



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

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

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This article was written by a gal that I have known since she was 3 years old. She is like a daughter to me. Never would I have imaged that two gals so close to my heart (Jessica my daughter in law and Kim) would have to go through the tragic pain of losing a baby to a still birth.

Please read Kim's facebook posting and if you encounter a mom dealing with this terrible pain, just give her a hug. This hug works for dads and grandparents too!

Linda Miller

Today I'm feeling the need to share my thoughts and feelings. I haven't decided if I will do this from time to time here or if I will start a blog, but it's important and helps me to talk about Jase and this experience. Don't be afraid to talk to me or to bring up his name, yes I may cry (my baby died!), but the tears and emotions are always there, you're not bringing them up. It's your choice to read or scroll past...

It's been one month. Where has the time gone? The memorial service has passed, I picked up Jase's urn this week, the 'dust' from it all is settling. Now what? Trying to figure out how to move forward. Grieving...reality and emotions are hitting me hard.

Reading a blog today, I read a post from a friend that lost her child last August, she wrote:

"The absolute worst tragedy parents can imagine is the loss of their child. You hear of other families that lost a child and can't help but imagine yourself in that position; and the thought is always "I would never be able to handle that". I, too, had those same thoughts when hearing of other children who have died. It is something you imagine but never EVER think you would one day be in that position. Sometimes I cannot believe that I am the one that people are thinking of when shaking their head and saying "I could never do it".

How did we get here? Why were we chosen to endure this?

No matter how terrible and how painful you imagine the tragedy, it is a hundred times worse... a thousand times worse.... a million times worse." - Starr M.

Today these words she wrote are speaking to me. It's true. I NEVER EVER thought I would be in this position. The hurt and pain is a million times worse than you can imagine! I ask myself daily why us? You prepare for so many months to have your baby and in one night it all changes...hopes and dreams shattered and gone. Your life changes, then you have to figure out how to navigate the grief that is so intense.

As we continue to grieve I am thankful for our family and friends. Your outpouring of love has been amazing. We've received some sort of message whether it be a card, FB message or text daily, I am so appreciative for those words & will continue to be. Sometimes its something so simple that makes me tear up, smile or just feel the love. Your love, support and prayers remind us we are not alone in this journey.

Kim Betser

Thank You To This Quarters Donors

Brenda Terberg Fowley

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Dr. Brian Nylaan

Bob and Pat Ekberg

David and Diane Sanders in memory of Jase Betser

Jack and Sandra Reichert in memory of Jase Betser

Sara Engster in memory of Jase Betser

Barb and Bernie Stephen in memory of Jase Betser

Rick and Sheryl Jones

Tracy and Kevin Weberg

Dr. Derek Draft

Harvey and Beth Veldhouse

Welcome Texas Health Alliance Hospital of Fort Worth!

We are so excited to welcome Texas Health Alliance Hospital of Fort Worth to the Brianna Lee Family! This hospital found us through our web site. Here is a comment from the Nurse in Charge of the Bereavement Department for THA hospital

"I heard about your foundation by searching the internet for appropriate teddy bears for stillbirths, so that our heartbroken moms wouldn't have to leave the hospital empty handed. I too had a stillbirth and my mission has been helping these families during this devastating time."

Thank you, Texas Health Alliance Hospital now more moms are being supported and loved in this tragic time.

Welcome Spectrum Health Big Rapids to the Brianna Lee foundation family! We are excited to be able to help you support your moms that experience a stillbirth. Thomas Hogenson, the director of community affairs/foundation, is accepting the first shipments of teddy bears.





Thank You Nylaan Dental!

Every Tuesday, May through October, Nylaan Dental holds a Zumba for a cause event in the parking lot of his office. The profits from that night go to a selected non profit foundation. We were the non profit on July 8th. Thank you Dr Nylaan and Staff for all your continued support as well as helping in the community!

HELP US GROW

If you know of someone that works in the Bereavement Department, birthing Department or any area of the Women and Children's unit of a hospital that currently is not receiving our teddy bears, please tell them about the foundation and give them the website www.briannaleefoundation.org or have them check out our Facebook page. We would love to add more hospitals and could use your help. They can contact Linda Miller at 616 481 3727.

Contact Information

Address:

P.O. Box 212 Jenison, MI 49426

Phone # (616) 481-3727

Web site:

WWW.Briannaleefoundation.org

Like us on Facebook: Brianna Lee Foundation or

Follow us on twitter: @BriannaLeeFound

Brianna Lee Foundation Board

Linda Miller President

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Brian Miller, Jeff Miller, Jamie Wiersma, and Mackenzie Wiersma

UP COMING EVENTS

YOU ARE INVITED TO AN ANNUAL INFANT MEMORIAL SERVICE

Where: Hudsonville Reformed Church
3950 Highland Dr. Hudsonville Mi.
When: Sunday, October 12 at the 5:30 service

This will be a special service dedicated to all the little angels who went to Heaven too soon. Lanterns will be released following the service (weather permitting)! There will also be a special program printed with the bulletin. If you would like to share your baby's name, birth date (and or date of death) along with any message, verse, poem or note, please email this information to Ruth at ruthie32@sbcglobal.net. Dead line for this is October 1st! If you or someone you know has lost a baby through miscarriage, still birth and or infant death, please join us in remembering our babies! Also please come and support these moms and families as they celebrate their little angel in heaven. Any questions email Ruth at the above email address. This is a GREAT service put on by a compassionate church!

ADDYSON'S ANGEL RUN

October 11, 2014 at Hager Park in Jenison Michigan. This is a 5K run/ walk for the adults and a 100 yard fun run for the kids. Registration starts at 9:30. The kid's fun run is at 10 am and the Addyson's Angel Run starts at 10:30 am. Lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the race. Cost for the event is \$25 for adults and \$10 for kids if you pre-register for the event. Cost on the day of the run is \$35 for adults and \$15 for kids. Each participant will receive an Addyson's Angel Run T-Shirt at the event. Please make sure that you include the name of the child that you are walking/running in remembrance of as their name will be included on the back of each T-Shirt. There will also be a raffle. For more information on this event go to www.addysonsangelrun.com.

ELLA BULLIS WALK TO REMEMBER

The Walk to Remember will take place this year at Fallasburg Park in Lowell. Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 18th from 10am-12pm. Registration information will be on their website as well as on ours very soon. This is always a great gathering to remember all the little angels. There is a program and then when your child's name is announced you can release a balloon with a message to your little angel. This is a great gathering of families supporting each other.

2nd Annual Brianna Lee Foundation Golf Outing

Save the date for the 2nd Annual Golf outing, and silent auction. May 30, 2015. Watch upcoming newsletters for more information.