

BDF FOUNDATION CONNECTIONS

News, Support and Community for Every Journey

The Quarterly Newsletter of the BDF Fall 2026 Volume 53 Issue 78

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TOLL FREE 800-293-6527
www.bleedingdisordersfl.org

CELEBRATING OUR 2026 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



We are proud to celebrate the 2026 recipients of the Calvin Dawson Memorial Scholarships, awarded to Florida residents with bleeding disorders who are pursuing post-secondary education. Please join us in congratulating this year's scholars!



Ashiyah Meide

A sophomore at Florida State University majoring in Computer Science, Ashiyah hopes to build a creative, technology-driven career. In her free time, she enjoys creating software tools for the gaming communities she loves playing games with friends.

Miguel Celis Galindo

A sophomore at the University of South Florida majoring in Finance, Miguel hopes to pursue a career in investment banking. In his spare time, he enjoys playing drums and cards, collecting coins and Pokémon, and spending time with friends.



Shaylin Mundorff

Shaylin is pursuing a graduate degree in Hospitality Management and Tourism at the University of Central Florida, with plans to become an online instructor. Outside of school, she enjoys reading, swimming, and visiting theme parks.

Savannah Deason

A freshman at the University of South Florida majoring in Biological Health Sciences, Savannah plans to attend medical school and pursue a career in embryology. Her interests include weightlifting, 3D art, and ceramics.



Tyler Nazario

A Junior at Full Sail University majoring in Game Art. Tyler aspires to become a professional digital artist and environment designer. He enjoys creating original artwork and singing with the Brevard Community Chorus.

Scholarship Opportunities

Applications for the 2027 Calvin Dawson Memorial Scholarships will be available January 1, 2027, and are due April 30, 2027. The Founders Scholarship is open year-round.

Learn More Here!

Help us invest in the future by supporting our scholarship fund and helping students achieve their educational goals. **Donate to Our Scholarship Fund Here!**

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The Bleeding Disorders Foundation
of Florida

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Mission

The mission of the Bleeding Dis-
orders Foundation of Florida is
dedicated to improving the quality of
life for people with related bleeding
disorders and their families through
education, information and referral
services, advocacy and research.

Disclaimer

The material provided in BDDF
Connections is for your general
information only. BDDF does not
give medical advice or engage in
the practice of medicine. The BDDF
does not recommend particular
treatments for specific individuals
and recommends that you consult
your physician or treatment cen-ter
before pursuing any course of
treatment.

Executive Director's Column *FALL 2026*

Dear Friends,

Fall has arrived, and we're kicking off the season with plenty of excitement, community spirit, and a little Halloween magic!

First up — mark your calendars for our 20th Annual Orlando Creepy Crawl & 5K Run on Saturday, October 24, 2026! (page 6)

Get ready for a **spooktacular**, family-friendly fundraising event filled with costumes, candy, fun, and, most importantly, community. Whether you're running, walking, volunteering, cheering from the sidelines, or bringing the whole family along, we can't wait to see you there!

Register today and join the fun: **GET YOUR SPOOK ON — REGISTER TODAY!**

A Superhero Celebration!

Speaking of superheroes... our Superhero Walk was an incredible success! Thanks to YOU, we raised more than \$54,000 to support critical programs and services for Florida's bleeding disorders community.

A heartfelt thank-you goes out to our amazing team captains, walkers, volunteers, sponsors, donors, and everyone who showed up and showed their support. Your enthusiasm, generosity, and commitment continue to inspire us. Every step truly makes a difference!

Celebrating Our Students

This summer, we were thrilled to award 5 educational scholarships to outstanding students in our community. We are so proud of each recipient as they begin an exciting new chapter, and we wish them continued success as they pursue their educational and career goals.

It is a privilege to invest in the future of our community and to celebrate these remarkable young people along the way.

The Power of Partnerships

Another highlight of this year was the opportunity for the Bleeding Disorders Foundation of Florida to serve as the host chapter for the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation (NBDF) Annual Meeting, held at the World Center Marriott in Orlando.

What an incredible honor it was to welcome members of the bleeding disorders community from across the country to Florida!

The Annual Meeting brought together patients, families, healthcare professionals, advocates, industry partners, and community leaders for meaningful education, connection, collaboration, and — perhaps most importantly — friendship. The theme, "The Power of Partnerships," truly captured the spirit of the gathering.

