

Rocky Mountain Hemophilia



& Bleeding Disorders Association
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Montana corporation

RMHBDA Education Scholarship

*For Undergraduate Students and
Families Affected by Bleeding Disorders
Deadline – June 30th every year*

The Rocky Mountain Hemophilia and Bleeding Disorder Association is a chapter located in Bozeman, MT that is dedicated to representing, educating, supporting, and helping those patients with bleeding disorders and their families in Montana and Wyoming. Having an association with the National Hemophilia Foundation, we gain support from the NHF, national and local corporate partners and local individuals. Our mission is to provide ongoing support through education, family camp and financial means as well as other specific programs to meet the needs of the individuals we serve.

Through the RMHBDA we recognize the many individuals including the board of directors, governance bodies, donators, sponsors, and member as a reason to exist as well as the reason we do exist. Due to the generosity of many and the needs of our members it has been a long-time goal to be able to offer scholarships to our membership.

We believe that knowledge and understanding is the key to the future for the bleeding disorders community. We also understand that generous service and commitment of our members is the reason for the success of RMHBDA. With this scholarship we want to recognize those individuals who have shown commitment to the bleeding disorders community through their actions. We look to all those within our reach; those with bleeding disorders, parents, siblings, etc. We want to reward those who show courage, understanding and a commitment to the betterment of the lives of those affected. We wish all students the very best of luck in their endeavors.

Rocky Mountain Hemophilia
& Bleeding Disorders Association

1627 West Main Street, #142

Bozeman

Montana

59715-4011

406.586.4050

www.rmhbda.org

While RMHBDA does not limit the number of scholarships we award annually, we have named three of our scholarships after influential and cherished chapter members and families who were instrumental to the growth and success of our chapter.

- **The Anne and Orley Arthur Scholarship**

Kevin Arthur was born in 1964 in Billings, MT. His father, Orley was a vet and Anne took care of their large family. When Kevin was born with Hemophilia, the Arthur families health insurance company told them they would cancel Kevin's insurance, but keep coverage for everyone else. Orley and Anne fought the insurance company to keep Kevin on the policy and won! There wasn't any bleeding disorders group in MT, and factor was still very expensive. When the Arthur family moved to Roundup, Anne told me they had a "Cowboy" doctor. Where they had some battles with the doctor. Orley and Anne intervened and took Kevin to Billings for his initial Hemophilia care. Kevin was officially treated and diagnosed with Hemophilia in Seattle. The HTC in the Denver area started to come to Billings for clinic around 1976.

Anne and Orley would talk to other families about getting together when the HTC had clinics in Billings, but it was difficult and expensive for families together. Kevin went to Mile High camp in Colorado at age 12 in Denver, Colorado. Camp was life changing and empowering for Kevin. Kevin yearned to be like his brother Brian (no Hemophilia) who played sports. Kevin quickly took care of himself and had to persuade the school system to allow him to administer his medicine at school. In the early 1980's, the National Hemophilia Foundation started planning events in areas like Montana. Kevin traveled around Montana during this time and met with families and raised money for a bleeding disorders group.

When the AIDS epidemic hit, Kevin acquired AIDS due to "bad blood" or a "bad transfusion" in 1986, he passed away at age 27. Dawn Rotellini took over as president of the Montana Hemophilia chapter around the time of Kevin's passing, using the funds that Kevin had raised. And by the year 2000, Dawn, Anne, Orley, and many other involved families formed Rocky Mountain Hemophilia & Bleeding Disorders Association as a 501 c3.

Orley Arthur passed away in 2011. Anne continues to attend every RMHBDA program she can and continues to advocate on behalf of families and individuals across Montana and Wyoming.

- **The Fred Pitkin Family Scholarship**

Fred and Alice Pitkin were generous donors to RMHBDA. At one point, when the chapter was in trouble financially the Pitkin families annual kind donation was critical to our programs and community. Fred had a son with Hemophilia who passed in California away from AIDS due to a “bad transfusion”. After his son passed away, Fred and Alice contributed generously to RMHBDA and the Hemophilia Foundation of southern California. Fred loved living in Montana and was an avid skier and volunteer at Bozeman Deaconess hospital in Bozeman, MT. When Fred passed away in September of 2020, he left a large financial gift to RMHBDA, which will sustain our scholarship program for decades.

