile. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible Amazon Smile purchases to the charity of your choice.