

For Doctors Who've Suffered a Stroke, The Physicians Benevolent Fund Can Help

Alison H. Brown, MD, couldn't have imagined what lay ahead for her as she started down the path to a career in women's health in the late 1980s. Just a few months into her residency, Dr. Brown suffered an aneurysm and two strokes that ended her medical career and required her to use a wheelchair. Having to come to grips with her disability, coupled with lost income, the young physician turned to TMA's [Physicians Benevolent Fund \(PBF\)](#).

"I had done maybe four months of my residency; it was supposed to be a four-year program," Dr. Brown said. "But God had other plans."

During the ensuing months and years, PBF helped Dr. Brown meet her day-to-day financial needs, as it has for many other physicians since 1961. Recipients receive monthly help to pay for personal necessities -- rent or mortgage, utilities, health insurance, medical bills, clothing, and food.

Over the years, other physicians who experienced a stroke have received funds from PBF, including one physician in his 50s who became debilitated and unable to practice. Another recipient's surgical career was cut short by a stroke.

Whether it's a stroke or some other devastating turn of events, PBF is here when the unexpected happens. If you know a physician or a physician's family who could benefit, direct them to the [PBF webpage](#). Or make a referral to [Chris Johnson](#), PBF director. TMA strives to protect the anonymity of fund applicants and recipients.

If you'd like to help sustain the fund, contribute via [secure, online donation](#), or send a check to The Physicians Benevolent Fund, Attn: TMA Finance Department, 401 W. 15th St., Austin, TX 78701-1680. Contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

For more information about stroke prevention and resources, visit the [American Stroke Association](#) website. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also provides [stroke education materials for health professionals](#).