



The stories are many. The stories are sad, but some stories have hope. The stories are all heard and addressed by the GGAF office. Some stories lead to good news, good endings, good results, progress and success. The GGAF has provided much needed financial and medical assistance to retired NFL players dating back to 2007.

The requests and needs continue to come in from retired NFL players asking for guidance and assistance. More work needs to be done. More awareness needs to be made. More monies need to be raised. The Gridiron Greats Assistance Fund is there for these retired Gridiron Greats. Gridiron Greats Assistance Fund is making a difference. **Here are a few of the stories:**

- Former Chicago Bears star, needed medical and financial assistance with his fight to battle Guillain-Barré Syndrome. GGAF has assisted with medical expenses and secured his treatment and rehabilitation through a pro-bono medical facility.
- Former 11-year veteran with the Broncos, Bills, Colts, Raiders was living in a FEMA trailer with no running water. Suffers from head injuries and post-concussion syndrome—short-term memory, inability to concentrate/focus, severe depression. GGAF has provided funds for utilities, food and basic needs.
- A former Green Bay Packer, from the Lombardi era, received financial aid to funeral expenses for the sudden passing of his wife.
- Former San Diego Charger, homeless and living in his automobile, dealing with many medical and social issues. GGAF provided funds and assistance in securing temporary shelter
- A former Chicago Bear received funds to assist with expenses for care needed while suffering from dementia
- In dire need, a retired Jacksonville Jaguar received financial aid for food, living expenses, medicine and health care. GGAF also secured from a private donor, a vehicle for basic transportation.
- A retired player from the Buffalo Bills received funds for medicine, food and clothing. GGAF also placed him in a detoxification program to assist with addiction to painkillers and GGAF assisted in securing placement with a pain management physician.
- A former Philadelphia Eagle who played in the 1990's and is too injured to work, and receives no disability, was provided with funds for his utilities and other financial assistance.
- A retired player from the New England Patriots who can't work due to medical conditions was assisted with rent payments, utilities and food.
- Former Tampa Bay Buccaneer who played from 1990-1993 is severely injured, unemployed due to health, was provided with rent, utilities and food.
- A retired player with the Minnesota Vikings suffering from brain damage due to concussions was provided with funds for mortgage payments, and monies for dental needs.
- Former running back with the Dallas Cowboys and Tampa Bay Buccaneers had a kidney transplant. His friend/former teammate donated one of his kidneys. He slipped into a coma while having an operation performed and was provided with funds for medical insurance, shelter, and utilities.
- A retired defensive end that played 11 years with the Redskins, Cardinals, and Buccaneers had suffered many head injuries while playing. He underwent brain surgery and is now experiencing isolated memory loss. GGAF has provided funds for shelter and medical bills
- A former wide receiver with the Pittsburgh Steelers was diagnosed with Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis aka Walter Payton's disease and needs a liver transplant. He suffers from anxiety and depression and has been unable to work. GGAF has provided funds for medical care shelter, food, utilities and basic needs.
- A retired offensive guard who played 10 years with the Oakland Raiders suffers from Dementia as well as a myriad of medical problems including orthopedic, kidney issues. Skyrocketing medical costs and his need to be in an assisted living facility has caused a huge hardship on his family. GGAF has provided funds for shelter, medical insurance premiums and utility bills.
- Former Denver Broncos defensive end was bedridden due to spinal injuries from playing football. He has had heart surgery and has been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease. GGAF has provided funds for shelter, medical bills and medical insurance premiums.



- Former kicker with the Vikings, Eagles, and Packers left football because of a hip injury. He's been diagnosed with a brain disorder and can't work. GGAF has provided funds for housing, utilities, and medications.
- A former defensive end/tackle with the Lions, Bills, and Bucs was severely injured in the NFL and has difficulty sitting or standing for any period of time is unemployed. GGAF has provided funds for medical bills and shelter.
- A retired line backer with the Minnesota Vikings and St. Louis Rams had spine surgery and suffers from anxiety and depression. He has been unable to work. GGAF has provided funds for medical care, shelter, food, basic needs, and utilities.
