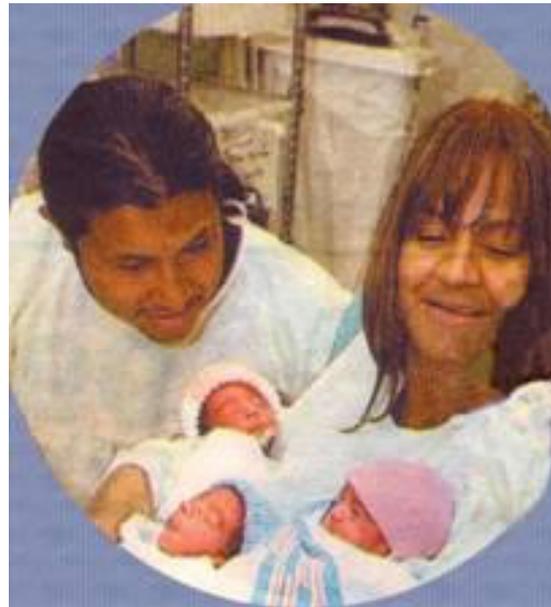


# Marisol's 30 Week Triplets

I would like to share with you the story of our triplets. My husband and I both have 2 children each from previous relationships. He has 2 boys ages 4 and 6 and I also have 2 boys ages 11 and 9. After we got married we decided we wanted to have a child of our own so after being together for 3 years and not being successful we found a great doctor and he said it was possible to have a child but we would have to go through IVF, so I started saving all of our pennies and we finally went through with it. On our first try we became pregnant. When I went in for my ultrasound they discovered twins and we were ecstatic. And then 1 week later I went in for another ultrasound and the doctor discovered another heart beat and that is how we started our journey as parents of supertwins.

After a few months and many doctor visits, I was told I could lose my babies (at 5 months) I was devastated. My doctor said I needed a cerclage so I went in to the hospital and had this procedure done and then everything was good for a few days. I wasn't feeling great so I was put on bed rest and I thought I was going crazy from just laying there all day. That is when I discovered MOST (Mothers of Supertwins)- thank God. I had a terbutaline pump in my thigh and I had to get a system at home to monitor my contractions, then one day (Friday night) I was sitting on the couch ready to order a pizza for dinner and everything got very dark and I got very dizzy (at 30 weeks pregnant) so my husband called my doctor and he said to rush me to the emergency room (that was at about 8.30 pm). My doctor examined me and said that baby A was in distress and I was contracting. Every time I contracted, baby A's heart rate would get very high so we had an emergency c-section and at 1AM my babies came into this world. First at 1:09 AM girl, next 1:10 AM, boy and then came baby C 1:11 AM girl. They were rushed to the NICU where they were put on ventilators. They were all very small. Baby A (a girl) was 2lbs 8 oz, baby B (a boy) was 3.1 lbs and baby C (a girl) was 2.9 lbs. I didn't get to see them for 24 hrs I was going crazy not knowing how my babies were and not being able to look at them or hold them. The doctors would tell me to rest and get some sleep but I couldn't without seeing my babies first. Thank



God they were only on ventilators for approximately ten days then they just needed to gain weight so they were in the NICU for only 40 days. They all came home together.

It was so hard at first since it was just my husband and I to take care of them. We never had any help because we both have no family in New York, but we got through it. Everyone was doing fine. We went through the usual for preemie babies: diarrhea, colds and many sleepless nights, then one of my daughters contracted RSV, but luckily she did not have to be hospitalized. They all started growing and changing and developing into their there own little personalities. I always noticed one of my daughters (baby c) was not thriving and developing like the others. She would not roll over. She would eat less. She felt very stiff when I would pick her up. She always arched her self backwards when I would hold her and always kept her hands fisted and when I mentioned it to her pediatrician he said it is normal because she was a triplet she was probably very cramped in the belly but she would outgrow this. But as time went on she didn't get better so I found a neurologist and took her at 10 months to be evaluated. At this time she had already been receiving PT through early intervention for 3 months but I did not see any improvement, so the neurologist looked at me and said that she has mild cp, and that he will see her in 6 months

and dismissed me like it was nothing. No big deal. I was a wreck. I was not satisfied with this doctor so I went to another one who was a lot better in the way he spoke with me and explained things to me. He scheduled her for an MRI, which she will be getting in a week.

Meanwhile, she is receiving PT, OT, Special Ed and feeding therapy. She is such a little trooper. Well that's where we are now with our beautiful little family. It has been quite a year!

*Marisol from NY*

