



Deshae Lott Ministries Inc

Meet the Recipients of the 2016 CMMS Deshae Lott Ministries Outreach Program Quality of Life Grants

Jody Halverson Recipient of a \$500 CMMS Deshae Lott Ministries Quality of Life Grant

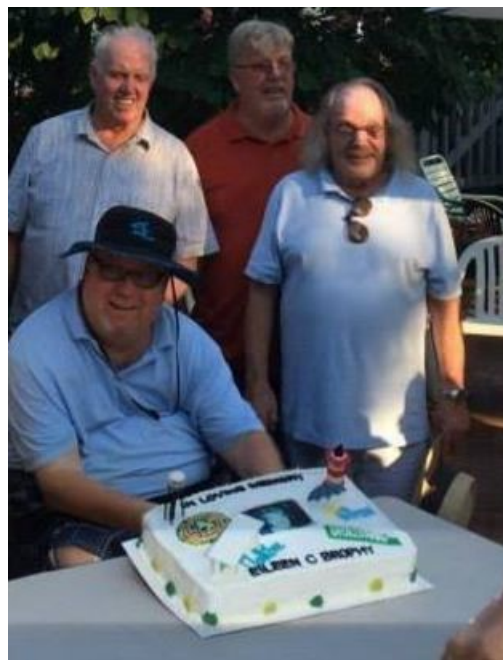


Jody Halverson of Minneapolis, Minnesota sustained a spinal cord injury (C5 incomplete dislocation) in September 2015 as a result of an auto accident. Her doctor has verified that her condition is chronic and long-term. She has been hospitalized for several surgeries, and has been in and out of several rehab and extended care facilities. When she applied for the grant, she was in a residential rehabilitation facility awaiting modifications of her home. Although friends and church members donated money and volunteer energy to build a ramp at her house, the total interior renovations needed for her to return home and live independently would amount to \$27,950. That is the cost, even with a contractor

who is also a member of Jody's church and donating his services. Jody needs assistance with 10 of the 13 daily life skills listed on our application. We have awarded her the full amount of the grant, \$500.00

Bart Brophy
Recipient of a \$500
CMMS Deshae Lott Ministries
Quality-of-Life Grant

Bart Brophy of Hardeeville, SC became paralyzed from the neck down in 1980, playing Box Lacrosse in college. A C 5 6 quadriplegic, he still went on to finish his accounting degree at Suffolk College and begin working for Grumman Aerospace in their Equal Employment Opportunity department, where he educated over 35,000 employees on disability rights. When Grumman was taken over and he needed to pursue other alternatives, he became director of a center for independent living, during which time his advocacy efforts were nationally recognized. He was a member of Governor Beasley's South Carolina Independent Living Council. In recent years, his health has declined, and he applied for the grant to put toward a Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) bike, a Wijit Driving and Braking System to propel a manual wheelchair, and an accessible van. The cost of all three is well over \$60,000, but he is applying for additional assistance, including an assistive technology loan. He needs assistance with 10 of the 13 daily living skills listed on our application. We have awarded Bart \$500.00, the full amount of our grant.



Eva Stark
Recipient of a \$500
CMMS Deshae Lott Ministries
Quality-of-Life Grant

Eva Stark is a 90-year-old double amputee who uses a wheelchair. She goes four times a week to physical therapy and also visits family at least twice a week. When her long-time aide recently retired, her new aide was unwilling to carry Eva back and forth to the car, and insisted that the family install a ramp at her house. Cost of the ramp was estimated at \$2000, and Eva applied for the grant to put toward that effort. Eva needs assistance with 10 of the 13 daily life skills listed on our application, and we have awarded her the full amount of the grant, \$500.00.



Ryan DiGiovanni
Recipient of a \$500
CMMS Deshae Lott Ministries
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Ryan DiGiovanni is 19 years old, and became a T10 paraplegic in a motor vehicle accident. He has no income other than his \$819 a month SSDI, and has been almost completely dependent on his girlfriend financially. He is a student, and has applied for the grant to help meet his expenses. He needs assistance with six of the thirteen daily life skills on our application, and we have awarded him the full amount of the grant, \$500.00.

Dwayne Dilling
Recipient of a \$500
CMMS Deshae Lott Ministries
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Dwayne Dilling of New Orleans is wheelchair-bound as a result of a spinal cord injury, and needs help with seven of the thirteen daily life skills on our application. A first-time recipient, he applied for the grant as supplemental income for uncovered medical expenses and other general living expenses.





Stacey Scola
Recipient of a \$500
CMMS Deshae Lott Ministries
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Stacey Scola of Lindenwold, New Jersey suffered a hemorrhagic stroke and needs assistance with ten of the thirteen daily life tasks listed on our application. Wheelchair-bound, she wishes to walk again, and to that end, attends twice weekly sessions at Project Walk, which does not accept insurance. She applied for the grant in order to cover several of these sessions, which cost \$110 per hour.

She is a first-time recipient of the grant.



Cody Williams
Recipient of a \$500
CMMS Deshae Lott Ministries
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Cody Williams of Los Angeles, California was a promising high school football star with dreams of playing at the collegiate level when an accident during a game in 2009 resulted in a C5 spinal injury, leaving him paralyzed at age 16. Despite a grim prognosis and an early recovery that included a medically induced coma and a severe case of pneumonia, Cody has never given up, and has

relentlessly pursued the goal of recovery. Although his spinal cord was not completely severed, he has had to relearn how to sit up, balance himself, etc. He continues to work out at UCLA and at Cal State LA, working on locomotor training on a treadmill with a harness. He plans to channel his love of football into sportswriting and coaching. He is also currently writing a book, and has aspirations to be a motivational speaker. The grant will help him to meet expenses as he pursues these goals.