

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

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Reflections

This has been an amazing year, thanks to you!
As I reflect on this past year, I cannot believe that we have gotten as far as we have, and it is all due to your help and support.

January 1st I retired from P&G to start the Brianna Lee Foundation after having lost a granddaughter to a stillbirth. On February 6th we signed the legal paper work to become an official nonprofit. Our first newsletter went out in March. From the three newsletters we have sent out so far and with everyone spreading the word about the foundation, we have received enough money to purchase teddy bears for Spectrum - Zeeland Campus, Holland Hospital, Metro Health Hospital, Mercy Health Saint Mary's and Spectrum Butterworth.

But it doesn't stop there. The Foundation isn't just about giving hospitals a batch of teddy bears. We need to keep enough teddy bears on hand so that when one of our currently covered hospitals call to tell us they need additional teddy bears, we have the teddy bears to give them. Plus our plan is to very soon add hospitals in Kalamazoo and Lansing to the list of hospitals we service.

My vision is that someday we will be in every hospital in the U.S. so that no mom has to leave the maternity floor empty handed. We know the teddy bear can never replace the child however, what we do know is that the teddy bear gives the mom something to hold and hug as she tries to heal. Plus the website, Facebook Page and Twitter site give the moms a place to connect with other moms and to share their feelings. So from the bottom of our hearts and souls, thank you for all you have done to make this Foundation what it is to date! Please continue to keep us in your thoughts, prayers and fund raising ventures.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas from all of us at the Brianna Lee Foundation!

SPECTRUM BUTTERWORTH

We are excited to announce that on October 14th we were able to donate teddy bears to Spectrum Butterworth. According to The Foundation Director at Spectrum Butterworth, the hospital averages 21 stillbirths a month. Thank you Spectrum Butterworth for becoming a part of the Brianna Lee Family. Together we will support other moms that face this loss. Thank you to Lorie Shier for accepting the teddy bear donation!



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

DR BRIAN NYLAAN DDS

"A Huge Thank You to Dr. Brian Nylaan and his Staff for their "Zumbu for a Cause" event. Every Tuesday night, starting in May and running through the end of September, Dr. Nylaan's Dental office holds a Zumba class with a certified Zumba instructor, in the parking lot of the office. Each week the profits from the Zumba class are given to a nonprofit. We were the nonprofit for September 17th. Not only did we receive the profits from that nigh'ts class we were also able to bring awareness about our Foundation, to the group that attended. There were 93 people there and three of the ladies shared personally with us that they or someone in their family had experience a stillbirth. One lady came running up to me and shared that she had a stillbirth 19 years ago. And although there is never a day that she doesn't think of her daughter, she doesn't always cry. Her next comment was "I wish I had received a teddy bear back. Thank you for doing this for us moms." Thank you Dr. Nylaan and staff for keeping everyone fit and for helping our nonprofit!



HUDSONVILLE REFORMED CHURCH

On October 13th, Hudsonville Reformed Church held an Infant Memorial Service. The entire service was in honor of the babies who have joined Jesus in heaven too soon. There were wonderful songs and a video, as well as scripture and a great message by both Pastor Don Van Slyke and Kathy Knott, who is a private practice nurse as well as a bereavement support nurse at Mercy Health St Mary's.

The special offering from this service was donated to the Brianna Lee Foundation; we want to thank all the members and attendees for your generous gift! We also want to thank the church for the wonderful service, a service that supports families that experience a stillbirth, miscarriage, or infant loss. We need more of these types of church/healing services to help support these families and let them know we care and are there for them.

A special thanks to Ruth Gifford for organizing the service. It was beautiful!

PORT PEDIATRIC DENTAL

"A Huge Thank You to Port Pediatric Dental office for the fund raising event they did for the Brianna Lee Foundation. Any patient that made a donation to the Foundation during the month of September and October got to put their name on a paper teddy bear and tape it up on the wall. Thank you Dr. Susan Port and staff! Words cannot express how much we appreciate your help in bringing awareness to our foundation as well as your financial support!"



NORTHLAWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

On the fourth Sunday of every month, Northlawn UMC has a special offering they call a "Clatter" Offering. They encourage their members and attendees to save their change and each month it goes to a mission or charity around the area. The change that was collected in September was donated to the Brianna Lee Foundation. Thank you to all the members and attendees for your generous gift!

A special thanks to the following great folks that donated this quarter.

Eric and Kristi Jensen

Dr. Ralph Rader DDS

Joan and Denny Rankin

Jim and Sue Patnoude

John and Joan Dykhouse

Ken and Jane Secord

Orange Door Dental Group - Dr. Chris Willig DDS

Dr. Eric Foster and Staff

Dr. Mark Oseniek

Northlawn United Methodist Church

Hudsonville Reformed Church

Dr. Susan Port and Staff at Port Pediatric Dentisty

Dr. Brian Nylaan and Staff

Contact Information

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Like us on Facebook: Brianna Lee Foundation or

Follow us on twitter:@BriannaLeeFound

Web site:

WWW.Briannaleefoundation.org

We would also like to thank Shawn Gerke at DBS Graphics. Using our logo and foundation name, Shawn gave us a great price on tee shirts. These tee shirts are available for purchase if you would like one. They are \$15 each. You can count on us all wearing them at all events that we will be at as this is a great way to bring more awareness to the Foundation. Thanks Shawn! Shawn can be reached at 616 915 8773

Thank you to Visual Workplace
Custom Printing. They donated a
Brianna Lee Foundation banner for
us to use at events. The banner has
our logo as well as our name on it
and it is beautiful! Thank you so
much! They make a wide variety of
banners and sign's so if you ever
need one this is your place. Their
phone number is 616 583 9400.

WeNeedHelpToday.com (WNHT) is a website that exists to provide help for people in need, and does so in a unique and unexpected way.

As a vehicle for people in need, WNHT is a platform to advertise causes, fundraising events, and individuals in need. All of these services are provided at zero cost to individuals and/or organizations featured. (The site is organized by geographic location, so all individuals and organizations from the same area are grouped together.)

In addition, absolutely <u>no</u> fees are charged for any and all fundraising that takes place through the site. Each beneficiary can place a payment button on the site (PayPal is the most common). This payment button is created by the beneficiary, and monies donated go directly from donors to recipient. WNHT does not touch any of it. Not a single cent.

Instead, as a for-profit company, WNHT generates revenue from sponsor businesses. Because the beneficiaries are organized by geographic location, local businesses can choose to sponsor the page for their area, thereby helping grow the site and generate more assistance for those in need.

We're so excited to have the Brianna Lee Foundation join us at WNHT, and look forward to seeing the foundation grow in the future!

Save the date! May 17, 2014

The Brianna Lee Foundation will be hosting our 1st Annual Golf Outing & Silent Auction on Saturday, May 17, 2014 at The Meadows Golf Course on the campus of Grand Valley State University.

The Golf Outing & Silent Auction will be a major fundraiser for the foundation and your Participation or Sponsorship will directly support our mission of supplying teddy bears to area hospitals, who in turn supply them to grieving mothers and fathers who experience a stillbirth. Your support is essential to achieving our goal of making this a nationally known foundation, so that parents who endure this tragic event can leave the hospital with something to comfort them.

Please check out our website for Information regarding signing up to participate or how to become a Sponsor. WWW.Briannaleefoundation.org

"As you gather with your friends and family this holiday season please know that we at the Brianna Lee Foundation would like to thank all of you for your support this year. We would not be in as many of the hospitals that we are in, or helping as many moms as we are, without YOU. You are the biggest reason for our Foundations growth so far.

We pray that we can continue to partner with more hospitals and touch more moms this coming year, and with your continued support we can and will!

Together we will reach for the moon knowing that the worst thing that can happen is we might land on a star. So, from all of us at the Brianna Lee Foundation, thank you!!

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! "
Jim and Linda Miller, Brian, Jessica, Peyton, and Caleb Miller, Jeff Miller, Jamie, Jennifer, and Mackenzie Wiersma.

