

The Colette  
Louise  
Tisdahl  
Foundation



*Night at the Races*

# Impact of Sponsorship





# About Us

Michelle was almost 22 weeks pregnant when she found out she had preeclampsia – a pregnancy complication of high blood pressure that can be fatal for both mother and baby.

At the hospital, the doctors told her and her husband Mark that Michelle wouldn't be leaving until her baby was born. After struggling with infertility, IVF, and a miscarriage, this news was devastating to the new parents.

For a little over three weeks, Michelle stayed in the hospital doing all she could to stay healthy so Colette could grow stronger. But Michelle and Mark received more terrible news – Colette wasn't growing. Under the advice of doctors, Colette would be delivered 16 weeks early.

Colette Louise Tisdahl was born on May 23, 2018. She had blond hair and her mom's nose.

After fighting hard for 9 days, the doctors took Colette off of the machines working to keep her alive. Colette was placed into the arms of Michelle and Mark to pass in love, peace, comfort, and surrounded by family.

Michelle and Mark set up The Colette Louise Tisdahl Foundation to honor the memory of their daughter and to help other families experiencing a similar crisis.

The Colette Foundation's goal is to financially support families dealing with high-risk and complicated pregnancies, NICU stays, or loss through T.L.C. – trust, love, and compassion.



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# Needs Statement

Unexpected pregnancy complications, NICU stays, or the loss of a child puts stress and suffering on families. As these families navigate the emotional and physical toll of handling a circumstance they never thought they'd face, they are also faced with financial hardships.

The hardship of a mom who can no longer work since she spends every day with her premature baby in the NICU. The hardship of a dad waking up to the crushing weight of the death of his child and not knowing how he'll pay for the funeral.

The Colette Louise Tisdahl Foundation helps families when it is most needed to relieve them of these unexpected burdens.

To date, The Colette Foundation has given away over \$1 million and served over 1,700 families in 47 states.

And we have provided unmeasurable but important amounts of hope, relief, and kindness.

But we want to do more.

The Colette Foundation wants to extend our reach and help more families pay for rent, groceries, gas, and other financial needs.

We want to give hope and relief to families faced with the worst crisis of their life by taking away the stress of bills and allowing them to focus on what matters - staying healthy through a high-risk pregnancy, dealing with premature birth or NICU stay, or grieving the loss of a child.

And your sponsorship will be the difference.



Here is what some of our clients are saying about The Colette Foundation:

"Having our phone bill paid and our bank account cleared helped so much. We were not as worried about bills and could focus on our child's needs." - A.E., NICU parent

"This means a lot to me. I'll get to see my baby every day." -F.H., NICU parent

"It is an amazing foundation to reach out to, help from you guys is the only way I was able to put my baby to rest." --B.H., loss parent

"They helped my family be able to visit my newborn son, as well as being able to contact the hospital as needed." -M.M., NICU parent

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The Colette Louise Tisdahl Foundation provides financial assistance to families in crisis due to one of three situations: (1) high-risk or complicated pregnancy; (2) NICU stay; or (3) loss (from pregnancy to stillbirth to infant death up to one year of age).

Through your sponsorship, you'll give funds directly to families in need through our financial assistance program.

Donors like you allow The Colette Foundation to continue our work to provide education on topics like trauma-informed care, working with premie and loss parents, and costs of care. And we can also continue to advocate for change that brings about better outcomes for mothers and their babies.

**But most important of all, your sponsorship allows The Colette Louise Tisdahl Foundation to continue to financially support families in crisis.**

- You help a new mom with a premie in the NICU pay her rent.
- You help a family pay for the cost of the memorial and burial of their stillborn baby or baby who passed days after being born.
- You help a mom and dad with the cost of a hotel so they can stay near their infant daughter in the NICU and not have to drive two hours one-way.
- You help a family of five keep their electricity, water, and heat on so Mom can stay on bed rest and reach full term.
- You help a high-risk pregnant woman be able to go to her prenatal appointments.
- And you help a family have a working phone so they can communicate with the NICU where their child is, even when they are not there.





## Thank You!

The Colette Louise Tisdahl Foundation looks forward to partnering with you to help serve families in crisis.

To set up your sponsorship now, contact Michelle Valiukenas, Executive Director, at [michelle@colettelouise.com](mailto:michelle@colettelouise.com) or call (773) 405-7981.

To learn more about The Colette Louise Tisdahl Foundation, visit us at [www.colettelouise.com](http://www.colettelouise.com)

And stay connected with us on social media!

Facebook: [@colettetisdahl](https://www.facebook.com/colettetisdahl)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-colette-louise-tisdahl-foundation/>

Instagram: [@colettelouisetisdahl](https://www.instagram.com/colettelouisetisdahl)

Twitter: [@thetisdahl](https://twitter.com/thetisdahl)

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