



OUR VISION is to inspire hope, courage, confidence and strength to release all amputees from the bonds of despair and fear, so they and their families may move forward to experience a renewal of life, energy, purpose, empowerment, and joy.

OUR MISSION: Miracle Limbs-Courage in Motion is a Florida registered non-profit organization, committed to providing amputees and their immediate families the resources necessary to overcome the physical, emotional, and financial hurdles that accompany the experience of losing a limb(s).

OUR HISTORY began when Founder Robert (Bob) Ayres, through his own trauma, and subsequent triumph over it almost 25 years later, realized he could now help other amputees in need of help. Bob and his wife, Diana, began researching what support was already available through other organizations, and found there was an enormous void in the non-profit community to support amputees and their families for *all* their needs, both in Florida and across the U.S.

In Bob's words---

"It is our way to give back by reaching out to others who suffered as we did, and to communicate the renewal, strength and purpose we found in our own lives. The better part of my leg was removed as a result of an auto accident. I was in a coma for months. When I awoke, I was broken in spirit and body, and I started to remove myself from life. I was an athlete who would never run again. That trauma lead me down a twenty-five year path of alcohol and drug dependency, broken relationships, and a near death coma in 2005 through self-destructive behavior.

I knew the instant I came out of this last coma, what I was meant to do. Through what I believe was divine intervention, Miracle Limbs-Courage in Motion was born at that moment. My wife says that when I opened my eyes I just kept saying 'I know why I am here now!' My story is the catalyst for creating, along with my wife, Diana Dozier-Ayres, Miracle Limbs - Courage in Motion, as a life line to those suffering emotional, spiritual, financial and psychological effects of limb amputation."

"If I can give back half of what I was given, I am a blessed man." says Bob Ayres. Today and every day, we want to be that hand and heart for others. Miracle Limbs- Courage in Motion is about turning sorrow to joy and defeat to victory through support."



Bob with US Army PFC Corey Kent from Cape Coral

Miracle Limbs is the ONLY non-profit in the US who supports amputees in all areas needed—not just providing a limb. With the growing number of American vets returning home as limb loss victims, the spike in amputations due to the rapid increase of diabetic amputations, limb loss due to cancer, accidents and childbirth limb deficiencies, the need far exceeds our funding abilities. Since our program began, our clients have doubled every year by word of mouth alone. Today we serve an average of 20 amputees at any one point from Southwest Florida alone, while continuing to stay active with all previous recipients. With proper funding we can *reach out* and locate many more.

*In the United States, there are approximately 1.9 million people living with limb loss. It is estimated that one out of every 200 people in the U.S. has had an amputation. 35% of our wounded warriors are currently returning with limb loss, the highest percentage since the Civil War. About one in every 2,000 newborn babies will have some form of limb deficiency. Every week over 3000 people lose a limb in the U.S.A. Approximately 353 Americans a day lose a limb **to diabetes alone**. 75% of amputees said they received NO educational materials from the medical providers. Of the 43% who did receive materials, only 15-20% of the available materials and services were considered helpful. (Amputee Coalition of America)*

TO PROVIDE OUR SERVICES, we continue to expand our work with local, national and regional private, public and federal hospitals, doctors, prosthetics manufacturers, and counselors to provide a seamless continuum of service opportunities that make navigating the medical system easier and kinder. Our networks are ready as soon as we receive the needed funding.

STRATEGIC PLAN The Miracle Limbs-Courage in Motion core leadership went through a professionally facilitated strategic planning process, under the aegis of the Community Foundation of Collier County which resulted in a clear and detailed path for the organization to follow moving towards reasonable, pragmatic and responsible goals.

- Build a strong committed Board of Directors, to ensure the organization remains fiscally sound.
- Create a high quality service delivery plan for clients Increase the volunteer base to include medical and social services professionals
- Solidify relationships with existing providers, while developing and expanding the network
- Increase funding in order to continually increase the number of clients and locations served

We have been successful in reaching these goals, and are now into Phase 2, developing broader medical, counseling and funding resources and adding specific help for veteran amputees at Walter Reed. We have created a Volunteer Steering Committee assigned to all aspects of network development not only in South Florida, but initializing contacts in broader regions.

Become with us the hand that reaches out to make lives whole again. Please give and put courage in motion.

Miracle Limbs-Courage in Motion is a Florida Registered 501 (c) 3 Not-for-profit organization

Please contact us at: 239-571-4956 or through our web site www.miraclelimbs.org

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