- A former Chicago Bear and New Orleans Saints who played 7 years for the NFL suffers from numerous medical conditions including diabetes, chronic pancreatitis, chronic hypertension and severe neuropathy. He has been unable to work and receives \$88 a month from the NFL as his pension. GGAF provided funds for basic needs.
- Former line backer with the Packers, Eagles and 49'ers suffers from severe football related injuries and lives with chronic pain and very little mobility. He has endured seven surgeries on his left shoulder, two surgeries on his neck, four surgeries on right shoulder, and eight surgeries on his right triceps muscle. He needs a hip replacement and currently collects no disability. He is a single father raising two sons. GGAF has provided funds for shelter, medication, utilities and basic needs.
- Former Defensive Tackle with the Cleveland Browns suffers from post traumatic stress disorder from his playing days, degenerative disc disease, denied line of duty disability GGAF has provided some financial relief for groceries, utilities and plumbing repair. Working on helping him medically.
- A former All Star player with the Dallas Cowboys, Chiefs and Bengals has had over 18 surgeries due to football related injuries. He has metal in knees and shoulders, a broken neck and disks removed in his back. He has suffered from cancer, which spread, and no form of chemotherapy could help. His medications cost in excess of \$4000 per month and insurance does not cover the cost of his medications. GGAF provided funds for medication and conducted a public donation drive—He has since passed away.
- Former linebacker with the Kansas City Chiefs encountered high medical bills for his spouse was provided assistance for utilities.
- Former Tight End with the Kansas City Chiefs was suffering from severe football related injuries specifically the spine. GGAF has provided pro bono spinal surgery, hotel stay for him and his spouse, paid for injections prior to surgery, gas, tolls, food.
- Former Defensive Tackle with the Philadelphia Eagles suffers from prostate cancer GGAF paid for cost of medical visits to a specialist in his area that his benefits would not cover.
- Former Tight End for the Indianapolis Colts and Chicago Bears suffers from numerous debilitating pain and injuries from football leaving him unable to work. He receives no disability. GGAF has provided 4 months of rent plus late fees, paid for new engine & a/c compressor for truck, paid for hotel stay and cardiology appointment prior to surgery, paid for 2 round trip flights so he could receive surgery, received pro bono spine surgery, will be receiving neck surgery but had to receive a sleep study test which we have paid for – neck surgery will be in coming months.
- Former Defensive Back for the NY Giants, Kansas City Chiefs lost his home and car due to loss of income; GGAF has provided funds for electric bills, phone bills and outstanding medical bills.
- Former Defensive End for the Greenbay Packers and Baltimore Colts is totally disabled and in constant pain, unable to work and needed medical and financial assistance. GGAF has provided 3 months of mortgage, food, clothing, spinal evaluation, flight and hotel for medical stay.
- Former Defensive End for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers suffered financial and medical hardships. GGAF provided rent and moving expenses to help get the family back on their feet.
- Former Running Back for the Cincinnati Bengals and Tampa Bay Buccaneers suffering from financial hardships. GGAF paid for 2 months of rent to keep the family in their home.
- Former Placekicker for the Green Bay Packers, Minnesota Vikings and Philadelphia Eagles is totally disabled due to tumors on the brain and is unable to work. GGAF has provided financial assistance for medications, utilities and rent.
- Former Defensive End for the Denver Broncos living with ALS and wheelchair bound. GGAF paid for health insurance, helped with mortgage payments, and 2 months of hospice care.
- Former Running Back for the Green Bay Packers unable to work because of injuries. GGAF provided rent, payment of utilities, food, and medicines.
- Former Tight End for the Houston Oilers, San Diego Chargers and Kansas City Chiefs has Parkinson Syndrome, is completely paralyzed and wheelchair bound. GGAF paid for water bill, homeowners insurance, life insurance, auto insurance, loan repayment, electric bill, payment for Medicare payment.
- Former Offensive Tackle for the Oakland Raiders and Minnesota Vikings unable to work after suffering 2 strokes. GGAF paid for rent, car repair and insurance and electric bill to keep from service disconnect.



- Former Running Back for the Cleveland Browns and Washington Redskins suffering from financial hardships. GGAF paid property tax bill to avoid foreclosure.
