



## Barth Syndrome Month of May Awareness Campaign

### Quote of the Day

**"I have worked with a variety of foundations organized by families and focused on specific diseases over the years and have been pleased and amazed to see how strong an impact these organizations have on its "members". BSF is amongst the strongest, best well organized and thoughtful organizations that I have had the pleasure of working with and wanted to take this time to say "hats off" to all you have done and are doing." ~ Jeffrey Towbin, MD, Professor and Chief, Pediatric Cardiology, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center; Cincinnati, Ohio**

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### Featured Story: A Personal Message from Andrew Buddemeyer, Age 22



I was diagnosed with Barth Syndrome at the age of fifteen. My diagnosis was a result of my cousin being diagnosed. Up until that point in my life I had never had any major complications, except for one instance right after birth when I went into heart failure, and had to be hospitalized for a week.

I attended school regularly with only minor accommodations in middle school and high school, such as an extra set of books. I graduated from high school in 2007 and enrolled in Florida State University majoring in Real Estate and Finance.

During my third year in college, I became ill during the fall semester. I went into heart failure the result of which was a month long hospital stay, and an evaluation for a heart transplant. It was determined I did not a transplant at the time, but it caused me to miss the spring semester.

Fortunately, I was able to return during the summer and graduate at the end of my third year. Since then, I have been working on improving my health through a proper diet, and participating in a cardiac rehab program. In addition, I was admitted to law school and will be attending the University of Florida this fall.

**Barth Syndrome Foundation, Inc.**

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