illa is a bright, fun, and loving five year old that has been attending Easterseals’ eastside Child Development Center (CDC) since she was two months old.

Willa was born with a rare disorder and spent the first three weeks of her life in the intensive care nursery. Eleven surgeries later, Willa is healthy and strong!

Willa became part of Easterseals when she was just seven weeks old. The CDC’s focus on serving children with special needs made all the difference when, in the winter of 2013, Willa was diagnosed with “failure to thrive” and had a G-tube placed.

With trained and dedicated staff, the CDC teachers learned how to keep Willa safe and healthy while she grew and played alongside her typically developing peers.

She started with an occupational therapist and physical therapists to work on her strength, coordination, and motor skills. After her incomplete cleft palette repair, Willa was also seen by a speech therapist.

While growing up at Easterseals, Willa has always been included in all classroom activities despite her medical needs, and her teachers have always provided her with amazing care.

$280,000+ worth of prescription costs has been saved through Granite United Way’s partnership with the FamilyWize discount prescription program.

United Way fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in every community.

Learn more at www.graniteuw.org.