

# Stories of Impact

**Owen** was diagnosed with profound bilateral hearing loss at just six weeks old. Shortly after Owen's diagnosis, we learned Owen would be a candidate for cochlear implants. With the guidance of incredible doctors and therapists, Owen was implanted at 9.5 months old and activated a few weeks later with his new implants. Today, almost 4 years later, Owen is thriving with his cochlear implants. He continues to amaze us with his speech development and overall confidence. Owen loves the beach and the ocean has become his happy place! Owen is set to finish one more year of preschool and we know he will continue to make us proud!



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**Leland** is 9 years old and loves reading, spending time with his friends, being outside and art. He is a smart and kind young man who always offers a helping hand to those around him. He hopes to one day be a social worker when he grows up. Leland also plays soccer, basketball and is looking forward to joining the ski club in the winter. We are forever grateful for the amazing foundation that sound start babies helped us build for our boy!

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**Audrey** has been implanted bi-laterally with cochlear implants since she was 18 months old. She is now a few months shy of her 5th birthday and has made amazing progress on her journey with hearing loss. She asks lots of questions, tells us all about her day and has memorized several of her favorite Franklin the Turtle books, finishing our sentences or correcting us if we miss a page. She also loves playing chase or hide and seek and dancing. She is an animal lover, a great big sister, and her smile brightens any room. We are so proud of all her accomplishments and can't wait to see how she surprises us next.



**Please make a gift today to Sound Start Foundation to help us continue to serve babies and toddlers with hearing loss throughout New Jersey.**

**Use the enclosed donation envelope or the QR code to make a donation at [www.soundstartfdn.org/donate](http://www.soundstartfdn.org/donate)**

*SCAN ME*