



breathin'  
is believin'

CODY DIERUF BENEFIT FOUNDATION

August, 2015

## Carsten Manring Living with Cystic Fibrosis

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Watch for our new Web  
page coming in September

"Help us Help our Own"



### ***Carsten Manring: Living with CF***

(Written by Carsten Manring)

"My name is Carsten Manring. I was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis when I was three years old. However, I did not find the Cody Dieruf Benefit Foundation until I was five. I would say that I didn't start LIVING with CF until I was five.

It was the summer before I was to start kindergarten and I was dreading it, unlike most of my soon-to-be class who couldn't wait to meet new people. I didn't want to meet new people because I felt I could never find someone who understands CF, and who wouldn't look at me as a person differently because I did have CF. However, I met Ginny and George Dieruf that summer. That was a life changer for me, to say the least! I would later refer to Ginny as grandma Ginny because she truly was a grandma in every sense.

The first thing she told me was don't feel like you're different from people who don't live with CF, because you can do everything that they do just as well or even better! One of the most life changing things she told me was, you are not alone, there are other people who live with CF and go through many of the same things that you are going through. She told me always to



**Cody Dieruf**

11-8-1981 - 4-28-2005  
[www.breathinibelievin.org](http://www.breathinibelievin.org)

***Cystic Fibrosis is about Living, not Dying***

**Cody Quote**——

“ Facing one's mortality can be a very scary and painful experience, but I also strongly believe that it can be beautiful, too. It is just hard to see sometimes. The sicker I get, the more difficult the little things become, but consequently, the more victories I have.”

- Donations can be sent to The Cody Dieruf Benefit Foundation - P O Box 6044 - Bozeman, MT 59771 or [www.breathinibelievin.org](http://www.breathinibelievin.org)

- 406-581-9002

***We appreciate your Support!***

call her if I needed someone to talk to and if she couldn't answer my question or understand my trouble, Grandma Ginny knew someone that would.

She got me in touch with people that did answer my questions and understand my troubles - people that I still look up to this day, and most of all, people that make me feel like I am not alone. I am not going to name names because there are not enough books in the world to write down all the people that have touched my life, but I will say this... all of these people taught me not to be afraid or feel like the odd one out because I live with CF. They taught me to be humble, forgiving, and understanding. And to pick my self back up when I fall, because if I didn't, I would be flat on my face by now.

All in all, the Cody Dieruf Benefit Foundation has helped me most of all... to find other people that live with CF and get me in touch with them so that I have someone to talk to... because an individual who will tell you the truth and be there when the going gets tough is sometimes all you need. After finding CDBF, I was looking forward to kindergarten that year because I just couldn't wait to tell the other kids about my life with CF and how extraordinary it can be!

The Cody Dieruf Benefit Foundation has given me the opportunity to go to amazing places and do amazing things. For example: I got to go and take lessons from one of the best bass players in the country. Without the foundation, I wouldn't have been able to go. Me and my family are forever grateful for the support, both mentally and financially, that the foundation has provided for us.