- Former Cornerback for the Buffalo Bills, Denver Broncos, Baltimore Colts and Oakland Raiders suffers from dementia. GGAF provided food & basic needs, truck repair, water bill, electric bill, phone bill, gas card.
- Former Guard for the Pittsburgh Steelering from financial hardships. GGAF paid for gas bill and provided ct cervical spine test pro bono – will be receiving pro bono spine surgery in coming months.
- Former Defensive Back for the San Diego Chargers suffering from financial hardships. GGAF provided car loan payment, sewer/water payment, two electric payments.
- Former Tackle for the Washington Redskins, Miami Dolphins and Detroit Lions is diabetic and suffered medical and financial hardship. GGAF paid 2 months of rent and back rent. Working on getting him pro bono medical services.
- Former Defensive End for the Cleveland Browns, Philadelphia Eagles and Washington Redskins has heart condition. GGAF provided funding for a new AC unit to ease the high temps where he lives.
- Former Defensive End for the Detroit Lions – paid for all funeral expenses, back debt and united states treasury tax bill.
- Former Defensive Back for the Denver Broncos, New York Jets and Cleveland Browns suffering from financial hardships. GGAF paid for 2 months rent.
- Former Defensive Back for the Cincinnati Bengals suffered financial hardship while taking care of an ailing parent. GGAF paid for mortgage payments.
- Former Dallas Cowboy – paid for medical bills, utilities, rent, food.
- Former Defensive End for the Minnesota Vikings – paid for 3 airfares, 3 sets of hotel stays at 7 days each, food, car rental, pre – op tests, has received two spinal surgeries pro bono.
- Former Defensive Tackle for the Kansas City Chiefs suffered multiple football injuries which created financial hardship. GGAF provided for 4 round trip airfare tickets to receive medical care, paid for 4 hotel stays during hospital visits, paid for MRI and evaluations, receiving pro bono medical care and will be receiving 2 different surgeries in coming months.
- Former Safety for the Houston Texans confined to a wheelchair. GGAF provided health insurance payments for 2 months, supplied player with a years supply of medical supplies for his disability, paid for medical scooter repair.
- Former Halfback for the Pittsburgh Steelers, passed away, and GGAF provided rent for his widow.
- Former Cornerback for the St Louis Rams, Oakland Raiders and Detroit Lions suffering from financial hardships. GGAF paid for rent and back rent.
- Former Minnesota Viking – paid for utilities, mortgage, phone.
- Former Tight End for Arizona Cardinals suffering from financial hardships. GGAF provided mortgage payments.
- Former Running Back for the Green Bay Packers and Detroit Lions suffered financial hardship after loss of job. GGAF provided mortgage payments.
- Former Offensive Tackle for the San Francisco 49er's, Kansas City Chiefs, New Orleans Saints and Carolina Panthers suffering from financial hardships. GGAF paid for 2 months of rent and back rent to keep from being evicted.
- Former Punter for the Dallas Cowboys and Green Bay Packers retired after back surgery and has had chronic back and joint pain. GGAF paid for 3 round trip airfare tickets, 3 sets of hotel stays, paid for medical clearance tests, paid for therapy, received pro bono back surgery and will receive two knee surgeries in coming months.
- Former Fullback for the Cincinnati Bengals living with debilitating pain and unable to get insurance coverage from the team. GGAF paid for medical clearance appointments, 4 roundtrip airline flights, 21 days of hotel over surgical stays, received two knee replacements pro bono, paid for rental car, paid for post therapy in home town.
- Former Offensive Guard for the Minnesota Vikings was homeless and suffering from brain damage from multiple concussions. GGAF paid for dental work, truck repair, contact lens, car rental, two brain scans, more automotive repair and medical bills.
- Former Philadelphia Eagle – GGAF paid for rent, gas, electric, hotel stay for medical evaluation, food and transportation, pro bono back surgery.
- Former Dallas Cowboy – GGAF paid for food, clothes, medical bill, flights for medical evaluations, hotel stays.
- Former Green Bay Packer – GGAF paid for food, basic needs, rent, utilities, and medication.
- Former Buffalo Bill – GGAF paid for food and basic needs, electric, phone, gas, rent, electric.
