



Clinic for
Special Children®

“We deeply appreciate the Clinic’s compassionate support
during an intense time for our family.”

December 2024

Dear Friend,

After the sudden loss of their son, Nolan, **the Martin family was left with many unanswered questions.** Five and a half years later their newborn daughter, Jemima, was suspected of having a serious, rare genetic immune system disorder. The Martin family quickly called the Clinic for help.

In just a short amount of time, **the Clinic’s laboratory and clinical teams were able to provide the Martin family with an answer for Jemima** – a change in a gene called RAG2. But our team didn’t stop there. We were able to use a DNA sample to confirm that Nolan also had the RAG2 genetic variant. It was also determined that Jemima’s surviving brother, five-year-old Owen, had the RAG2 variant but hadn’t shown symptoms yet.

The diagnosis wasn’t just the answer to a medical mystery, it enabled treatment. Now our team could **collaborate with the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia on a treatment plan** for Jemima and Owen. Since RAG2 can greatly diminish the body’s ability to fight off infections, Jemima and Owen received bone marrow transplants to help restore their immune systems.

The Martin family’s story demonstrates **how the Clinic can quickly and affordably find answers for families** and ensure they get the **high-quality and lifesaving care they need.** Jemima and Owen’s stories are a testament to the Clinic’s ability to collaborate with other leading experts and make a real difference for families.

Our work is only possible through generous supporters like you. Over 60% of our annual budget is from philanthropic sources like donations, fundraisers, auctions, and grants, and **no family is turned away based on their ability to pay.** Your support allows us to provide care to over 1,700 active patients and offer genetic testing through our on-site laboratory **at just a fraction of what it costs to provide.**

We hope you’ll consider a gift to the Clinic so families like the Martins can continue receiving affordable, compassionate, and cutting-edge care.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued support.

Sincerely,

Adam D. Heaps, MS, MBA
Executive Director