



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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I am writing this letter on behalf of my dearest friends, Justin & Amy VanWyk. I was made aware of your foundation recently when Amy & Justin unexpectedly lost their first child during their second trimester. My friends have been trying to grow their family for about three years now. Initially, they were told they were unable to have children of their own. Therefore, their immediate decision was to begin the process of international adoption (Justin was adopted from Korea, so this was always a plan, just a lot sooner than they pictured). For the last year and a half, they've been conducting home case studies, fundraisers, and pouring their heart and soul into the adoption process, all in the hopes that they one day would have a child to call theirs.

By the grace of God, they had to put that process on hold as Amy found out a month ago that she was 17 weeks pregnant. The miracle of bearing her own child had come true and I had never seen my friend glow with such happiness. Excited to go to her first ultrasound, she left was unsettling news, that there was a hole in the amniotic sac **making her pregnancy high risk. Though a bit troubled by the news, they moved on as any couple would-embracing the opportunity knowing they were going to be parents. **Three weeks later, Amy was in for another ultrasound, where they found out the sex of the baby was a boy, they acted as any normal couple would and they told their friends & family, began the process of a registry, decided on a name and discussed what the nursery would look like. I'm sure Justin had Amy convinced that golf was going to be the theme!

Sadly, by way of this communication, I am writing to inform you that my friend this past weekend lost her baby boy, Harrison William VanWyk. I flew across the country to see them and when I arrived, the nurse had delivered the Brianna Lee teddy bear to my friend. That bear has helped my friend for the past few days (walk out of the hospital, sleep at night, practice putting a **onesie**, hug it, e.g.) all as if it were her child. And I know that bear is going to help her cope with this very challenging process, therefore I just wanted to say THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart for helping my friend. In this time of extreme pain, that bear has brought comfort and support that nothing else could have provided. Amy and Justin, along with their parents are forever grateful for what you did for them and the love you're sharing to help those affected by loss, heal. God Bless.

All the best,
Keri

Brianna Lee Foundation Board

Linda Miller	President	Jessica Miller	Vice President
Jennifer Wiersma	Secretary	Jim Miller	Treasurer
Board of Directors:	Brian Miller, Jeff Miller, Jamie Wiersma, and Mackenzie Wiersma		

In
Memory
of

I was incredibly touched by the generosity of the Brianna Lee Foundation during our stay in the hospital this summer. In one of the darkest times in our lives, who would have thought that something so little could warm our hearts so incredibly much. In even just a few days from when our nightmare began, who would have thought a little blue bear helped me get through some of the most difficult minutes and hours of my life.

After, our son, was stillborn at 39 weeks, a grief counselor from the hospital gave me a little soft blue bear like shown on the website and told me that a woman, who's granddaughter was also stillborn, had decided to make it her mission to help bring warmth into the lives of other mothers during one of the worst times in their lives. She wanted to give them something to physically hold in what would have been empty arms, because she believed that they too, deserved to not leave the hospital empty handed. That little blue bear has given me something to physically hold onto, while God was holding our precious baby.

Jackson Paul Siok

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Andrea Siok

Donations made in Memory of Jackson Paul Siok

Mr. and Mrs. James Kezios

John & Mary Logan

Jan & Gary Mayleu

Julie Logan

Whitney & Kyle Smith

Jessica Patrick (Love, the
Myslinski Family)

Steve and Sherri Madill

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Kathleen Meyers

Terri Shumsker

Mindy Pera

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Schwab Charitable Donation
via Katherine & David Du
Bois

Paul & Amelia Williams

John Concklin

Joyce Barnett

Laura Ramirez

Seth Peterman

Shannon & Anthony Coomes

Donations made in Memory of Chase Anthony Silva

Shannon Silva
Joy Nickert
Catherine Graugard
Christopher Zitterman
David and Regina Billings

“Each and every donation is greatly appreciated! Every Donation allows us to help another mom/family. “

Thank you,
Linda Miller
Brianna Lee Foundation, President



We would like to thank these wonderful folks for helping us financially this quarter. Our continued growth is because of all the donations we receive.

Aaron & Jennifer Peterson
Larry Wunsch
Robert & Sharon McLaren
Jim & Nancy Richey
Chip & Cathy Manger
Arthur & Janine Moran

If you made a donation and we didn't list you in the newsletter, please let us know as we want to be able thank all our donors.

We are excited to welcome these hospitals to the Brianna Lee Foundation!

