

## Burnsville Vermeer Team Members Walk and Roll for GBS/CIDP Research

A group of RDO Equipment Co. team members from the Burnsville Vermeer location joined up to participate in the GBS/CIDP Foundation International's Walk and Roll for Research event in the Twin Cities.

Katie Davis, Parts Specialist, organized the RDO team for the second year in a row. The team consisted of Katie, her daughter-in-law Kaleen and grandson Gavin, Service Manager Arlan Brinkmeier, Parts Specialist Garret Wollner, and Garret's daughter Roselyn and girlfriend Brook. Team RDO raised \$2,000, contributing to more than \$32,000 raised at the Twin Cities event.



*L-R: Arlan, Garret, Roselyn, Brook, Kaleen, Gavin, and Katie.*

Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) and Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP) are both disorders of the peripheral nerves. The disorders can cause sensory loss, weakness, and paralysis which can lead to wheelchair dependence in those afflicted.

For Katie, the Walk and Roll fundraiser has a personal connection. The daughter of her close friend was diagnosed with GBS/CIDP at the age of 15, resulting in paralysis from the neck down.

Walk and Roll fundraisers occur in cities throughout the country. According to Katie, this year's Twin Cities event was overall the most successful one so far. Michael Joncas, GBS survivor and writer of the popular song "On Eagle's Wings," participated in the event and performed his song for the other attendees.

Katie said the biggest takeaway from the event is to be thankful for things that can easily be taken for granted, like good health.

"My girlfriend's daughter, Jane, just finished her first year in college and is doing wonderful," she said. "I plan on doing this for many years to come and hope to get more people to join Team RDO."

