



Fighting Childhood Cancer
BrianMordenFoundation.org

Newsletter

November/December 2015



Blessings and Joys of the Season to all!



Thankful for Our Blessings

We have arrived at the season that should be joyful for all, but is difficult for many because of missing a loved one who has died or because life struggles seem insurmountable. The BMF asks for prayers for those in need, but we also give thanks for much.



The Brian Morden Foundation is grateful for the many blessings we have been given through your recent generous donations of time, energy, supplies, and money. THANK YOU!! With these we have been able to help a number of children with cancer and their families during October and November and will continue to do so in the future. The BMF has given local families gas cards for transportation to treatment. Our newly revised guidelines demonstrate our commitment to helping those who have to travel frequently by providing families with \$25 or \$50 gift cards monthly.

In October, we also provided 80 Halloween Brian Bags to childhood cancer patients at Pittsburgh Children's Hospital, Penn State Hershey's Children's Hospital, CHOP (Children's Hospital of Philadelphia), and Janet Weis Children's Hospital at Geisinger. In addition, 100 Brian Bags were given to the hematology/oncology clinic at Pittsburgh to give to those children who were receiving treatment on the day before Halloween.

HIStory of Christmas

The Brian Morden Foundation will again be the recipient of blessings from the congregation at Duncansville Evangelical Lutheran Church and those who attend HIStory of Christmas.

Pastor Jaime Olson and members of the congregation have created a celebration of Christmas that blends the story of Jesus' birth with the history and traditions of the Christmas season. Visitors to HIStory will see: a live Nativity, toy trains and village scenes, old-fashioned store fronts, collection of Nativities from around the world, antique and vintage Christmas displays, a dizzying array of themed Christmas trees, a market place to explore and Santa Claus himself.

The BMF will also have a display where visitors may extend greetings and donate gifts to childhood cancer patients.

WHEN: Sunday, November 29th 3-6 PM
Saturday, December 5th or 12th 6-9 PM
Sunday, December 6th or 13th 3-6 PM

WHERE: Duncansville Evangelical Lutheran



Updates

A **Basket Raffle** was held at the AAHS Field House on **October 13th, 2015**, prior to the AAHS Girls



Volleyball match versus Hollidaysburg. More than \$4000 was raised and given to the BMF to benefit the Erin Dodson Scholarship Fund. Applications for this scholarship as well as the Brian Morden Memorial Scholarship will

be available after the first of the year. Thank you to the Lady Lions and organizers of this wonderful event.

“A Night of Golden Lights” Candlelight Vigil for children with cancer was held on Saturday, October 17, 2015 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Lafayette Park in front of the White House. BMF president and co-founder, Dawn Morden was able to attend. The speakers were very passionate about the need to do



a list of names of area children who have fought or are fighting cancer.

more to help the childhood cancer community and to make others aware of this need. Dawn took

Volunteers decorated and filled **Halloween Brian Bags and Baskets** during *Make a Difference Day* at Duncansville Evangelical Lutheran. Jendy Maines and her Girl Scout Troops from Bellwood, PA, troop numbers 46511, 46470, and 46505 donated activity bags, which were sent on to childhood cancer patients in our Brian Baskets.

Thousands of cards were also sorted on **Make a Difference Day** and thanks to Thrivent Financial, volunteers were treated to lunch. Many of the cards were sent to the hospitals for use by patients, their families and staff. Additional cards will be at HIStory of Christmas and available for a donation to the BMF.

The **Hollidaysburg Halloween parade** was a huge success. We were able to reach hundreds of people with information about childhood cancer. Several of our survivors (Gabby, Samantha, Abigail, Dominick, and Timothy) were able to ride or walk on the float along with friends and family. Thanks to all of you for taking time to represent the BMF. Thanks also to Professionals Autobody and Kim DeVecchis for organizing the float.



Upcoming Events:

- ♥ **November 29 & December 5, 6, 12, 13 – HIStory of Christmas at DELC**
- ♥ **Brian Baskets Event for Valentine’s Day - February 6 at DELC**
- ♥ **Brian Baskets Event for Easter - March 12 at DELC**