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Baby Chosen Petersen Arrives as JFL's New Year's Baby for 2026

Governor Juan F. Luis Hospital welcomed its New Year's Baby, Chosen Petersen, born at 3:35 a.m. on Jan. 2 weighing 8 pounds, 2 ounces, as proud mother Chantik Griffith reflected on a challenging yet rewarding delivery supported by family and staff.

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ST. CROIX — Governor Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center is welcoming the arrival of its New Year's Baby for 2026, celebrating the birth of Baby Chosen Petersen, who was born in the early morning hours of January 2.

According to a press release issued by JFL, Baby Chosen Petersen was born at 3:35 a.m. on January 2, 2026, weighing 8 pounds, 2 ounces. Hospital officials described the birth as a moment

of celebration and optimism as the first baby born at JFL in the new year.

Proud mother Chantik Griffith described welcoming her newborn as both challenging and deeply rewarding. “It was rough, but I had a great experience,” she said. Chantik expressed gratitude for the support she received throughout labor and delivery, particularly from her mother, Diana Lewis, an employee of JFL, as well as Midwife Bruno and Aunty/Nurse Hanley, whose care and encouragement she said made a meaningful difference during the delivery.

While Chantik is still physically recovering, she shared that the journey has been emotional, especially as this is her first baby following a previous loss. Despite the challenges, she said the joy of welcoming Baby Chosen has been overwhelming. When asked to describe her newborn in one word, Chantik affectionately responded, “Greedy.”

As part of the hospital’s New Year’s Baby celebration, both mother and child received several gifts. JFL said a special basket was generously donated by Premier Baby Shop, and Chantik and Baby Chosen were also presented with matching Crucian hook bracelets from Sonya’s. The bracelet given to Baby Chosen is adjustable and can be resized as he grows, making it a keepsake intended to be cherished for years.

Chantik also extended special thanks to her mother, Diana Lewis, and expressed appreciation for the Mother-Baby Staff at JFL, recognizing their exceptional care and support during the experience.

JFL congratulated Chantik Griffith and her family on the arrival of Baby Chosen Petersen and offered wishes for health, happiness, and a bright future ahead as they begin the new year together.