

HOW TO HELP

AWARENESS

- Sign-up today and pledge your support with a one-time or monthly donation
- Go online to learn more and make an online donation at www.thetsf.org
- Spread the word about the TSF by telling your friends and family
- Sign-up and host a fundraiser for the foundation

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Support the Todd Stabelfeldt Foundation

**BUILDING AWARENESS,
UNDERSTANDING,
AND CHANGING LIVES
THROUGH COMPASSIONATE
INNOVATION AND
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

BACKGROUND

Todd is an inspiration to all who have the pleasure of knowing him. Todd was born in 1979 to a great dad, mom, and sister. When Todd was about 4 his father died in a motorcycle accident when coming home from work. In the summer of 1987, Todd then 8, found himself playing with some antique rifles owned by his deceased father. Todd was accidentally shot in the chin by his cousin Michael.

As a boy growing up with quadriplegia, Todd and his family managed as best they could. Todd's mother Gwen, did not allow him to dwell on his disability. She told him he would be allowed to stay at home only until he was 20 years old. Todd learned at a very young age to not let his disability stop his dreams. He attended public school, became a Natural Helper, and started attending college classes at 16. A week after turning 18, Todd got his first job as a software developer for a medical company based in Seattle.

Today, Todd is a very successful business man. Todd still works for the same medical software company. He now holds the position of Vice President of Operations. Todd's real passion is speaking to businesses, hospitals, colleges, schools, churches, conferences, etc. about his story and overcoming challenges. Todd is a real source of inspiration, compassion, and honesty. Todd's mantra is "I want to give back to the community which gave to me and my family."

Todd has found ways to touch others in profound ways—he touches with his heart! Through his paintings, volunteering at hospitals, public/inspirational speeches, and peer counseling.

By embracing honesty, Todd has learned to use his heart through his words to impact the world. Friends, family, church members, neighbors, and often strangers feel drawn to Todd. He listens and gives incredible words of wisdom, love, kindness, and unconditional acceptance. He has also found interesting ways to touch and experience the world around him and embrace independence using technology. Through voice assisted components, computer devices that operate with puffs of air, specially configured headsets and more, Todd has taken his computer training and his disability to educate both patients and therapists. Todd is one who when you meet, you leave with a deposit.

VISION

COMPASSION – *I live every minute of my life with a constant reminder of a bad choice. Thru this choice I now present myself to the world as a spectacle. My choice now is how to define spectacle. I want to choose and help others choose life over death. By sitting in my own pain, I can help others by requesting permission to sit with them when most do not or will not.*

INNOVATION – *My mind is in real time developing solutions to enrich my life. I work 24 hours a day making quadriplegia less painful in my daily routine. The solutions I/we develop should be shared with the world. My position is unique when compared to my peers. I/we want to use this leverage to educate leaders, teachers, and therapists with better ways to provide solutions.*

EMPOWERMENT – *Using my story to share love and life we will find other stories of the like. When we share we learn, and when we learn we become empowered to make better choices. Choices start with self and with the right tools the choice then becomes sustainable. The power to choose is what we all want.*

ACTIVITIES

AWARENESS

- *Sharing my story by peer mentoring in local and national hospitals*
- *Lecturing to pre-med and occupational therapy students*
- *Writing books, filming a documentary*
- *Creating a community of 100 C1–C4 quadriplegics*
- *Life coaching to the spinal cord injured and similar injuries or conditions*

LOCAL/FEDERAL POLICY

- *Actively pursue policy improvements at the federal and state level to remove the barriers that prevent individuals from returning to work*

TECHNOLOGY

- *Developing assistive technology that enables individuals to contribute to society and to pursue and live a full life while the Foundation actively supports a cure for spinal cord injury*
- *Consulting to organizations on best practices and mobility awareness*
- *Assisting injured individuals*
- *Providing compassionate care-giving tips that not only sustain, but enable independence*

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

- *Teaching workshops at the university level occupational therapy programs*
- *Working with occupational therapists in the field to provide solutions*
- *Creating a community of occupational therapists who work with the TSF to better solutions / services*