



BPCAF

THE BOB PERKS CANCER ASSISTANCE FUND



Brian Clarkson with his wife, Tina, and daughters, Carley and Keira

How the Bob Perks Cancer Assistance Fund Helps Local Families

In September, 29-year-old Brian Clarkson was diagnosed with large B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. It all started when he was working in the yard and became light-headed. He was in good physical shape

and knew something had to be wrong, so he went to the doctor's office, where his X-rays showed something abnormal.

The Bellefonte resident first heard about the Bob Perks Cancer Assistance Fund through his oncologist's office at Geisinger. The fund helped Clarkson, his wife, Tina, and their two young daughters, Carley (2) and Keira (1) with household bills, and when disaster struck recently. On January 10, a small house fire broke out in their kitchen. Although it involved only the stove and some cabinets, the smoke damage had forced the Clarksons to temporarily move into a hotel for several weeks. "BPCAF helped us to get through the unexpected expenses included with that," Clarkson says.

Besides undergoing chemotherapy and being a husband and father, Clarkson also is an active-duty Army soldier who is serving as full-time reserve support. He works at the Bellefonte Army Reserve Center and is a wheeled-vehicle mechanic.

He is currently receiving treatments for the cancer, but tests have shown that the tumor has essentially disappeared. He is undergoing a couple more treatments to make sure that all active cancer cells have been destroyed.

"I feel pretty good right now, and I am looking forward to having the opportunity to be healthy and to try to return the kindnesses of so many of the people who have helped us, with special emphasis on the BPCAF," he says. "They gave us peace of mind in such hard times, but more so they, especially Mrs. Perks herself, were so kind and supportive that we truly believe we couldn't have made it through without them."

To donate or for more information on BPCAF, visit www.bpcaf.org or call 231-2692.

Donations can be mailed to:
BPCAF
P.O. Box 313
State College, PA 16804

Please write "Town&Gown" on the memo line of your check.