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The BIA Bulletin May 2009

One Mission • One Voice

Welcome to the May edition of our electronic news brief, **The BIA Bulletin**.

SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

Wilderness Endeavor

June 7-13, 2009

Camp FunZone

August 7-11, 2009

Camp registration is currently taking place for both Wilderness Endeavor and Camp FunZone. Applications for both camps will be available on the website, www.biaill.org. Wilderness Endeavor is filling up fast! Please contact the office if you are interested in attending Wilderness Endeavor this summer. There is still plenty of time to register for Camp FunZone. The Camp FunZone application will be posted on the website soon.

We are in need of camp sponsors! There are many ways to become a camp sponsor. You can sponsor a camper, sponsor an event or portion of camp, and/or sponsor one day of a camper's stay. Please contact the office if you are interested in sponsoring a camper. This is a great camp experience for everyone who attends. Camp sponsorship opportunities and forms can be found on the website, www.biaill.org and clicking on "Ways You Can Help".

15th Annual Golf Outing and Dinner

Our 15th annual golf outing and dinner will be held on June 18, 2009 at the Highland Park Country Club. This is a yearly event that attracts golfers (serious and once a year golfers!) from near and far. This is a fun way to support the Brain Injury Association, and spend a day with friends and associates. The registration form and sponsorship opportunities can be found on the website, www.biaill.org.

Look for the BIA on Facebook and Twitter!

Come join the Brain Injury Association of Illinois on FaceBook! We have a group, Brain Injury Association of Illinois which is open to anyone to join.

We also have another group, Brain Injury Association of Illinois – Wilderness Endeavor Camp. This group is open to Wilderness Endeavor campers. We will be working on this Facebook group during camp this summer. Visit www.facebook.com

In addition, you can visit our Facebook Cause page, <http://www.causes.com/BrainInjuryAssociationofIllinois>. Contributions can be made directly to the Brain Injury Association of Illinois from this link.

Please join our Cause and our Group on Facebook!

Follow the Brain Injury Association of Illinois on Twitter, www.twitter.com

Follow BrainInjuryAssn on Twitter!

PUBLIC POLICY NEWS AND UPDATES

News from the nation's capital...

Health Care Reform Update

Lawmakers are now developing policy options that could become part of the national health care reform, but currently no legislation has been introduced and there are no specific bills to support or oppose. In anticipation of both proposed and final legislation, BIAA has adopted five guiding principles (below) designed to aid Congress in drafting language that would increase access to treatment for individuals with brain injury.

Guiding Principles:

1. Recognize brain injury is a disease.
2. Focus on medical necessity.
3. Provide access to the full treatment continuum.
4. Use accredited programs, interdisciplinary team of qualified/specialized clinicians, and appropriate treatment settings based on patient and family choices and aspirations.
5. Hold private insurers accountable for the premiums they collect; avoid Medicare/Medicaid as first option for coverage.

These principles are explained in a Brain Injury Health Care Pledge that can be signed and supported by members of congress who want to make sure that the unique needs of those with brain injury are addressed in the final health care plan. Our goal is to encourage all Representatives and Senators to sign this pledge to raise awareness and understanding of how proposed policies could impact people with brain injury, family members, researchers and clinicians.

Help us make sure that people with brain injury have access to the care that they so desperately need and deserve. Please contact your Senators and Representatives in Congress to urge them to sign a pledge in support of the healthcare reform principles benefiting individuals with brain injury. If you haven't taken action by asking your members of congress to support the pledge, you may still do so by clicking on the following link:

<http://capwiz.com/bia/home/>

Appropriations Update

President's FY10 Budget Proposal Released

TBI Act, Department of Health and Human Services

The White House proposes to sustain funding for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Federal TBI Program, which provides grants to state agencies and protection and advocacy organizations to improve access to health and other services for individuals with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and their families. The President's plan proposes \$10 million be allocated to HRSA, the same amount designated in FY09.

NIDRR, Department of Education

The President's budget proposal slates a \$3 million increase for the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), going from \$108 million in FY09 to \$111 million in FY10. The BIAA will continue to advocate for increased funding for the TBI Model Systems of Care as the appropriations process advances this summer.

NIDRR Releases Notice of Proposed Priorities for RRTCs and RERCs

This past week, the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services under the Department of Education proposed funding priorities for the Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects and Centers Program administered by NIDRR. Specifically, this notice proposes four priorities for the Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers (RRTCs) and three priorities for the Rehabilitation Engineering Research Centers (RERCs).

