

## Community Choice Foundation provides surprise donation to Walled Lake non-profit dedicated to help individuals with spinal cord injuries or paralysis

Drew Clayborn has been an advocate and inspiration for spinal cord injury research for 13 years. He is the name behind [The Drew Crew](#), a non-profit organization focused on helping individuals and families that have suffered a spinal cord injury or other forms of paralysis.

In late June, Drew was surprised with a \$2,500 check contributed by [Community Choice Foundation](#), the charitable arm of Community Choice Credit Union, at the credit union's new Commerce Township member center Grand Opening celebration.



The former Walled Lake Central student suffered a spinal cord injury as a high schooler in 2010 and since then has been the driving force behind a mission to prove that those who have suffered a catastrophic injury can still live a complete and fulfilling life. The Drew Crew is dedicated to helping victims of spinal cord injuries get the specific services and therapy that best supports their recovery.

“The impact that I see my and story has on other people is important and somehow has helped others,” says Clayborn, who is open both about his personal story and how healthy and fulfilling his life has been. “Some of my friends have told me they started going to physical therapy after many years (of not taking physical therapy classes) because of my story. Hearing that motivates me even more.”

The Walled Lake-based non-profit also provides individuals impacted by a spinal cord injury and their families with mentorship, guidance and fundraising assistance. Clayborn and his organization are currently promoting the benefits of specially designed bowling ramps and related accessories that make it easier for individuals affected by paralysis to enjoy the sport. He feels that there is a market from both bowling alley operators and individual bowlers for the ramp.

Another goal of Clayborn's is to expand The Drew Crew's reach and partnership with other not-for-profit organizations. By creating these partnerships Clayborn says he will expand the organization's impact in a positive way.

"I can't do everything even though I like to think that I can," Clayborn says with a laugh.

Community Choice Foundation recognizes the important work of the Drew Crew and the difference that it is making in the community, says Community Choice Foundation Executive Director Kevin McAlpine. He believes Clayborn's story is inspirational.

"Helping individuals and families that have suffered a spinal cord injury or other forms of paralysis is example of how we join with other nonprofit organizations to collectively Give Big," McAlpine says. "Drew does such a great job showing everyone how to live your best life."