

Hear My Voice

The Hemophilia Federation of America (HFA) is a national nonprofit organization that assists and advocates for the bleeding disorders community.



Andrew (Dad), Heidi (Mom), Jack is on the left, William is in the green coat (severe A)

For parents of children with hemophilia, the future is a constant worry. While this will always be the case, the recent healthcare reforms have provided a little bit of relief. Heidi and Andrew Forrester from Washington are the parents of William, a two-year-old with severe hemophilia A. While William was lucky enough to be covered under his father's work insurance, he had a lifetime cap of two million dollars. William's hemophilia costs the insurance company a minimum of \$120,000 a year, causing his family to have a constant worry about what would happen when he hit his lifetime cap.

But when Heidi and Andrew got their latest renewal notice, that number was gone. With no more lifetime cap, William's parents no longer have to worry quite so much. Before the healthcare reform, it troubled Heidi that she had to question every procedure done to William in an effort to extend the time he would be covered. Now he's able to join new activities with his friends and she no longer has to debate whether he should get an infusion before playing. "Now we can just infuse him whenever," she said. "He will have a lot more opportunities." Heidi and Andrew are thankful for these changes, because now, they can focus on what is best for William and his future, without the worry of a lifetime cap.