

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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Notes We Received This Quarter

I cannot tell you how much the bears mean to our patients. We had a patient who lost a baby at 20 weeks last year and she came in at 21 weeks recently in preterm labor. We conservatively managed her and then transferred her at 22 weeks to another hospital who specialize in very small preterm deliveries. The patient came in clutching her bear and never let go of it the entire stay. You bring so much joy to our patients and it is so meaningful to them. Thank you for everything you do and we truly appreciate you all.

Jane Director women's and children

From my wife and I's whole hearts, we want to say thank you for what your organization does. We recently had a stillbirth and this bear has truly helped us greatly. It does not change the circumstances, but holding and hugging and looking at this bear is a sweet way for us to remember and hope and love. We just needed you to know that what you're doing is nothing short of amazing.

Sincerely with love,

Michael and Rachel

Thank you! We don't go a night without having our bear in bed between us thinking of our son. Thank you for your mission. It means more than you can possibly know.

David

We had a beautiful Butterfly Release and flower planting event last Sunday to honor all our little babies. We honored 67 babies and had a gorgeous day with crafts, a harpist, bubbles and refreshments. We had over 220 people come out to honor their babies. Many of these families have come through our doors in the last few years and most have received one of your bears. Thank you so much for your beautiful ministry! Sharon Still Missed Nurse Coordinator

Just a quick note to request bears for our hospital bereavement program, if possible, please we are down to three unfortunately. I wanted to tell you though that just this past week, I gave out a bear to a family who had a full term (38 weeks loss) of a baby girl, it would have been their 4th child and their 2nd girl. The younger siblings were 8, 4, and 1.5 yrs. old. I can't tell you how much the comfort that bear brought to those little brothers and sisters (at least through my eyes) they held onto it so tight and were so happy to have something to hold while their mommy held their baby sister. The littlest one carried it with him then the whole day. Thank you for allowing me as a nurse to be able to provide them with this comfort, I've been a high risk obstetrics nurse and bereavement coordinator for 17 years now and I'll never take that for granted. Thank you again from our staff.

Meghan Bereavement Coordinator

DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS QUARTER

Margot Meeker.

Larry and Martha Winsch

Jim and Karyl McCullough

Jim and Sue Patnoude

Tina Porcelli and Dean Juth

Cherri Johns and Family

In honor of Tom and Kalena Meeker and in memory of River Rouse Meeker.

By Cathleen Commeret-Whitcomb

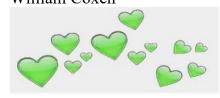


In honor of Tom and Kalena Meeker and in memory of River.

By Thomas Meeker



In honor of Mary Belle from William Coxen



The 9th annual Brianna Lee Foundation Golf Outing was held September 13th. It was a beautiful day weather wise and we all had a great time golfing and being together!

A huge thank you to our Sponsors:

Event Sponsor: Palermo Pizza

Practice range Sponsor: Acton Family Chiropractic

Hole Sponsors: The Weberg Family, Acton Family Chiropractic, Musashi, ZFS, Brian, Jess, Peyton and Caleb in memory of Brianna Lee, Jim and Linda Miller in memory of Brianna Lee, Nana and Papa (Phyllis and Roger) Wildey in memorry of Georgia Evalyn Wildey, Ken and Betty Schenk in memory of their niece and Nephew Golf Cart Sponsors: Meaade Zolman Family Dentistry, Aaron and Jennifer Peterson, D.E. McNabb Flooring, Kristi and Eric Jensen and Family, Aunt Karen and Aunt Kay in memory of Georgia Evalyn Wildly, Dave and Cathy Renkema in memory of Brianna Lee

A huge thank you to our Silent auction Donors: Kendall Electric, Jen and Jamie Wiersma, Jessica and Brian Miller, Beth Miller, Ed and Deanna Howe, Lori Pyper, Steve Letavish, Chick-fil-A (Wilson Ave.), Jeff and Raeann Miller, Bonobo Winery, Chateau Chantal, Grand Rapids Griffins, The Meadows Golf Course, Mr. Car Wash, Grand Rapids Civic Theater, Whitecaps, Celebration Cinema, Pete's Grill and Tavern, Hopcat, Red Robin, Culvers, Applebee's (28th St. Wyoming), Reserve Wine & Food, Douglas J Aveda.

Last but definitely not least a huge thank you to all our golfers!



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Save the Date September 17, 2023

10th Annual Brianna Lee Foundation Golf Outing

The Meadows Golf Course

4645 W Campus Dr Allendale, MI 49401







Find more pictures from the golf outing on our Facebook page













Statics

I know I have shared these statics before; however, I feel I need to share them again.

There are 26,000 stillbirths in the U.S. every year. That equates to a baby being born still, every 20 minutes.

During COVID there was a 24% increase in the number of stillbirths.

In the 9 short years that the Brianna Lee Foundation has been formed, we have been able to provide 7,341 teddy bears to hospitals to give to moms/families that experience a stillbirth.

All this is because of your support, whether it's been financially, prayerfully or being involved in the Foundation.

One of our Bereavement Directors shared this with us, "after losing a child to a stillbirth, the teddy bears are able to touch a place in a mom or dads' heart, that no human can. These bears start that very first step in the long healing process."

So, whether you have supported us via golfing in the Foundation's yearly golf outing or given a donation another way, we thank you! With your continued support we can continue to touch that tender place in a mom or dads' heart, by providing them with a teddy bear. With your help, here is to the next 7,000 bears! God bless you!

This will be the final newsletter for this year. So, everyone at the Brianna Lee Foundation wants to take this chance to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas or a Happy Hanukah. Take time this holiday season to give those you love an extra hug and remember to tell them that you love them.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Brianna Lee Foundation Board

Linda Miller - President Jessica Miller - Vice President

Jennifer Wiersma - Secretary Jim Miller - Treasurer

Board of Directors: Brian Miller, Jeff Miller, Raeann Miller, Jamie Wiersma, and

Mackenzie Wiersma