- Former Tampa Bay Bucs – GGAF paid mortgage, auto payments, electric, health insurance, car payment.
- Former Dallas Cowboy – GGAF paid for gas bill, medical insurance premiums, water bills, mortgage, electric, medication.



- Former Fullback who played for the Jacksonville Jaguars, Chicago Bears and Buffalo Bills, suffering from financial hardships. GGAF helped with his automobile loan and insurance, as well as some utility bills.
- Former NFL player for 11 years with the Broncos, Bills, Colts and Raiders needed tires so that he could safely drive his vehicle to his doctor appointments. GGAF was able to get donated tires and have them shipped to the player and have them installed.
- Former Defensive End for the Eagles, 49ers and Redskins was facing eviction. GGAF helped with payment of his rent.
- Former NFL player for 3 years with the Cowboys, Saints and Bears, suffering financial difficulties because of permanent injuries sustained during his playing days. GGAF helped with payment of his rent.
- 75-year-old former running back for the Chargers and Chiefs suffering financial difficulties due to unforeseen increasing medical bills, worried about having to choose between buying food or medicine. GGAF helped with mortgage payment, auto insurance, doctor's bill and food.
- Former Defensive Tackle, played for the Patriots, Chargers and Seahawks, is permanently disabled. His daughter moved in to take care of him and take him to dialysis 3X a week. Mounting medical bills are putting a financial strain on them. GGAF provided financial assistance to pay doctor's and utility bills
- Former Defensive End for the Buccaneers, Steelers and Panthers, can't work because of health problems and is having financial difficulties. GGAF provided financial assistance to pay mortgage and utility bills.
- Former Tight End for the Cardinals and Bears, is disabled and facing financial hardships due to medical problems. GGAF provided financial assistance to get power turned back on and pay other utility bills.
- Former Wide Receiver, played 12 years in the NFL for Steelers, Colts and Redskins, suffering from multiple medical problems, experiencing severe financial hardships. GGAF provided 2 months of rent.
- Former Wide Receiver, played for Bears, Steelers and Lions, bed-ridden and in dire need of financial assistance to help with quality of life. GGAF provided financial assistance to pay bills.
- Former Linebacker, played 13 years in the NFL for the New York Titans and Jets, has increasing medical expenses. His pension barely covers his rent and prescription costs each month. GGAF provided 2 months of rent, and about 6 months of prescription cost.
- Former Linebacker, played for the Colts, Lions and Seahawks, facing foreclosure and mounting financial hardships due to football related injuries and depression. GGAF provided financial assistance to pay his mortgage and utility bills.
- Former Defensive Tackle, played for the Browns, is in constant pain daily, facing financial hardships. Has to choose to buy food or medicine. GGAF provided financial assistance to pay for food.
- Former Running Back with the Miami Dolphins, suffering financial hardships. GGAF helped with 1 month of mortgage payments.
- Former Punter with the Packers and Rams, suffering financial hardships. GGAF helped with utilities and rent.
- Former linebacker with the New Orleans Saints, suffering financial hardship since last year when his wife was diagnosed with cancer and has been unable to work. GGAF helped with mortgage payment.
- Former Linebacker with the Detroit Lions, suffering from an incurable disease and has many medical bills and financial hardships. GGAF helped with mortgage payments.
- Former Wide Receiver with the Jets and Ravens, suffering financial hardships. GGAF helped reconnect his utilities.
- Former Running Back with the Patriots, Falcons and Rams, currently living through a cold, Chicago winter with water and gas pipes that are not working. GGAF helped negotiate with the contractor for donated services, so that he and his family would have heat and hot water.
- Former Running Back with the Oakland Raiders and Buffalo Bills, suffering financial hardship due to high medical/prescription costs. Was pawning his possessions to pay for his prescriptions and food, most of the time having to choose which to buy. GGAF helped pay for rent to keep him from being evicted, and to keep his utilities on.
- Former Running Back with the Bengals and Buccaneers, suffering financial hardships. GGAF helped pay for rent.
- Former Defensive Tackle with the 49ers, suffering from brain trauma from football related injuries, has gone through 9 brain surgeries, and suffers seizures. GGAF helped pay bills.
