

## Life Endowment Donors

As we approach our 30th year, the ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation would like to give special recognition to those who helped secure the future of ThinkFirst by generously contributing to the Life Endowment Campaign, established in 1993.

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**ThinkFirst**  
National Injury Prevention Foundation

May 2, 2015  
Washington DC

2015 Awards

**Distinguished Service Award**

**Edward A. Neuwelt, MD, Professor, Oregon Health & Science University  
ThinkFirst Oregon, Portland, OR**

Neurosurgeon Dr. Edward A. Neuwelt has served as Sponsoring Physician for ThinkFirst Oregon for 29 years. Since establishing the chapter in 1986 with his own personal funds, Dr. Neuwelt's commitment to injury prevention education, research and advocacy has never wavered. Dr. Neuwelt continues to think of new research, secure funding for prevention programs, testify at legislative hearings, and identify creative ways to provide injury prevention education. His ability to see the big picture and steadfast commitment to injury prevention has produced one of the most prolific and respected chapters in the nation—reaching 500,000 Oregonians with injury prevention programs and activities.

**Sponsoring Physician of the Year**

**Daniel B. Michael, MD, PhD, FACS, FAANS, Professor of Neurosurgery  
Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine  
Chief of Neurotrauma and Critical Care, Beaumont Hospital Royal Oak  
Beaumont ThinkFirst, Royal Oak, MI**

Dr. Daniel Michael has served as a Sponsoring Physician for Beaumont Health System's ThinkFirst chapter since its launch in 2008. He has demonstrated a relentless commitment to injury prevention at the local and national level. He is a strong advocate for the mission and programs of the ThinkFirst Foundation. His credits include Past Chairman of the ThinkFirst Foundation Board of Directors, Past President of Michigan State Medical Society, and original member of National Neurotrauma Society. Dr. Michael is a well-respected researcher in the study of traumatic brain injury and is currently involved in investigations of TBI, Alzheimer's disease and concussion.

**Chapter of the Year**

**ThinkFirst Navajo, Farmington, NM**

ThinkFirst Navajo was launched in 2005 by neurosurgeon Robert M. Crowell, MD. This chapter is the flagship program of Eve's Fund for Native American Health Initiatives—a non-profit Dr. Crowell created in memory of his daughter Eve, who died tragically in 2005. ThinkFirst Navajo operates exclusively on and near the largest federally recognized Native American Indian reservation in the US, where injury rates are three times the national average. Since inception, VIP speakers from this chapter have educated more than 35,000 school children on the Navajo Nation and have distributed thousands of helmets. This chapter conducts program research by collecting both quantitative and qualitative program data, including pre-and post-surveys of presentations.

**VIP of the Year**

**Ronald "Bubba" Fletcher  
ThinkFirst of the Ark-La-Tex, Shreveport, LA**

Ronald "Bubba" Fletcher is deeply committed to the mission and programs of ThinkFirst not only in his home state of Louisiana, but on the national level, as well. Since becoming a VIP speaker for ThinkFirst of the Ark-La-Tex in 2008, Bubba has delivered over 150 programs reaching over 14,000 people. In 2011, he attended the ThinkFirst Conference in Denver where he participated in a community-based helmet giveaway event with Broncos Quarterback Tim Tebow. In 2013, he attended a second ThinkFirst Conference and served as a featured speaker on the VIP panel, participating in a helmet give-away event and delivering a ThinkFirst presentation with Saints Quarterback Drew Brees.

**Outstanding Community Involvement Award**

**ThinkFirst Oregon, Oregon Health & Science University  
Portland, OR**

ThinkFirst Oregon has a long-standing reputation for excellence in community-based injury prevention. Most recently, this chapter expanded its menu of ThinkFirst programs to include two additional interventions designed to address the needs of their community. First, chapter staff created a two-hour fall prevention seminar series and provided 42 seminars to older adults throughout the community. The seminar is being evaluated and results will be used to help the ThinkFirst Foundation create a similar effort. Second, this chapter partnered with the CDC to raise awareness on the topic of concussion prevention. Two concussion education webinars were produced and 2,000 concussion awareness and prevention kits were distributed to coaches throughout Oregon.

**Outstanding Research Award**

**ThinkFirst of the Ark-La-Tex, Shreveport, LA**

ThinkFirst of the Ark-La-Tex partnered with Louisiana State University Shreveport, Department of Kinesiology Health Science to conduct an injury prevention study in Northwest Louisiana in 2012. The purpose of the study was to examine children's ownership and use of bicycles and helmets as well as their knowledge about brain injury and bicycle-related injuries. The 390 participants in the study ranged in age from 5 to 14. Among the findings, the survey discovered 84% of children owned a bicycle but only 25% owned a helmet. Chapter Director Donna Cavanaugh served as co-author and results were presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Conference in New Orleans, LA in November 2014.