



A Matter of Life and Breathe

What Happened?

In April 2009, Kareem Peters, age 28, halted his vehicle on the interstate due to an incident. He noticed a fast moving vehicle coming from behind and tried to avoid the collision. However, the vehicle, driven by an elderly gentleman crashed into his vehicle at 75 mph sending his vehicle swirling, hitting a tree and breaking his neck.

Kareem was rushed to a hospital where he was diagnosed paralyzed. A month later, he was fortunate to receive a grant to attend the Shepherd Center, a prominent spinal cord rehabilitation facility in Atlanta, GA. Then he was discharged from the Shepherd Center into the Outpatient Day Program where he continued to struggle with his breathing and requires 24-hour medical attention.

Help Kareem to Breathe

On his first few nights released from the hospital, Kareem continued to experience difficulty breathing. His mother was advised that he needed an In-Exsufflator, a very expensive medical equipment but it will effectively clear his secretions and prevent further scar tissue unlike suctioning that produces a choking-like, abrasive effect. Kareem can feel the upper part of his arms and he has some movement but to prevent all from being lost, he must have this medical equipment to effectively clear his secretions. Kareem was later rushed to Piedmont hospital where he was admitted to IMCU and later released. We are in urgent need of this medical equipment and other necessities to help this young man survive and not suffer.

Who is Kareem?

Kareem is a remarkable young man who has helped many in his community. His heart-felt kindness and compassion for others has startled his community with this sad news. He has shown his generosity by helping in so many ways. He has shown bravery in cases such as assisting a distressed mother to regain her children from an angry father. There are so many great things he has done to show a kind heart to others. It is so profound how the news of this injury has awakened so many who rushed to see him from all over.

What would this mean to him? This medical equipment and necessities would mean a fighting chance for him so he can continue to help others. Will you please help him? Help Kareem to breathe.

Kareem has not received any insurance compensation to cover his medical costs. To help offset immediate expenses, Kareem's family has established a fundraising campaign in his honor through the Catastrophic Injury Program of NTAF. For over 25 years, the non-profit NTAF has been working with the organ/tissue transplant community. In recent years, they have expanded their mission to assist those who have sustained a catastrophic injury. All contributions are administered by NTAF exclusively for injury-related expenses. Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Please make checks payable to: **NTAF Southeast Spinal Cord Injury Fund**
Print in memo section of check: In Honor of Kareem Peters
Please send to: NTAF
150 N. Radnor Chester Road, Suite F-120
Radnor, PA 19087

To make credit card contributions, call 800-642-8399 or visit www.catastrophicfund.org.

We are grateful for your generosity, prayers and support.