

# The Brooklynn Mae Mohler Foundation educates others on dangers of firearms

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Since their daughter's death, the Brooklynn Mae Mohler Foundation (BMMF) has educated people about the dangers of guns for almost three years.

On June 4, 2013 thirteen-year-old Brooklynn Mae Mohler lost her life due to the misuse of guns.

Mohler went over to one of her friends' house after school when her friend pulled out a gun from the kitchen cabinet. Trying to disarm the weapon, the gun went off and hit Mohler in her lower back. Unfortunately, Mohler lost her life later that day.

Through this experience, the Mohler family wants to help others so they will not have the same problem.

"We don't want anyone to endure what we had to endure," said Mohler's mother, Darchel Mohler.

The BMMF brings awareness to others, advising them to lock up guns to protect anyone from harming themselves.

Many people agree with their message and foundation.

"I think it's a great idea to educate others about gun safety," said eighth grader Talina Hajar. "Locking up your guns can prevent anyone in the house from getting harmed, especially the kids in the household."

Knowing the consequence of not locking up guns, the Mohlers want to try and pass a law stating that people must lock up any firearms in their household.

To spread their message, the foundation does several different things to spread their story and the consequences of not locking up firearms.

"We do a 5K every year called 'Run For Safe Guns' around Brooklynn's birthday in March," said Mohler's younger sister Madisson Mohler.



Photo courtesy of Darchel Mohler

**Mohler's family and friends come together for the "Run for Safe Guns" race, which occurred on April 2, 2016. At the run, they race included face painting, snow cones, cotton candy, and booth sponsoring the run.**

The "Run For Safe Guns," event includes a 5K race and a one mile walk that anyone from any age can take part in. All the money raised at these events gets donated towards the Foundation for shirts, booklets, bracelets, etc.

The Mohlers have also been interviewed by CNN, Fox News, and they have also been featured in The New York Times. Darchel Mohler enjoys these interviews and letting everyone know their story.

"Doing the run and talking about your problems really helps grieve, so you aren't holding in all of your feelings," said Darchel Mohler. "Our main goal is to just spread awareness and help as many families as we can."

During the run, everyone is given a small triangular envelope with a butterfly inside. After Darchel Mohler reads a poem, everyone released the butterflies.

"That's probably my favorite thing to do at the run and with the BMMF," said Darchel Mohler. "I think of it as a way to send our love and messages to Heaven

and maybe even to Brooklynn, which is a message called the Butterfly Effect."

The Butterfly Effect is defined as the scientific theory that a single occurrence, no matter how small, can change the course of the universe forever.

Through the foundation, the Mohler family has been able to meet many families and connect with those who have gone through a similar experience that they have gone through.

"This situation is preventable and can be solved," said Darchel Mohler, "just ask the question, 'do you have any firearms in your house and are they locked up?'"

The Mohler family plans to continue sharing their story and spreading the message to lock up all firearms.

For more information and updates on any events the foundation may do, please visit the BMMF website at [www.justice-forbrooklynn.com](http://www.justice-forbrooklynn.com). Also, students and staff can donate to the foundation.