



Brent's Buddies Buzz

AUGUST, 2017

WHAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST MONTH

- Thanks to a past family member, families enjoyed amazing seats to watch the Rockies!
- Kid's Cure was an outstanding success!
- The BPLC (formerly ELC) put on a fun field day with games and a barbecue!

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner Recap

On August 22nd, Brent's Place hosted the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the Blue Bonnet Café. We were honored to be surrounded by the many volunteers who were able to make it. For those who were unable to attend, following are the award winners from the evening!

Lance Jackson Award: Joe Bruno

The Lance Jackson Award is given each year to someone that exemplifies the spirit of Lance Jackson and his 13 years of dedicated service to the Brent Eley Foundation. In 10 plus years of service, Joe has continually shown dedication to the families of Brent's Place. He has served on the board of directors since 2006, and has served on the Executive Committee, Brent Eley Center Board, and Building Design and Construction Committee. In addition, he can often be found in the Brent's Place Kitchen cooking meals for families— if you need someone to make tacos for your next event, Joe is your guy!

All Around Volunteer Support: Debbie Gendill

Debbie Gendill has been volunteering at Brent's Place for almost 7 years. Every Tuesday afternoon she can be found at the front desk, greeting visitors and more. She recently started supporting Taco Tuesday every month after her shift, and did a great deal of work during our many days of moving! Any time there is an event, Debbie is glad to help out, we only have to ask.

Excellence in Volunteer Leadership: Mike Evans and Joe Joe Chacko-Nair

In 2014, the Brent Eley Foundation Board of Directors committed to an \$8 Million Capital Campaign to raise funds for a new facility. The current apartments were full and the list of families that desperately needed housing was continuing to grow. Mike & Joe Joe partnered together to lead the Capital Campaign Committee, the Board of Directors and the staff to not only reach, but exceed the \$8 Million goal. Over the course of three years, they worked tirelessly to meet with donors, give tours, make phone calls, attend parties, write letters and represent the organization with the goal of building a new facility. They inspired the organization to reach new heights in fundraising and to dream big. There were moments when the campaign seemed to slow in donations and enthusiasm, and each time Mike and Joe Joe created the momentum and helped to build the excitement to move us forward to reach our goals. Not only did they give of their hearts, but they also gave their own generosity, and encouraged others to do the same.

Willie Duncan Volunteer Outreach Award: Nick Tschetter

In the past year, few have advocated so strongly for Brent's Place as Dr. Nick Tschetter. He tirelessly advocated for Brent's Place within his network and

“Brent's Place is an amazing facility that not only looks out for the children's welfare, it provides families a home. While everything else in our lives seemed out of control we found comfort in knowing that we had a home where our family could find a sense of normalcy. What makes Brent's Place such an amazing place are the people who work and volunteer here.”

“Brent's Place is like an island in a storm. Our home here is the one constant that we can count on during this journey. The kindness and support has been amazing.”

never gave up hope on getting a big gift until he helped make it happen. Dr. Tschetter is highly respected by his peers and friends and it is because people respect him so greatly that they are willing to give generously when he asks. Additionally, Dr. Tschetter has a huge heart for kids battling cancer. His grandson Zach is a cancer survivor, and Dr. Tschetter became close with Tanner Seebaum and his family during his treatment. The friendship built with Tanner's family as he and Zach both went through treatment remains strong to this day.

Dedicated Corporate Group: Wal-Mart

Wal-Mart has become involved at Brent's Place in a variety of different ways. They cook dinner, do arts and crafts, and participate in events. They also support us with grants given for volunteer time, with in kind support (every time they're in the building they ask, "what do you need?"), and by volunteering at events. We are appreciative of their willingness to jump in wherever we need extra support!

Dedicated Volunteer Group: Tamarac Optimists

The Tamarac Optimist club has been supporting Brent's Place since before we moved to Aurora. Every week optimists come to sit at the front desk, and they are always glad to help in whatever capacity we need. They also cook the delicious pancake breakfast every year at Kid's Cure! They helped get the first Brent's Place building in Aurora ready for families, and they helped with the second one, too. Who knows, perhaps one day they'll be helping to prepare the third building, too!

Outstanding Committee Member: Lynsey Anderson

Lynsey Anderson has served on the Kid's Cure committee for 3 years. She has chaired the committee for the last two years, and has put in incredible amounts of work in order for Kid's Cure to be a success. This enormous undertaking would be impossible without her leadership, thoughtfulness, and resourcefulness. Lynsey is already teaching her new daughter, Elliot, to give back!

Outstanding Youth Volunteer: Maya Devarajan

Maya has spent many years volunteering at Brent's Place with her family. She is a joyful face to have around for family nights and lasagna Wednesdays, and puts careful attention to any task she is asked to help with. On top of this, she balances volunteering with an active school and extracurricular schedule. Thank you, Maya, for your dedication to Brent's Place!

Thank you to all award winners, as well as every single volunteer at Brent's Place. You truly make Brent's Place the home of hope and healing that we strive for, and the families at Brent's Place truly value every moment you spend with them and every second you spend behind the scenes supporting them, too. We hope to see you soon!

A special shout-out to the 2017-2018 Lance Jackson Lifetime Achievement Award winner, Joe Bruno. Thank you for everything you have done for Brent's Place, Joe!

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE
WHO VOLUNTEERED THEIR
TIME AND SERVICES IN JULY
AND AUGUST!**



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for all volunteer
opportunities!

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