

HELP NORMAN HEAL AND GET BACK TO THE LIFE HE WAS REBUILDING

On **September 11, 2026**, I had just finished work and was heading home when I was involved in a serious accident that changed my life in an instant.

I suffered a **broken left tibia and fibula, a fractured left ankle, a severe injury to my left heel, and road rash on my arms and head**. I was taken to the hospital and ended up staying there for about **a week**.

Doctors performed surgery and placed **two rods in my left leg along with additional hardware in my heel**. I have already had stitches removed, but I still have a long recovery ahead of me.

The timing has been especially difficult because I had only recently started a new job at **Graphic Packaging in Mitchell, South Dakota**. I was training to become a glue operator, helping make packaging for food products, and I was only in my **second week on the job** when the accident happened.

Even in that short time, the people I work with had already made me feel welcome. They have been incredibly kind since the accident and even sent me a get well card. I had been looking forward to learning the job, settling in, and building something stable for myself.

Now, instead of going to work every day, my focus is on healing.

My injuries have made it difficult to move around normally, and I know this recovery will take time. I have also been through a serious accident before, years ago, involving my other ankle and foot. Going through another major recovery, this time on my left side, is something I never imagined I would have to face again.

Thankfully, I am not going through this alone. My girlfriend, **Mari Jo**, has been helping me tremendously and has been there for me as I adjust to daily life with these injuries.

Right now, I am unable to return to the job I had just started, and the bills do not stop while my body heals. Funds raised through HelpVy will help with **my medical and everyday living expenses** while I recover and work toward getting back on my feet.

I was not sure whether I should ask people for help, but right now I could truly use it. If you are able to donate or share my story, I would be very grateful.

Norman Van Wey □□

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