For the Babies

About two years ago, my youngest sister was born. It was also one of the most frightening days of my life. It started out as any normal birth should: easy delivery, excellent APGAR scores, crying, and hungry. Then two hours after being born, she stopped breathing. My family was in a panic. All I could do was sit down, get out of the doctor's way, and pray like there was no tomorrow. Thankfully, she pulled through. The doctors at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit took excellent care of her. She was kept in the NICU for observation for about a week, during which time the doctors and nurses watched over her and made sure that she did not have a relapse.

With that experience always in my mind, volunteering at the March of Dimes was an easy decision. My sister was a full-term baby, yet she had trouble when she was born. The babies that the March of Dimes helps are not full-term babies. Those little babies do not have full functioning lungs; many of their other organs are not fully developed yet. They have a much harder time just trying to survive. They are in the hospitals fighting for their lives when they don’t even know what it is to live yet.
Time is a luxury to many people, but it is essential to babies still in their wombs. They need all the time they can get. If they do not have enough time to properly develop, then they can die. It is the March of Dimes and the doctors in the NICU that help the pre-mature babies survive when they were slighted of one of the most important aspect of their lives.

It is sad to know that there are so many precious infants that must remain in the hospital for months at a time, away from their families, so they can grow as best as they can outside the womb.

It is for them that I volunteer at the March of Dimes. It is for the babies that did not get all nine months that they need and deserve. It is for the doctors that do their best to save those precious little babies. By working at the March of Dimes, I help raise awareness about pre-mature babies. I help inform others about what they can do to help those precious children and how to prevent pre-mature births from happening. Every donation that is received helps fund research that in the future could prevent pre-mature births forever. Until then, the March of Dimes stands up for those little babies that cannot stand up for themselves.

Because of my volunteer experience, I have had the opportunity to meet people who were once pre-mature babies and parents who have had pre-mature babies. Since I have firsthand experience of almost losing a precious newborn baby, I know what it feels like to have to stand there watching and not being able to do anything while your little one fights for its life. My heart truly goes out to all those mothers and to all those fathers who are right now looking into the incubator that protects their babies and helps them stay alive. Even though I am not a parent, I know how they feel. I wish I could do more to help, but this is all I can do for right now. I am
thankful there are organizations like the March of Dimes that feel the way I do and does something about it. I speak for the precious little gems that cannot speak for themselves.

My sister when she was born

My sister now