- Former Defensive Tackle with the Cowboys, Saints and Bears, suffering financial hardship, has trouble working because of memory issues. GGAF helped pay rent so he wouldn't be evicted.
- Former Tackle with the Buccaneers, suffering from chronic fatigue syndrome and a reduction of pay due to his abilities. GGAF helped with car payments so he wouldn't lose his car.
- Former Wide Receiver with the Buccaneers and Rams, suffering financial hardship because he had to take medical leave from his job. Has fallen behind on bills. GGAF helped with rent.
- Former Cornerback for the Cardinals and Chiefs, suffering financial hardship because of multiple medical procedures and expenses incurred right before he lost his job. GGAF helped with rent.



- Former Defensive End with the Chargers, facing financial hardships and has many football related injuries that affect his mind and body. GGAF helped with utilities.
- Former Quarterback with the Jaguars, Chiefs and Bears, suffering financial hardship due to very high deductible with his insurance, but needing to have surgery and pay off bills. GGAF helped with car payments to keep his car from being repossessed and utility bills.
- Former Offensive Tackle for the Detroit Lions, suffering financial hardships. GGAF helped with car payments.
- Former Defensive End with the Buccaneers and Jaguars, suffering financial hardship and physically unable to stand for any time, and has limited use of his hands. He has many medical and dental bills from himself and his family that he is having a hard time paying. GGAF helped with rent.
- Former Quarterback with the Raiders, Bills and Colts, suffering financial hardship due to medical issues related to football and also has multiple sclerosis. Was self sufficient until late in the year when he fell, now is totally dependent on others. GGAF helped with his many medical bills.
- Former Defensive End for the Saints and Chiefs, suffering financial hardships due to being disabled and having many medical bills. GGAF helped with car payments and bills.
- Former Tight End with the St. Louis Cardinals, Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Green Bay Packers, has ALS and is wheelchair bound with limited function. GGAF helped with payments for home health care that is essential to his day-to-day living.
- Former Defensive Back with the Raiders, Dolphins and Browns, suffering financial hardships due to medical procedures and bills. GGAF helped with mortgage payment.
- Former safety with the Broncos and Texans, is in need of financial assistance because the injuries sustained while playing make it hard for him to find full time work. His Line of Duty disability barely covers his rent and food expenses each month. He is working whatever odd jobs he can find to cover his other expenses. GGAF helped with rent and car payment.
- Former defensive end with the Saints and Chiefs, is in need of financial assistance because he is disabled from his football injuries. His disability does not cover all his medical expenses, and he needs his car to get to his many doctor appointments. GGAF helped with car payments.
- Former tight end with the Vikings and Eagles, due to extensive injuries sustained during his career, is struggling to work and find health insurance. GGAF helped with rent and utilities
- Former safety with the Eagles and Falcons, is in need financially because of football related injury that makes it hard to work to his full potential. GGAF helped with rent, utilities and car repair.
- Former punter with the Green Bay Packers and Los Angeles Rams, lost his job due to downsizing. As sole provider for his young son, was in need of financial assistance to keep from being evicted. GGAF helped with rent to keep them in their home. He has since found new employment and is doing fine.
- Former defensive end with the Broncos, 49ers, Jaguars and Packers, is in need financially because of football related injuries on his neck and back that make it hard for him to find work that he is skilled to do. Is also struggling with the mental fallout of playing the game. GGAF helped with back rent, food and utilities. GGAF also connected him to a retired player peer for counseling.
- Former offensive guard with the Minnesota Vikings suffers from brain injuries sustained from football related incidents. GGAF helped him with travel arrangements to see a specialist.
- Former defensive end with the Pittsburgh Steelers, because of football related injuries, in need of shoulder surgery. Also in financial need because of injuries preventing him from working to his full potential. GGAF helped with rent and health insurance. GGAF also provided him with travel to one of our partner facilities to get the shoulder surgery pro bono.
- Former linebacker with the Houston Texans suffers from brain injuries sustained from football related incidents. Was able to get an appointment at a highly respected clinic, but had no means to get there. GGAF helped him with travel arrangements.
