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## **GOLF TOURNAMENT TO HELP LOCAL MAN WITH PARALYSIS GET NEW WHEELS**

### **Tee Off on August 23 at the Oakdale Golf Club in Buffalo Lake**

**BUFFALO LAKE, Minn.**—On Monday, August 23, tee off for a good cause at the Wheels for Colby Golf Tournament at Oakdale Golf Club (55106 County Road 38 in Buffalo Lake). Your participation will help Colby Smith, a Hutchinson man living with paralysis, to secure critically-needed wheelchair van with help from the nonprofit Help Hope Live.

Shotgun start at 12 noon on August 23. Golf from noon to 5 p.m. with a dinner at 5 p.m. or at the conclusion of the golf, plus enjoy a silent auction. Register for \$100 per person or \$20 for dinner only at: <https://events.helphopelive.org/event/5449/signup/>

Tax-deductible sponsorships available. Contact Colby directly for information at [colbysmith2002@hotmail.com](mailto:colbysmith2002@hotmail.com) or 612-532-9610.

Can't attend? Make a tax-deductible donation at any time online at: <https://helphopelive.org/campaign/13225/>

At age 17, Hutchinson native Colby Smith experienced a car accident that left him with a fractured neck and a paralyzing spinal cord injury. Plunged into a new world, and despite physical challenges and financial stresses, Colby committed to continuing to live life on his own terms. By age 35, he had earned his master's degree in vocational rehabilitation counseling. With a diligent pursuit of rehabilitation, on July 13, 2017, [Colby took his first steps in 18 years.](#)

Today, Colby is fundraising with the nonprofit Help Hope Live to secure a much-needed source of mobility and independence: an accessible vehicle. Such a vehicle costs \$30,000 out-of-pocket: insurance offers no assistance or coverage for this critical component of Colby's daily life.

So far, he has raised \$1,500 towards his first \$10,000 fundraising milestone.

Colby's dream is to pay it forward once his own needs are met, assisting other spinal cord injury survivors with their journeys to greater independence and mobility.

"After 22 years of living with paralysis, I have learned that it is okay to not be okay," Colby explained. "I believe that life isn't about having or regaining the ability to walk. It's about mastering the art of transforming our disadvantages into advantages." That concept is the inspiration for the book Colby is currently writing about his life experiences.

Golf tournament registrations and all other donations made to Help Hope Live in honor of Colby are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law, and all funds raised will be

managed by the nonprofit to cover verified medical and related expenses. Help Hope Live verifies medical and financial need for every patient.

Help Hope Live is a national nonprofit that specializes in engaging communities in secure, tax-deductible fundraising campaigns for people who need a transplant or are affected by a catastrophic injury or illness. Since 1983, campaigns organized by Help Hope Live have raised over \$150 million to pay patient expenses.

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