



Félix Désilets, age 13

Suffering from immune deficiency, asthma, severe vision problems, severe sleep apnea, verbal dyspraxia, a developmental coordination disorder, an attention disorder and cardiac arrhythmia.

ENFANT SOLEIL FROM MONTÉRÉGIE

“Mom, am I going to take medication and have transfusions until I grow up?” No parent should have to answer that. When the question arises, families need to know that they are not alone and the whole community is there to support them.

Félix’s health problems appeared at seven months. He regularly suffered from viruses and various infections. As a baby, a stubborn ear infection required him to take antibiotics continuously for almost a year. Around age five, after several months of anemia, he was diagnosed with asthma. Doctors also discovered that he was suffering from an immune deficiency and serious vision problems. Because his system was not producing enough antibodies to protect him from infections, he underwent daily antibiotic treatment and needed two blood transfusions per week.

Félix’s low stamina and chronic fatigue led his family doctor to investigate possible sleep issues. He was 11 years old at the time. Tests showed that he was experiencing over 400 respiratory arrests per night. A respiratory assistance device relieved his severe apnea. A year later, other difficulties undermined his quality of life. The teenager was suffering from a verbal dyspraxia with a developmental coordination disorder and an attention disorder. Last September, he began fainting.

Several cardiac examinations revealed that the adolescent was also suffering from cardiac arrhythmia. These new diagnoses are a major obstacle in his journey.

Opération Enfant Soleil came into the Désilets family’s life at the same time as Félix’s disease. Thanks to CHU Sainte-Justine and Opération Enfant Soleil, he now has access to a smart pump funded by your donations that allows him to receive his weekly transfusions at home. This concrete assistance has improved the whole family’s quality of life.

Félix’s family joins us in thanking you for being there for him and all sick children in Quebec.

Annie Bourboin, Guillaume Désilets, Alexandre, Mélodie and Éliot

Little miracles don't happen on their own...

Visit operationenfantsoleil.ca to learn about the journeys of all the province’s Enfants Soleil through their profiles and videos.

Would you like to get involved? • Contact us: 1 877 683-2325 • oes@operationenfantsoleil.ca