

NEWS

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Pittsburgh Native Named Western Pennsylvania Young Entrepreneur of the Year

PITTSBURGH, PA - 10 July 2014 - Kelly Collier, CEO of ActivAided Orthotics, has been given the honor of being named 2014 Young Entrepreneur of the Year by the Western Pennsylvania Small Business Administration (SBA). To celebrate this revered milestone in Ms. Collier's career, the SBA will be hosting a commemorative event on Monday, August 4, 2014 at The Riverside Center for Innovation.

Western Pennsylvania SBA acting district director, Kevin White, commended Kelly for seeing herself as the solution to a problem. "Her back problems led her to turn (a class) project into a business that helps correct posture in a non-restrictive form," White said. "It's incredible that a simple shirt will be able to help so many athletes plagued by back pain."

In tune with this entrepreneurial vision to solve the problems with physical medicine treatment options, Ms. Collier has embraced her achievement as an opportunity to celebrate the community that has supported her throughout her endeavors as a young entrepreneur. "I am honored to have received this distinction from the SBA." Ms. Collier declares, "More than anything, I think it demonstrates the wealth of support and resources available in Pittsburgh for young entrepreneurs."

Accordingly, the event will be both a celebration and a symposium on evolving physical medicine after the Affordable Care Act (ACA). "I will be speaking about treatment through innovation and will preview prototypes of our newest products," Collier explained. "James Lomuscio of Hability will discuss provider-patient relationships, and Bob Wanovich from Highmark will address the directional shift in reimbursement towards value-based care."

The Pittsburgh entrepreneurs whom have become a supportive family to Kelly over these first years, the health care proponents whom have supported the ActivAided product line, and the community that has embraced Ms. Collier's success and innovative vision will gather at The Riverside Center for Innovation on Monday, August 4, at 5:30pm, to celebrate Kelly's distinction as the 2014 Western Pennsylvania SBA Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

ActivAided Orthotics was founded in 2011, when Kelly Collier, was a biomedical engineer senior at Carnegie Mellon University. Kelly, along with a remarkable team of classmates, and an esteemed spinal health physician invented a rehabilitative shirt for the treatment of chronic back pain in the active population. Now three years later, Ms. Collier has taken that invention and built a thriving company in the Pittsburgh Central Keystone Innovation Zone. She has created jobs, brought talented young professionals to the thriving Pittsburgh start-up community, and continues to advance the orthotics and sports medicine industry standards.

For more information, and to RSVP to the event, please contact

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