- **The Randen Schoppe Family Scholarship**

Randen Schoppe, was born in Sheridan, Wyoming. Early in his life he was stricken by cerebral palsy, a condition that impacted his physical abilities, but he never allowed that to define him as a person. Randen Shoppe was a man of God. After completing his mother’s home school, he graduated from Little Bighorn College, Crow Agency in 2000, and then from the University of Montana in December 2002. In 2006 he earned his Juris Doctorate from the Valparaiso School of Law in Indiana. He returned to Hardin, passed the Montana Bar on his first attempt, then worked as a public defender for ten years, and then as a Deputy County Attorney for Big Horn County until his passing. Randen married Rochelle in Lewiston, ID on August 13, 2011. In 2018 God blessed them with their son Amos Luke. Amos was born with Hemophilia. Randen and Rochelle quickly became involved with RMHBDA to educate themselves about Hemophilia and to connect with the RMHBDA community. Randen served as the RMHBDA President of the Board of Directors for two years, up until his passing in December of 2021.

See the following pages for eligibility and the application.

Eligibility for the RMHBDA Scholarship

- Applicants must personally have or have a family member with an inherited bleeding disorder. Patients with acquired bleeding disorders are not eligible to apply.
- Applicants must live or have family in Montana or Wyoming. The applicant may be living out of state while going to school; they are still eligible for the scholarship.
- The Applicant must have been involved with Rocky Mountain Hemophilia and Bleeding Disorder Association at some point and in some capacity.
- The applicant must have volunteered time and energy to directly benefit the bleeding disorder community. Although other volunteerism is admirable and will be considered, direct service to the bleeding disorder community of some kind is required.
- Applicants must be entering or attending a 2 or 4-year undergraduate institution, trade school, or community school. High school students, current undergraduate students or adults seeking undergraduate studies later in life may apply.
- Applicants must be accepted and enter an undergraduate institution.
- Applicants who are past recipients may also apply.
- Applicants must submit a complete application between January 1 and June 1, 2016.
- Applications must be turned in to the Executive Director, Brad Benne.

The Process

- **Applications are due on later than June 30th. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.**
- An impartial review committee being comprised of the RMHBDA board of directors and executive director will review and judge the applications. If any member of the review committee is related to one of the applicants, he/she will be excused from the review and judging process.
- Supporting documentation such as proof of enrollment may be asked for.
- Scholarship winners will be awarded \$1000.00 prior to matriculation in the fall.
- Scholarship funds will be dispersed prior to the winner beginning school and will be issued to the scholarship winner themselves.
- Activities/accomplishments that will be taken into consideration (in alphabetic order):
 - Extra-curricular activities
 - Financial need
 - School grades

- Success in various activities
- Volunteerism in general
- Volunteerism in the bleeding disorder community

Scholarship Application

Please fully complete this application, indicating N/A (not applicable) where appropriate. Leave no blank lines anywhere in the application. Feel free to use additional paper, if necessary, note that you have where appropriate. Please include your name on any additional sheets. All areas below should be filled out as if the student was filling this out except where otherwise indicated.

Name: _____

Current Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Parent(s) name: _____

Parent(s) address(s), and/or student's permanent address: _____

Parent(s) phone number: _____

Parent(s) email address: _____

Name and City of high school attended: _____

Name/location of school currently attending: _____

School(s) applying to and acceptance to school is applicable: _____

****Please request and turn in a current official transcript — ensure report includes SAT or ACT scores if you are a high school student.**

Do you anticipate receiving any other scholarships or grants? If so, list name(s) and amount(s): _____

Please type an essay answering the following questions:

1. What are your academic goals?
2. What would you like to do after you receive your undergraduate degree?
3. Why do you feel you would be a good choice for this scholarship?
4. Tell us about your specific volunteer activities within the bleeding disorders community.
5. What has been your greatest challenge as a person living with a bleeding disorder or caring for someone with a bleeding disorder? How have you tried to overcome it?
6. Tell us about an experience in which you were inspired or inspired someone else.

Please submit a separate sheet of paper listing all your volunteer activities with beginning and ending dates for each, as well as your role in the activity.

Please submit two (2) letters of recommendation from adults that are not related to you. At least one of them should be written by someone who has firsthand knowledge of your bleeding disorder community involvement. **The letters should be submitted with the application by the student. Letters that are directly mailed will not be accepted. The application will be considered incomplete if the letters are not submitted by the student with the application.**

For our confirmation, please include the name of each reference:

1. Name: _____
Relationship: _____
2. Name: _____
Relationship: _____

Checklist for All Application Submissions

- Fully completed application with typed essay
- A current official transcript
- A typed resume with all volunteer activities with start and end dates
- Two typed letters of recommendation

Applications can be submitted in person or mailed to 1627 W. Main St., #142, Bozeman, MT, 59715.