

# Ash's Advice: Article 8

By Ashley Moore

Raising money to help The Miami Project and The Buoniconti Fund find a cure for paralysis has been my number one goal since learning only weeks after my car accident that I would never walk again. When I was younger, the two main fundraising contributions my family and I could make involved attending fundraising events as much as possible and giving a small portion of my dad's income to research. Now that I am twenty-three years old, I have taken more initiative and developed other creative ways to raise money. Social media boomed over the last ten years. I go to my Twitter and Facebook page every time I have a chance to during the week and post information on why, where, and how my family and friends can donate. In these posts, I always fat people can go to The Miami Project's main [webpage](#) and press donate.

Moving to Miami in 2013 also allowed me to attend as many Miami-Dade and Broward fundraising events as I could to support The Miami Project. By inviting family, friends, and coworkers, I was able to increase the number of tickets bought for each event, which goes directly to The Buoniconti Fund. Last but certainly not least, I have learned to network, not only through social media but also through word of mouth and the writing of these monthly advice columns to spread the word and gain more support. For example, my dad met a large law firm's partner on a flight back to Miami a few years ago. Due to this relationship, I contacted said partner and asked the company to sponsor an upcoming event for The Miami Project. Out of their hearts' kindness and the miracle of networking, 500 dollars went towards this event. Networking and finding sponsors are just two of the many ways you can give those like me the hope of living free of a wheelchair one day.

You do not have to be an individual with a spinal cord injury to help The Miami Project find a cure and get thousands of people back on their feet. Anyone can write raise money through social media, attendance and invitations to fundraising events, and networking. You can post videos on YouTube, blog posts of people living with paralysis, and share a website or story on Facebook. Going to the Miami Project's main website will give you access to different ways to donate, like starting a fundraising page or spreading the word through social media and e-mails.

Suppose you like having a good time at delicious restaurants, watching fashion shows, and golfing with friends. In that case, you can attend or even put together a fundraising event for The Miami Project. There are chapters of The Buoniconti Fund in ten different states. Each chapter raises money by having events like wine tastings, poker nights, comedy nights, marathons, and much more. You can find a branch near you and support raising money for spinal cord injury research. Suppose you are a people person and love to make friends wherever you go. You can easily network with others by spreading the word about the scientific advances The Miami Project discovers for individuals with spinal cord injuries. Together we can make a difference by raising awareness through word of mouth or the Internet. Please join us and raise money for the cure that will allow me to walk one day!