- Former offensive tackle/guard with the Buffalo Bills, New York Giants and New England Patriots, suffering financial hardships because of being laid off of job. Has no health insurance. GGAG helped with rent and utilities payments.
- Former Defensive End for the Colts, in dire need situation with no food and utilities being turned off. Because of football related injuries, has many medical issues involving knees & neck. Has trouble getting to all his appointments, and has trouble financially affording all the treatments he needs. GGAF helped with getting his phone turned back on, 3 months' rent, food & gas gift cards, new tires for car and eye exam and new glasses.
- Former Defensive Back with the Broncos, Jets and Browns, is physically unable to work due to injuries sustained during his football career. While waiting for disability board to hear his case, is in dire need of assistance to stay in his apartment. GGAF helped with 2 months of rent, utilities, insurance and food.



- Former Wide Receiver with the Lions, Colts and Falcons, suffering from heart failure. His medical bills are astronomical. GGAF helped with past due medical bills, utilities and car payment.
- Former Running Back with the Patriots, Bills and Packers, suffering from the many physical and mental injuries sustained during his playing days. His medical bills keep mounting. GGAF helped with medical bills.
- Former Running Back with the Green Bay Packers, suffering from many physical injuries from his playing days, had infection in hip and tooth. Unexpected medical bills put a financial strain on him. GGAF helped with rent and utility payments.
- Former Center with the New England Patriots and Denver Broncos, suffering from many physical ailments stemming from a career ending injury. Unable to afford his medications, GGAF helped with a year of prescription costs.
- Former Fullback with the Baltimore Ravens, suffered a career ending hit and has been working on getting better and finishing school. Got a job in another state, but medical bills prevented him from moving. GGAF helped with car repair and moving expenses.
- Former Guard with the Dallas Cowboys and Philadelphia Eagles, dealing with mounting medical bills and the onset of dementia. GGAF helped with medical bills, and will be getting him medical assistance and surgeries at one of our partner facilities.
- Former Running Back with the Green Bay Packers, suffering from major dental infections. GGAF dental partner is working on extraction of teeth, dentures and implants, greatly improving his quality of life.
- Former Defensive End with the Cincinnati Bengals, suffering from many mental health issues. GGAF helped with car repairs, rent, and payment for doctor visits.
- Former Wide Receiver with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, New York Giants and Carolina Panthers, has had a hard time transitioning after his playing days were over. Unexpected medical bills have caused a financial strain. GGAF helped with housing assistance.
- Former Offensive Tackle with the Cleveland Browns, suffering from various medical issues and the financial strain of the bills. GGAF helped with car repairs.
- Former Cornerback with the Atlanta Falcons and Cincinnati Bengals, suffered a career ending injury. Mounting medical bills are putting a financial strain on him. GGAF helped with 3 months of rent.
- Former Running Back with the Jets and the Browns, suffering from multiple football related injuries, is suffering from skyrocketing medical costs and multiple surgeries. GGAF helped with mortgage, car payments and utilities, and is helping him with much needed surgeries on his wrist and knee.
- Former Placekicker with the Falcons, Broncos, Chiefs & Redskins, had a difficult time adjusting to life outside football. GGAF helped with rent and utilities.
- Former Defensive Back with the Packers, Jets, and Patriots, suffering from ongoing pain from injuries sustained while playing. GGAF helped with rent, utilities, and car payments
- Former Running Back with the San Diego Chargers, suffering financial difficulties due to ongoing medical costs for himself and wife. GGAF helped with rent.
- Former Defensive End with the Lions and the Broncos, has been struggling since retirement to work because of injuries. GGAF helped with rent and car payments.
- Former Tight End with the Steelers, Vikings and 49ers, was in dire need because family was losing their home in 5 days, and needed food/clothing for his young children. GGAF helped with basic needs, rent, and accommodations for new lease.
- Former Wide Receiver with the Cowboys, Packers, Lions & Cardinals, in dire need as he cannot work due to the injuries sustained during his playing days. While waiting to hear about disability benefits, he has used up all his savings. The family cannot stay in their home as the utilities have been turned off and he is struggling to provide food to his children. GGAF helped in this emergency situation with food & basic needs, had all utilities turned on, and a new heating unit.