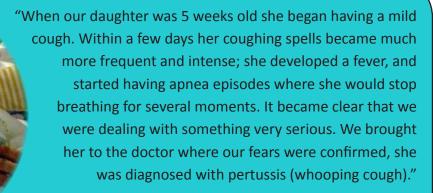
## **Stories are Powerful**



~ Emily (mom)

Stories like these show the severity of vaccine-preventable diseases and how immunizations help protect children and the community. Data and statistics are easily forgotten, but stories get remembered.

"Our son, Benjamin, is in treatment for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia—a type of cancer of the blood and bone marrow. He was just 2 years old when he was diagnosed in 2010 and is in the midst of three years (at best) of chemotherapy and steroid treatment. Ben and other people like him with weakened immune systems rely on "herd immunity" to protect them from diseases such as chickenpox, whooping cough, measles, and other vaccine-preventable diseases."



~Laura (mom)

Read these full stories and more from Minnesota parents at www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/basics/stories/index.html