

THE Trey Fry FAMILY

“Trey just relapsed. He was doing really well. He was steady enough to begin the third phase of his treatment, but then we got the results of his weekly spinal tap and there were too many cells so we’re back to square one.” For too many kids and families, this is the story they tell—the waiting game, from treatment to treatment or test to test.

But Brooke Fry tells another story too—one about how her son is in great spirits for a three-year-old with cancer, thanks to the special support Four Diamonds provides. “Music therapy is one of Trey’s favorite activities,” Brooke says. “He really brightens up during music therapy sessions with Tina and Jan. It’s like his whole energy level quadruples and he forgets about his port and the pain. He likes to play the drums. Tina will sit next to him on the mat and sing to him, and he’ll beat along on the drums. Penn State Hershey Children’s Hospital is a really special place.”

Four Diamonds provides music therapists and other unique care services, including nutritionists, social workers, psychologists, and nurse specialists, who spend time with kids like Trey every day. Trey’s family is particularly grateful for the incredible nurses at Hershey, who they lovingly refer to as “Trey’s girlfriends.” Nurse Kristin, one of Trey’s favorites, seems to bring out the best in him with her ever-positive outlook.

“One of Trey’s favorite things to do is ride the green toy tractor alongside Nurse Kristin,” Brooke says. “He’ll be hooked up to the machines, of course, and I’ll be following along behind them with the cords, but we’ll laugh and play games, and I can tell that he feels special, loved, and a part of something.” Brooke acknowledges that at Penn State Hershey Children’s Hospital, Trey is a person first and a patient second.

Nurse Kristin feels like part of the family. And as it turns out, she has a close connection to Trey’s aunt—the two played on the same basketball team in high school. It’s connections like these that assure the Fry family that they’re in the right place for Trey’s treatment. Brooke sums it up by saying, “I’m not always sure what tomorrow will bring, but we’ve got a plan and we’re surrounded by incredible people.”

