

#### 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.

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

Volume 6 Issue 4 November 2019

Each newsletter time, I procrastinate on getting the newsletter out. It is so hard to come up with a lead story to share with you, on how important the bears are to the moms/families that receive them. The best words are those sent to us from a mom/family that received a bear. Here are two letters we received since the last newsletter.

## Good morning,

I just wanted to take a moment and thank you and your organization for what you do. I lost my baby this past week and it has been a whirlwind. I am lost and hurt. One thing that has helped me sleep and stay calm, the teddy bear I received from the Foundation during my stay at the hospital. I am so grateful for that bear. So thank you.

I also wanted you to know, because July is my birthday month, I started a Facebook fund raiser for your Foundation. I truly thank you from the bottom of my heart!

God Bless, Michelle

### Hi,

I lost my son Alexander on 3/23/2019. I went into preterm labor and he was born by C Section due to being breech and to give him the best shot at surviving; born at 24 weeks and 2 days. He will always be my hardest goodbye and a big part of my heart was gone with him that day.

The Bereavement Director came into my room holding a memory box and a bear. She said that no mom should leave the hospital empty handed.

Alexander is my first child and my hands were so painfully empty. I held the bear tightly each night and cried.

It has been three months since losing my son and the bear sits on top of my bed frame. If the day is super hard for me I get to hold the bear to get through the night.

You have no idea what a difference your Foundation makes! I am forever grateful for the bear. Thank you so, so, so much!

Jovana

Our prayers, thoughts and love go out to all those that are impacted by a stillbirth.

All of us at the Brianna Lee Foundation wish you and your family a happy and blessed holiday season! We wish you a Happy Thanksgiving, A Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a Happy New Year!

As you celebrate this holiday season, know that we are celebrating you and all the support and prayers you have given to the Foundation. We would not be in 126 hospitals in the 9 states that we are if it wasn't for you! You are the reason the Foundation has grown and touched as many moms/families as we have.

Just an FYI- because of your support, to date, we have been able to purchase over 5,000 teddy bears!! That is amazing! 5,000 families will be impacted/touched by a teddy bear because of you and the support you have given to us!

We thank you and raise a toast to you this season!

God bless each and every one of you!

Amazon Smile
When shopping on Amazon this
holiday season, consider shopping via
the Amazon Smile page as a portion of
the sales will go towards the
Foundation. Thanks!

Did you know that when you shop for the holidays at <u>smile.amazon.com/ch/46-1979851</u>, AmazonSmile donates to Brianna Lee Foundation?

# DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS QUARTER

Raymond and Regina Clifford John and Alison Hazzard Jim and Nancy Richey Kevin and Tracey Weberg family Larry and Martha Winsch Jim and Karyl McCullough St Vincent OB Dept., Kokomo In Michelle Tomasello

Michael and Stephanie Dickey in memory and honor of Claire Elizabeth



If your workplace, church group or school class would like a holiday fund raiser, we have these cute cut out paper bears you can use to encourage donations, record donations or place around for everyone to see the donations.

Just let us know and we will get the paper bears to you.



The Star Legacy Foundation shared this on their Facebook page. I thought it was an impactful statistic on stillbirths so I wanted to share it with you.

Today, 70 shell-shocked American families will be told that their unborn baby no longer has a heartbeat. 1 in 160 pregnancies in the US end in stillbirth-that's a school bus full of children, every single day- and it strikes indiscriminately across all races and classes, even in healthy moms with seemingly normal pregnancies. It could happen to anyone, so always trust your instincts and speak up if you feel something might be wrong.

For more information feel free to visit the Star Legacy Foundation Web Page at www.starlegacyfoundation.org



We would like to thank Dr. Brian Nylaan and his staff for letting us again be one of the non profits benefiting from his weekly Zumba for a cause event that the office holds each Tuesday night during the summer months. We appreciate you allowing us to explain the Foundation to everyone attending as well as donating the proceeds from the night to the Foundation!

Thank you for all that you do and all that you give back to the community!



## Brianna Lee Foundation Board

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Mackenzie Wiersma

