



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:

Alon Vanterpool, Public Relations Manager, Bouvier Kelly

for Allard USA

(mobile) 336-639-9368

[avanterpool@bouvierkelly.com](mailto:avanterpool@bouvierkelly.com)

## **ESPY Award Winner Seeking Paralympic Gold**

*Para-cyclist Jamie Whitmore Determined to make it to Rio*

**Charlotte, NC – June 2016** –2014 ESPY award winner and Paralympic hopeful [Jamie Whitmore](#) is seeing her dream come true inching even closer as she continues on her Road to Rio in the upcoming U.S. Paralympic Cycling Team Trials. On July 2<sup>nd</sup> Jamie, will be competing in the U.S. Paralympic Cycling Selection Time Trial under classification Women's C3. Whitmore, who has a paralyzing condition known as foot drop, is able to compete thanks to a state of the art dynamic response Allard USA brace.

Although this cancer survivor has had to overcome tremendous obstacles and unexpected occurrences to get to where she is today, one thing that has always remained true is her dream to someday become an Olympic medalist.

In order to battle the rare form of cancer that Whitmore was diagnosed with in 2008, she was forced to lose most of the use of her left leg, including her hamstring and glute muscle, which also left her with a form of paralysis called foot drop.

“Doctors told me I’d never run again, my pro career was over, and I’d probably never ride anything other than a stationary bike,” said Whitmore.

Despite this, Jamie made it her goal to “Get Back Up” and continue to pursue her dream. Thanks to persistence as well as help from an advanced, carbon fiber orthotic device, known as the Allard ToeOFF®, Whitmore was back on the road, as a para-cyclist, in less than five years. Within a year of her return to cycling, Whitmore won six World Titles and set two world records in the 500TT and the 3K pursuit. She also won an ESPY for Best Female Athlete With A Disability.

Today, Jamie is on the Road to Rio as well as on the road to seeing what was once a vision becoming a reality.

Joining Whitmore at the Paralympic Trials will be two other TeamUP members who also are competing with foot drop in their specific categories, including stroke survivor [Billy](#)

[Lister](#) and retired New York State Trooper and champion Para-cyclist [Jill Walsh](#), who isn't letting multiple sclerosis and foot drop stop her from competing for Paralympic gold.

Meet [Jamie Whitmore](#) and her [fellow TeamUP](#) members and learn more about their efforts to help others overcome foot drop paralysis by visiting [GetBackUpToday.com](#), [Facebook.com/getbackuptoday](#) and [Allardusa.com](#).

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#### **About Allard USA**

Allard USA is a subsidiary of Allard International, recognized worldwide as a leader of innovative orthotic devices, privately owned by Peter Allard and based in Helsingborg, Sweden. Allard USA is committed to working together with Orthotic and Prosthetic facilities and medical professionals throughout North America to offer innovative orthotic

#### **About Foot Drop**

Foot drop is a neurological condition characterized by weakness or paralysis in the foot or ankle that prohibits lifting the front part of the foot. To compensate for this loss of mobility, sufferers tend to over-extend their hip muscles so their foot won't drag, often tripping and falling and causing further injury. Among the many causes for the paralysis associated with foot drop are partial foot, cerebral palsy, stroke, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, Charcot-Marie-Tooth Disease (CMT), spinal cord injury and many other conditions.