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Support

The Sutherland Family



RMHC
Philadelphia Region

Sasha Sutherland, from Barbados, was overjoyed when she learned she would be having twins. However, during a routine check-up, the doctors diagnosed her with severe preeclampsia and signs of twin to twin transfusion, which could cause serious health risks for her and the babies. Without much time to prepare, Sasha and her husband, Keron, got on a plane and headed to Philadelphia for a critical surgery, which could not be performed in Barbados.

A few days after surgery, some of Sasha's organs were not responding. To save her life, she would need to deliver her two babies at just 23 weeks. She delivered two baby girls, Kaiya Faith and Kalia Grace. Unfortunately, two days later, Kaiya passed away.

Kalia spent the next 6 months in the NICU while Sasha stayed at the Ronald McDonald House on Chestnut Street. Keron stayed with them for three months but then had to travel back to Barbados to be with their teenage daughter. "I don't know where we would have been had it not been for the kindness of strangers," says Sasha. "I am grateful that Kalia is alive and she will carry on her sister's memory. And I am grateful to be in a space that I can only describe as an oasis. The smiling faces of the staff and volunteers that just say 'We're here for you' even if your family is not here at this point in time. We are just eternally grateful for that."