



#### Mission Statement

Our Mission is to bring light in a time of sorrow. To provide a bear as a reminder of your little angel and that you are not alone, but accompanied by the thoughts and prayers of everyone who has shared in this emotion.

PO Box 212, Jenison, MI 49429 P.616.481.3727 [www.briannaleefoundation.org](http://www.briannaleefoundation.org)

Member of the Jenison - Grandville Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Non Profit, 501-c-3 federal non profit.

Volume 5 Issue 2

April 2018

### Compassionate Service Organization

Recently, sixth grade students at Hudsonville's Baldwin Street Middle School were challenged to answer the driving question: How can middle school students show the importance of a local compassion service organization? In this project-based learning opportunity, students were introduced to a number of local compassionate service organizations, investigated their top three choices, and formed groups who further researched their top pick. One amazing group of young ladies chose to learn more about the Brianna Lee Foundation. After days of research where the students - Julia, Paisley, and Kylee - explored the Brianna Lee web page, read numerous archived newsletters, and perused newspaper articles about the organization, the girls each wrote a letter from the perspective of someone who works for the Brianna Lee Foundation to a potential donor. In the letter, they needed to create a narrative story about a family who experienced a stillbirth, include facts about the Foundation and how it helps people, and offer a solution for how they could get more people to support the Brianna Lee Foundation on a continuous basis. Julia's letter voiced what she believes is the most important element of the Brianna Lee Foundation: But the Brianna Lee Foundation was there for the Walkers on that fateful night. Now, thanks to them, things are a little bit better. Emily has something to cry with, something to help her as she slowly starts to heal. Stuffed animals always listen. They never protest. They help the mothers find themselves again. All that help from a simple teddy bear. After each student crafted a letter, the group worked to create a pictographic that they could use during a class presentation. When Julia, Paisley, and Kylee presented to the class, the other students sat in utter silence as they learned about the devastating reality that some families face at a time when they had hoped to celebrate the miracle of life. Many of the students had never heard the word *stillbirth*. Following the girls' presentation, the class somberly and respectfully asked numerous questions about stillbirth and the work that the Brianna Lee Foundation does across the country to make sure that no mother leaves the hospital empty handed. Based on their research, the girls were able to respond to the inquiries of their peers, teach them about a serious topic, and show the importance of the compassionate service organization, the Brianna Lee Foundation.

The time is here for our biggest fundraiser of the year. Our golf outing. Please see the insert for sponsorship and golfing opportunities.

JUNE 2 is our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf outing and Silent Auction. At the Meadows Golf Course at Grand Valley State University. Even if you don't golf come out for our silent auction and bid on many great items.

#### DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS QUARTER

Jim and Karyl McCullough  
Larry and Martha Winsch  
John and Alison Hazzard  
Kevin and Tracey Weberg  
Jim and Bonnie Linscott  
Meade Zolman Family Dentistry  
Jim and Nancy Richey  
Mikel Llanes

Donation in Honor of Jim Miller's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday  
Rick and Sheryl Jones and  
Dave and Sue Borda



#112842719

In honor of Baby Colfescu born 2/12/18  
at Henry Ford West  
Bloomfield by John Rich



In honor of Liliana Rose by Abigail Hooper



To honor baby Williamson Daughter of Tim and Phyllis Williamson by Carol Share



Thank you for all your caring for bereaved parents with Brianna's bears for our still missed babies. Donation made by Still Missed Program of AMITA Adventist Hinsdale Medical Center.

Dear Brianna Lee Foundation,  
Good afternoon and Thank You!

I have never had a loss myself. But I have been a nurse for 24 plus years and have taken care of many women/families who have. I have even grieved with some of them as if they were my own family. I cannot imagine how painful the loss of your little angel had to have been, but what you have done for these mothers by donating the beautiful bears to hospitals, is beyond selfless!

In the approximately 2 years we've been receiving your bears at Henry Ford West Bloomfield, I feel we have given hope and some love to families by presenting these bears!

Recently we had a loss and the family was trying to decide a name for their baby. They ending up naming him "Theodore" because of the teddy bear that we gave them.

These moments are so precious and these bears mean the world in times of such grief and tragedy.

Thank You for providing hope and something to cling to for our families.

Gina & Scott Clifford

Mom and Nurse

Bereavement Coordinator Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital

