

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 <u>www.briannaleefoundation.org</u> Member of the Jenison - Grandville Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Non Profit, 501-c-3 federal non profit. Volume 9 Issue 1

It was a normal Wednesday morning when my phone rang. I picked it up, looked at the number and almost didn't answer it. It was an out of state number and a number I did not recognize. Then a voice in my head said "answer the call. You have hospitals you ship bears to in that state." So, I answered the call "Hello this is Linda".

No reply... I was about to hang up when I heard a man's voice, but I could not understand what he was saying.

I was convinced it was a telemarketer. As I was getting ready to hang up, again, the voice in my head, saying "Don't hang up, listen to him".

So, I waited a few seconds and then realized the person on the other end of the phone was crying. He reintroduced himself.

Through his tears he told me his name and that he and his wife had just lost their baby, full term. He shared that they received one of our teddy bears and the brochure about the foundation. He was quiet for a few seconds but I could hear him crying. Then he thanked me for the teddy bear.

I told him to hug, squeeze and cry with the teddy bear as much as he wanted to, to help with his pain and healing. I told him the bear isn't meant to replace the child, but at least he has something to hold during this painful time, as he tries to heal.

We continued to talk for a few more minutes, him sharing how much he and his wife were hurting and about how painful this is. He asked me a few more questions.

He then asked how Jess and Brian were doing since Brianna's passing. (I wonder if this question was because their world was just turned upside down and he wanted to find out if they will be OK, in time).

He then asked if they had any other children since Brianna. (I wonder if he asked this question in hope that someday they might be able to have another child).

He then thanked me for taking his call.

Every so often I wonder if I should continue with the Foundation. And every time God sends me my answer.

Prayers to all the families that have experienced this unbelievable pain. Prayers for all the continued support we get from folks like you!

DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS QUARTER

Because Life happens, we missed sending out our march Newsletter. So here are a list of donations we received since our last newsletter. Thank you for your support!!

David Schluckebier Tracey Weberg Breton Gardens Family Dentistry Alexandra Brownlee Jim and Nancy Richey Jerrie and Dave Garvin Deanna Duram - In honor of Jim and Linda Miller, Beth and Mike Miller, Pam Howe, John and Tina Gerberich, Jim and Karyl McCullough, The Marateas, The Wiersmas, The Millers, and the McCulloughs.

Attached you will find registration and sponsorship forms our annual golf outing. We would love to have you golf with us!

We would also appreciation sponsorships from your business or "in memory of".

Any items for door prizes or the silent auction would also be greatly appreciated.

Our annual golf outing is our largest yearly fund raiser. All monies raised at the golf outing allow us to continue to support our current hospitals, as well as add new hospitals.

We hope to see you there!

Note We Have Received From a Hospital

Jamberry Nail Wraps and I.kizelewicz.

In Honor of my nephew, Bentley Kizelewicz, who was born sleeping into God's arms, two years ago.



Kathy Lipovsky, In loving memory of our sweet granddaughter, Lydis Jamie Williamson who was stillborn on January 1, 2018



We are excited to welcome these hospitals to the Brianna Lee Foundation Family! Community Howard Regional Health Kokomo IN Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare Tallahassee FL OSF Saint Elizabeth Ottawa IL

We received the teddy bears you sent us. Thank You so much for honoring all of our lost babies by providing them something to fill their empty arms at discharge and beyond!! They truly cherish these bears. I have seen your bears in so many family photos to represent the lost baby. At a memorial service for a baby, the family asked the pastor to please bless the bear!! It was so sweet!! Thank You, thank you, thank you!! Vikki RNC