Alton Memorial Hospital Alton IL
IU Health West Hospital Avon IL
Parkview Noble Hospital Kendallville IN
St John Hospital & Medical Center Detroit MI
Advocate Christ Medical Center Oak Lawn IL
Bellevue Hospital Bellevue Ohio
OSF St Anthony's Health Center Alton IL
The Women's Hospital Newburg IN
Carle Foundation Hospital Urbana IL
St Vincent's Anderson Regional Hospital Anderson IN
Parkview Regional Medical Center Fort Wayne IN
Parkview Hospital Randallia Fort Wayne IN
St Alexius Medical Center Hoffman Estates IL
Miami Valley Hospital Dayton Ohio
Amita Health Alexian Brothers Medical Center Elk Grove IL
St Rita's Medical Center Lima Ohio
Porter Regional Hospital Valparaiso IN
IU Health North Hospital Carmel IN

Look at how we have grown:

Year 1
8 Hospitals in West Michigan

Year 2
29 Hospitals in 3 States

Year 3
80 Hospitals in 5 States

Thank you to Everyone for all your loving support of the Brianna Lee Foundation. We could not have done it without you!

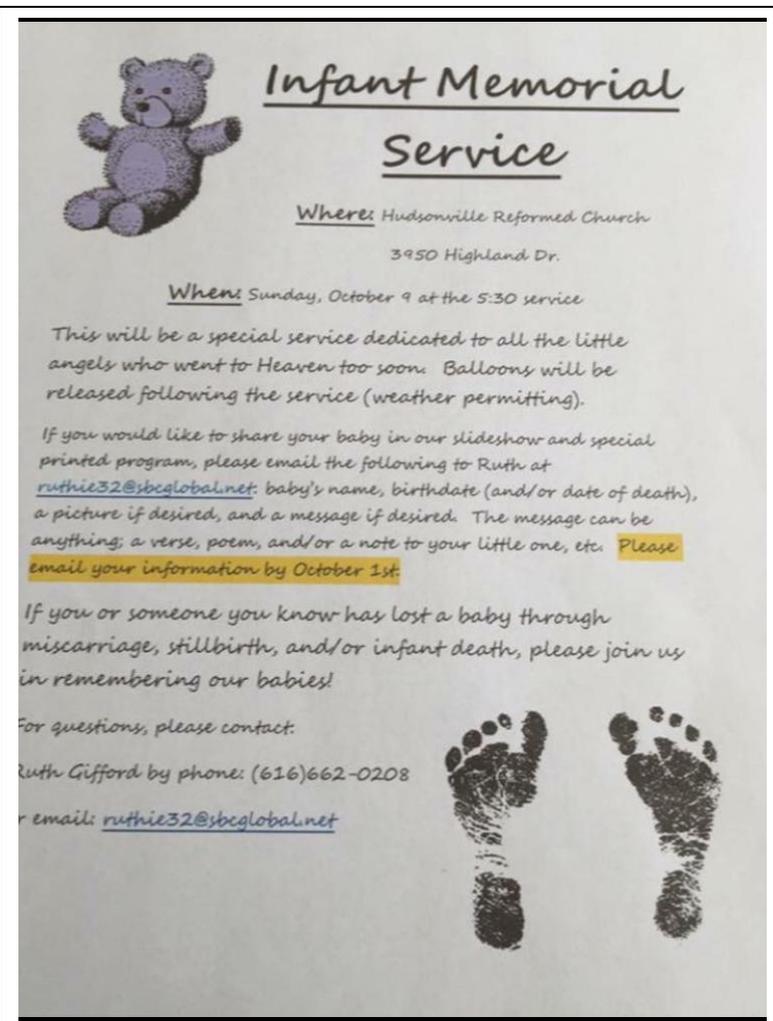
Dear Brianna Lee Foundation

I want to personally thank you for the teddy bears that were donated to Community Hospital. We have already incorporated them as part of our bereavement program to assist our patients experiencing a loss. We are honored to give them to our patients to help them through this very emotional and difficult time.

Many blessings to you and your family for starting this foundation in your precious granddaughter's name. You are touching so many in a profound way.

Best Regards,

Carla Meyer RN, MS
Director of Patient Care Services
Community Hospital, Munster IN



 Infant Memorial Service

Where: Hudsonville Reformed Church
3950 Highland Dr.

When: Sunday, October 9 at the 5:30 service

This will be a special service dedicated to all the little angels who went to Heaven too soon. Balloons will be released following the service (weather permitting).

If you would like to share your baby in our slideshow and special printed program, please email the following to Ruth at ruthie32@sbcglobal.net: baby's name, birthdate (and/or date of death), a picture if desired, and a message if desired. The message can be anything; a verse, poem, and/or a note to your little one, etc. Please email your information by October 1st.

If you or someone you know has lost a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, and/or infant death, please join us in remembering our babies!

For questions, please contact:
Ruth Gifford by phone: (616)662-0208
or email: ruthie32@sbcglobal.net



