

Angel, Lynden

Insurance provides peace of mind

Angel is a bouncy, outgoing three-year-old with a penchant for developing nasty colds. That's just another part of life for most kids, but Angel isn't like most kids.

Born three weeks early with an enlarged kidney and a urinary tract infection, he is now largely healthy, but remains at risk for serious and life-threatening infections.

"If he gets a cold, it can be really dangerous for him," says Veronica, his mother. "He could get an infection again that would affect his kidney."

Angel receives his medical care at SeaMar in Lynden, Washington, and is covered by the state's Apple Health for Kids program. His older sister, Rebecca, is also covered under the program.

Veronica recently broke things off with Angel's father and the family is now living with Veronica's sister.

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"It's tough up here," says Veronica, who moved from California about a year ago. "I don't have any way to get around and there's no one to watch Angel."

As she rebuilds her life, she says the insurance her kids receive from the state gives her peace of mind and allows her to focus on other things, like finding a job and a place to live.

"With kids you never know. What would I do if something happened? Knowing they have the medical care they need gives me one less thing to worry about. I just want to focus on making a good life for my kids," says Veronica.