



Fighting Childhood Cancer  
[BrianMordenFoundation.org](http://BrianMordenFoundation.org)

# Newsletter

January/February 2016

**2016**  
**HAPPY**  
**NEW YEAR**

We're certainly hoping this will be the year for breakthrough research in the fight against childhood cancer.

At the annual meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup>, the Brian Morden Foundation Board of Directors voted to explore a partnership with Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation. We hope to make an announcement in the very near future regarding contributing to the funding of another childhood cancer research grant.

## 2016 Brian Morden Foundation Board of Directors Announced

The Brian Morden Foundation is happy to welcome three new members to the BMF Board. All have been active in helping the foundation behind the scenes through the years.

Attorney Maryann Joyce Bistline, Leah Green, and Kim Kiec are very enthusiastic about joining the other very dedicated individuals who comprise the Brian Morden Foundation Board of Director



*Missing from the picture are Maryann and Shelly.*

Officers for 2016 are: Co-founder Dawn Morden, President; Barbara Piper, vice-president; Shelly Frank, Secretary; Silvia Maddox, Treasurer. Paula Kauffman is in charge of Brian Baskets.

## Paint 'n Pizza Benefit

Friends, lovers, those who have a passion for viewing or creating artwork – this pre-Valentine's benefit is for you! Join The Brian Morden Foundation and The Poor Painter for several hours of fun while painting your very own masterpiece.

Tabitha Shimer is the Poor Painter, an artist who has been sharing her love of painting for years. She's also the mom of one of our BMF kids. Isaac has a brain tumor and is currently on an experimental treatment. He and his mom founded *The Turtle Foundation*, which helps children and families fighting brain tumors.

All supplies for the Paint 'n Pizza benefit will be provided along with excellent step by step instructions to create a special Valentine version of this colorful painting.



**WHEN:** *Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>; 4-7 PM*

**WHERE:** *Duncansville Evangelical Lutheran*

**COST:** (includes all supplies, pizza and drinks, and a \$15 contribution to the BMF) **\$40**

*OR since it's almost Valentine's day, bring a friend, lover or spouse, save, and have even more fun at a cost of 2 for \$70!!*

***Additional "Brian Basket" raffles during the evening will benefit***

***The Turtle Foundation and the BMF.***

## Updates

**HIStory of Christmas** was very successful this year in several ways. The Duncansville Evangelical Lutheran Church organizers designated the parlor of the church as the Brian Morden Foundation room.

During the 5 afternoons and evenings of HIStory, more than 500 people had a chance to see and hear what the Brian Morden Foundation does in the fight against childhood cancer. Information in our presentation included:



♥ **Since 2003, the BMF has helped more than 35 local children with cancer and their families.**

We provide gas cards for transportation to and from treatment, gifts, cards and/or coupons during each of the major holidays and the children's birthdays.

♥ **We also send Brian Baskets filled with** a variety

of gifts and treats to help make a stay in the hospital or clinic go a little better and more quickly. These items are **for the pediatric oncology patients, their families, and staff at four Pennsylvania Children's Hospitals – Pittsburgh, Hershey, Geisinger, and Philadelphia – during the major holidays** (Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter, Fourth of July, Halloween, and Thanksgiving) Some of the items have included laptops, iPads, PlayStations, Issy and Tickles bears, Brian Blankets and prayer shawls.



♥ **Donations of more than \$88,000 to cancer researchers** in Utah, Michigan, California, Johns Hopkins, CureSearch in honor of all of our children fighting cancer and Be The Match in memory of Tim Piper.

♥ **Higher education scholarships totaling \$35,000** have been donated to local students as well as cancer survivors.

Through the generosity of many, the Brian Morden Foundation received donations totaling \$989. In addition, BMF merchandise including greeting cards, chocolate covered pretzels, ornaments, t-shirts, and Issy bears was sold. With more than a total of \$1700 from HIStory of Christmas, the BMF will continue the fight against childhood cancer.

## Cards and Prayers for Gabby

One of our BMF kids would surely appreciate a card and/or prayers from you. Three year old Gabby Colegrove had a bone marrow transplant on December 17, 2015. She has been enduring tremendous pain because of a rash and other side effects of her treatment. Her address is:



**Gabby Colegrove, Room 938  
c/o Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh  
One Children's Hospital Way  
4401 Penn Ave.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15224**

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## Upcoming Events:

- ♥ **Brian Baskets Event for Valentine's Day -** February 6 at DELC 9-11 AM
- ♥ **Paint 'n Pizza Benefit –** February 13<sup>th</sup> at DELC – 4 to 7 PM
- ♥ **Brian Baskets Event for Easter -** March 12 at DELC 9 -11 AM
- ♥ **Railroad City Bandits game –** May 14
- ♥ **Altoona Curve HOPE game –** June 18
- ♥ **September 2016 – Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**