



Mended Hearts™
of Central Ohio

Benefiting



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER

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**The "Courtney Williams Fund in Heart Failure Research" at the OSU Foundation**

In memory of Courtney Williams, Rebekah (Salser) Hambor, and Nicholas Hunter

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There are special people in this world born to inspire others!

Courtney was just 36 years old, but she inspired so many people in her short life! She was born with pulmonary and aortic valve stenosis and other congenital defects and she lived her entire life with CHD. Courtney endured six open-heart surgeries, starting at the age of four. She struggled through countless heart failure issues and hospital admissions and was waiting on a heart transplant when we lost her in July 2015.

Nicholas was 31 and was a great friend of Courtney's and many others in our heart support group. Nick lost his maternal grandmother when he was 8 years old from familial genetic cardiomyopathy and then lost his mother to the same condition when he was just 21. Nick was living successfully with a heart transplant at 30, but complications from deterioration issues were a factor in his death a year later.

Rebekah was 30 years old and her strong spirit was an inspiration to everyone. She was born with Transposition of the Great Arteries and other congenital issues and went into Failure to Thrive at 4 ½ years old. In 2011, she had her first bout with congestive heart failure and was the recipient of a heart/double lung transplant in March 2014. In December of 2015, we lost Rebekah to rejection issues.



These tragedies may have been prevented by more research into the issues surrounding left-sided heart failure, right-sided heart failure, transplant rejection, and congenital heart disease leading to heart failure.

In October 2015, Bo and Nancy Williams and Mended Hearts of Central Ohio members collaborated to form this research fund and a goal was set of \$500,000! As of February 29, 2016 (in just 5 months), donations and pledges of over \$140,000 have been received!! **The fund is in memory of Courtney, Rebekah, and Nicholas – but will benefit everyone struggling with heart failure needing a solution now, rather than later.** The research by Dr. Peter Mohler, and his team at the OSU Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute, could benefit millions of heart patients. Please join us by donating today or designating United Way or Campus Campaign dollars to this research!

Thank you,
Jeff Davidson, President of
Mended Hearts of Central Ohio

Donations can be made to: OSU Foundation, P.O. Box 183112, Columbus, OH 43218-3112 or online at: <http://give.osu.edu/CourtneyWilliams> For more information, please e-mail Jeff Davidson at jadavidson@columbus.rr.com