Looking out at everyone who joined us reminded me once again of what makes this community so extraordinary. We may come from different states, different backgrounds, and different experiences, but we are united by one common purpose: improving the lives of individuals and families affected by bleeding disorders.

That sense of connection and partnership is what fuels our work every day.

And We're Just Getting Started!

There is still so much to look forward to as we head into the final months of 2026! From educational opportunities and support programs to community gatherings and special events, our calendar is packed with ways to connect, learn, advocate, and have a little fun along the way.

Be sure to check out our full calendar of upcoming events: **CHECK OUT OUR EVENT CALENDAR**

As we head into fall and look toward the holiday season, I want to thank each and every one of you for being part of the Bleeding Disorders Foundation of Florida family. Your support, participation, and belief in our mission make everything we do possible.

Here's to a fantastic fall and a strong finish to 2026. So far, so good — **and we're just getting started!**

Warmly,
Fran



Please vote!

Elections are Tuesday, November 3, 2026!

Make your voice heard!

[Find your Voting Precinct Here](#)



Follow/Like Bdff on Social Media!

Facebook.com/bleedingdisordersfl

Twitter.com/hemophiliafl

Instagram.com/hemophiliaflorida

Students!

Earn Community Service Hours By
Volunteering For The Bdff!

Contact us at 800-293-6527
or info@bleedingdisordersfl.org

Upcoming Programs and Events!

[Click Here To See our Events Calendar!](#)

Educational Dinner
Education Program
Creepy Crawl (Orlando)
Halloween Hike (Tampa)
Board Of Director Meeting
Education Dinner
Educational Program
Holiday Event (Tampa)

Trailblazers Holiday Fest (Clermont)
Holiday Event (Jacksonville)

Holiday Event (Gainesville)
5th Annual Latin Conference

October 15, 2026 - BoVine Winter Park Florida
October 16, 2026 - Top Golf, Tampa Florida
October 24, 2026 - Harbor Park at Baldwin Park
October 31, 2026 - Upper Tampa Bay Park
November 15, 2026 - Virtual
November 19, 2026 - Spurriers Gainesville Florida
November 24, 2026 - Top Golf Orlando Florida
December 5, 2026 - Zoo Tampa at Lowry Park
1101 W Sligh Ave Tampa, FL 33604
December 12, 2026 - Waterfront Park 300 3rd Street, FL 34711
December 13, 2026 - Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront 225
East Coastline Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32202, USA
December 18, 2025 - The Equestrian Center Ocala Florida
January 30-31, 2026 - Renaissance Orlando Resort
Disney Springs® Area

Our 19th Annual Superhero Walk at Vinoy Park in St. Petersburg was an incredible morning of FUN-raising! More than 250 superheroes joined us and helped raise over \$54,000 to support the Bleeding Disorders Foundation of Florida (BDFF) and our mission to provide vital programs and services to families across Florida.

Congratulations to Our Superhero Walk Award Winners!

Top Fundraiser – Team Grateful

Congratulations to Tim and Crystal Moore and Team Grateful for raising more than **\$10,000**



From games and activities to delicious treats and an exciting raffle, the morning was packed with fun, friendship, and fundraising.

A huge thank you to our amazing co-chairs, **Jenn Hastie**, **Christina Martinez**, and **Patsie Gibson**, for leading the way and helping make this event such a success. We're also grateful to BDFF founders and honorary co-chairs **Rhonda and Brian McDonald** for joining us and supporting this special day.

We loved hearing from **Parker Bowes**, who beautifully sang the Star-Spangled Banner, and from **Jenn Hastie**, **Erin Hardin**, and **Zeke Hardin**, who shared their personal stories during our Mission Moments.

Our superheroes came out in full force! **Raymond, Thunderbug, Pete the Pelican**, and **Rocky D. Bull** joined heroes from the **Guardians of Justice**, **St. Petersburg Fire Department**, and **Bay Coast Guardians** to help us save the day.

Team Spirit Award – Team Zeke

Team Zeke brought an incredible group of superheroes together to show their support and spread team spirit throughout the event!



Super Recruiter – Hemostasis Heroes

A huge shoutout to Hemostasis Heroes for spreading the word and recruiting the most superheroes online. Their outreach helped make this year's event one to remember!



To everyone who walked, volunteered, donated, recruited teammates, sponsored the event, or helped behind the scenes:

THANK YOU!

