Durham Fire Department

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Phone 603-862-1426 ■ Fax 603-862-1513
fire@ci.durham.nh.us
Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services

PLEASE HELP US TO HELP ONE OF OUR OWN

Those of us in the fire service truly form a family with those that we work with. It is a brotherhood and sisterhood that we take seriously. When a member of this extended family suffers a tragedy, we are all affected and mobilize to help that brother or sister. Unfortunately, we can't always fix the problems ourselves. **THAT IS WHY WE ARE ASKING FOR YOUR HELP!**

Melissa Perusse, our Administrative Assistant, has been a member of the Durham Fire Department since 2004. Herself, her husband John, and their four children are very much loved by us all.

In the early morning hours of February 21st, 2009, John was involved in a tragic snowmobile accident. He was ejected from his snowmobile and into a tree. Fortunately, he was wearing a helmet which saved his life. Unfortunately, he was left with broken ribs, a punctured lung, broken shoulder blade, torn aorta and two broken vertebrae in his back. This has left John partially paralyzed and bound to a wheel chair at this point in time.

Being self-employed, John had no disability insurance. This leaves the family trying to live on Melissa's salary alone. Not only are they suffering the loss of income, but they have had to pay for modifications to their home in anticipation of his return home. There is a good chance that John could walk again through extensive physical therapy, but the family needs help through this financial mountain that are currently facing. Members of our organization are putting together fund-raisers. The first of which will be a pancake breakfast to be held at the Durham Fire Department on April 18th, 2009 from 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The cost will be a minimum donation of $5.00 per person.

We realize that some may not be able to attend this event. If you could see it in your heart to make a donation, no matter how large or small, the information is as follows:

Perusse Family Fund
C/o TD Banknorth
Route 125 and Province Road
Barrington, NH 03825

We thank you in advance for your help. Any inquiries can be made to the following members of the Durham Fire Department at (603)-868-5531 or (603)-862-1426:

Corey Landry, Chief — Dave Emanuel, Captain

Jeffrey Furlong, Captain — Steve Jautaikis, Firefighter