

# Claudette's Story: Riding in Style

Claudette's main source of happiness is spending time window shopping, getting together with her long-time love and cruising the streets looking out the window.

Due to changing health needs, these important things were becoming less accessible when she could no longer safely transfer into the standard seat in the van. Since wheelchair accessible vans are usually shared between homes, this left Claudette housebound half of the time.

St. Amant Occupational Therapist Shannon Hargreaves recommended a Bruno valet transfer seat that could be used in a regular van. These are very cost prohibitive, an expense far beyond anything that Claudette could manage on her own, so all efforts were made to request funding from government funding agencies. Sadly, these requests were denied so her staff turned to St. Amant Foundation for help.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the Bruno valet seat was purchased and installed in the van, ensuring Claudette regained valuable mobility and independence. Even though mall visits are out of the question right now, she is still able to go for drives and, most importantly, have physically-distant outdoor visits with her loved ones.

Claudette is grateful for the increased independence the power seat gives her. At 56 years old, she has been supported by St. Amant since childhood and was

one of the first to move into a community home. She values the ability to get out into her neighbourhood without having to rely on Handi-Transit or van sharing and continues to find joy in these excursions despite the current COVID-19 restrictions.



## BY THE NUMBERS



\$2 million raised annually, which becomes:



More than 40 pieces of recreational equipment



More than 30 pieces of mobility equipment



More than 30 communication devices

St. Amant Foundation is a part of Réseau Compassion Network, a family of 15 health and social services agencies in Manitoba. Entrusted by pioneering women to bring together people of all faiths, traditions and cultures to serve Manitoba communities wherever the needs are the greatest, Réseau Compassion Network is proud to support this important work in our community.

## ABOUT US

# St.Amant Foundation

St.Amant Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that raises funds for experiences, equipment, and capital projects that support 2,100 children and adults with developmental disabilities and autism in Manitoba.

The Foundation has raised over \$25 million to increase the quality of life of children and adults with developmental disabilities and autism so they can reach their full potential. Our goal is to empower each person supported by St.Amant to have choice and meaning in their life where government funding is not provided.

**Virtual Leisure Services:** Connection and inclusion is everything. Removing barriers to learning new skills, being included in activities you love, making new friends and keeping safe is our number one priority.

**Recreational Activities:** We nurture physical, psychological and emotional wellbeing by ensuring everyone has an opportunity to participate in sporting events, cultural activities and a variety of community events.

**Personal Items & Equipment:** Wheelchairs, bikes, prescription glasses, dental work, lifts...the list of personal items and equipment used by people with disabilities is long and costly. Our goal is to level the playing field and ensure that everyone has the equipment and items they need to live their best life.

**Education & Technology:** As technology advances, the progress can be life changing for people with disabilities to be a contributing member of our community.

**Capital Projects:** St.Amant Spirit Cottage, accessible vans, living unit renovations or major research projects, capital funding is crucial for all to live their best life with respect, dignity and opportunity.



## BOARD DUTIES & COMMITMENTS



The board meets 5 times a year



Approximate time commitment  
of 15 hours annually

### Network Members

Abri Marguerite | Actionmarguerite | Aulneau Renewal Centre | Centre de santé Saint-Boniface | Ste. Rose Health Centre | Centre Flavie-Laurent | Youville Centre | Charités Despins | Gestion Providentia | Saint-Boniface Hospital | Marymount | Sara Riel | St.Amant | Winnipegosis & District Health Centre

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