Your incredible support keeps our mission strong and helps us work toward improving the quality of life for people with bleeding disorders and their families.

We can't wait to see you again on **September 25, 2027**, at **Vinoy Park** for our **20th Annual Superhero Walk!**

More fun, friendship, and FUN-raising awaits!



Major Sponsor

City of St. Petersburg

Champion Sponsors

Bayer
Healthcare
CSL Behring
DrugCo Health
Genentech
Hemophilia of Georgia
John Hopkins All Children's Hospital
Medexus Pharma
Octapharma
Sanofi
St. Joseph's Children's Hospital
Takeda
USF Health

Stroll Sponsor

SpecialtyCareRX



In-Kind Sponsors

ASAP Pharmacy
CSL Behring
CVS CAREMARK
David Lau (DJ Dave)
Dawn Hall
Florida Aquarium
Glazer's Children's Museum
Gordon Food Service
Guardians Of Justice
LUX Infusion
Mendy Hood
St. Petersburg Fire Department
Tampa Bay Rowdies Pete The Pelican
Tampa Bay Lightning Thunderbug
Tampa Bay Rays Raymond
The Dali Museum
University of South Florida Rocky D Bull
ZooTampa



A SPOOKTACULAR DAY AWAITS ON OCTOBER 24!

The *20th Annual Orlando Creepy Crawl 5K Run and Fun Walk* is coming up on **Saturday, October 24, 2026**, and we want **YOU** to join us for an evening of Halloween fun, community, and FUN-raising!

Meet incredible characters including the Ghostbusters, Star Wars Legion, Guardians of Justice, and more!

Bring your family. Invite your friends. Put together a team. Come dressed as your favorite superhero, villain, ghost, or anything your imagination can dream up!

Whether you run, walk, fundraise, volunteer, or cheer from the sidelines, you're helping make a difference for individuals and families affected by bleeding disorders.

This is more than a Halloween celebration. Every registration, donation, and mile helps support the Bleeding Disorders Foundation of Florida (BDDF) and our mission to improve the quality of life for people with bleeding disorders and their families.

Together, we'll make this 20th anniversary celebration a night filled with **friendship, and FUN-raising** while supporting a mission that matters. **Every step makes a difference.**

We encourage everyone to go beyond registration and **fundraise or make a donation to support BDDF**. Every dollar raised helps us continue serving the bleeding disorders community throughout Florida.



Saturday, October 24, 2026

**Harbor Park at Baldwin Park
4990 New Broad Street
Orlando, FL 32814**

Registration begins: 4:00 PM

5K Run & Fun Walk begins: 5:00 PM

5K Run: \$10 for students \$25 for adults

Fun Walk: FREE!

SPOOKY FUN STARTS HERE — SIGN UP TODAY!

Get ready for some holiday fun on December 12th! Join the BDFF for the 4th Annual Trailblazers Holiday Fest and celebrate the season your way. Join the Grinch and Santa while strolling along the beautiful waterfront, hop on your bike for a festive ride, and enjoy plenty of holiday fun along the way!

Check out the beautifully decorated Christmas trees, soak in the festive atmosphere, and make memories with family and friends.

When you register and donate, you're helping BDFF provide essential programs and services that improve the quality of life for individuals and families in our community.

However, you celebrate the season, celebrate with us! Register today and join the Trailblazers Holiday Fest!



December 12th, 2026

Waterfront Park

300 3rd Street

Clermont, FL 34711

Registration Starts at 9:30AM, The Event Begins at 10:30AM

We Encourage Everyone to Fundraise and Support the BDFF!

JOIN THE TRAILBLAZER FUN NOW!

Together Like Family: United By Knowledge and Health
¡Reserve la fecha! Save the Date for the 2027 Latin Conference!

Join us for a meaningful day of connection, learning, and community as we come together like family to share knowledge, build relationships, and focus on health. After the conference, keep the fun going with an exciting evening at Disney Springs!

30 de enero 2027/January 30-31, 2027
Renaissance Orlando Resort and Spa, Disney Springs Area 1905
Hotel Plaza Blvd
Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

If you need a hotel room for Friday night, January 29, 2027, rooms are available for \$50, paid to the BDFF before the conference. **Saturday night accommodations will be covered by the BDFF.**

Email info@bleedingdisordersfl.org or call 800-293-6527 for more information.