Notably, the proposed priorities for RRTCs include "Developing Strategies to Foster Community Integration and Participation (CIP) for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury." The goal of this priority is to develop a classification system based on symptoms experienced by individuals with TBI who are living in the community.

This classification system can be used to link the post-rehabilitation consequences of TBI with CIP-oriented interventions. Such a classification will allow practitioners and researchers to better match individuals with TBI with specific interventions, and to better characterize their study samples.

BIAA endorses the Heroes at Home Act of 2009

This week, BIAA submitted a letter to the House Veteran's Affairs Committee, Subcommittee on Health urging consideration of the Heroes at Home Act of 2009 (HR 667). The bill would significantly improve support for family caregivers of returning service members with TBI and acknowledge the critical role played by family caregivers in facilitating recovery from brain injury and the pressing need for training, certification and financial compensation of caregivers.

BIAA submits letter of endorsement for the Concussion Treatment and Care Tools Act of 2009 (conTACT)

BIAA submitted a letter to the House Energy and Commerce Committee encouraging swift passage of the conTACT Act of 2009 (HR 1347), applauding the bill's proposal to provide grants to states to ensure that elementary and secondary schools implement concussion management guidelines by funding computerized pre-season baseline and post-injury neuropsychological testing for student athletes.

BIAA Urges Cosponsorship of the National Neurotechnology Initiative Act

On April 22, 2009, BIAA circulated an action alert targeting House Members to co-sponsor the National Neurotechnology Initiative Act of 2009 (HR 1483). The bill would promote discoveries and accelerate the development of new and safer treatments for brain-related illness, injury and disease.

BIA of Illinois is on YouTube!

You can now find the Brain Injury Association of Illinois on [http://youtube.com/BrainInjuryHelp!](http://youtube.com/BrainInjuryHelp)

Our newest version of the film **You Are Not Alone** has been posted on our channel. The camp video, **Making Headway with Brain Injury** featuring the song, **It's My Brain**, is online. The two public service announcements, **The Bully** and **Crying Mia**, are also still posted.

You Are Not Alone – NEW Updated Version

The Brain Injury Association of Illinois' 14 minute educational film, "**You Are Not Alone**" is available for purchase. The targeted audience for this film is the individual who has just sustained a brain injury, and their family. The response to this film has been very favorable. This film will be an effective tool in providing education to individuals and families, as well as to those who work with the individual who has sustained a brain injury. Initially, it was to be made available to hospital emergency rooms and in-hospital video programming, but due to the response we received, it is being distributed in a variety of settings. We had several requests to make the film nationwide. This film is now being distributed in a national version. The cost of the DVD is \$25. For those who are interested in purchasing a supply to distribute to their patients/families, there is discounted pricing available based on quantity purchased. Please refer to the **BIA MERCHANDISE** section listed below for pricing and additional information.

2009 BIA ADVERTISING RATES

Please contact the Brain Injury Association to receive additional information on advertising opportunities.

AD SIZE	Per Year	One Ad
Full Page	\$1,800	\$600
1/2 page - Horizontal	\$1,200	\$400
1/4 page – Vertical	\$ 900	\$300
Business Card - Horizontal	\$ 375	\$125

Yearly advertisement rates include ad space in the newsletters (printed and electronic) and conference program book.

Additional benefit for yearly full-page advertisers: name and website link on the Brain Injury Association of Illinois website page.

In Closing...

Thank you again for all you do for the Brain Injury Association of Illinois. The state organization relies on the generosity and efforts of our members throughout the state. You take the message and programs of the Brain Injury Association all over the state day in and day out. Together, we all make up the Brain Injury Association of Illinois, and are working towards ONE MISSION – ONE VOICE in Illinois.

Your membership is very important to the Brain Injury Association of Illinois. If you aren't currently a member, please consider doing so today. New memberships and renewals can be indicated on the membership form that is attached to this bulletin. Our membership continues to grow each year. A strong membership helps to strengthen our voice and presence in communities all around the state, in Springfield, and in Washington DC.

Please feel free to forward **The BIA Bulletin** to your friends, family, and co-workers. My e-mail address is pldeckard@biaill.org, or you can send an e-mail to me at info@biaill.org from the website. Oftentimes, I may not be able to answer your call directly as it comes in, but please know I am returning calls as soon as possible. I appreciate your understanding. The nationwide toll-free number is (800) 699-6443.

Philicia L. Deckard, Executive Director

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

A Date with Carmen – Arts Showcase

Friday, May 15, 2009

The Gage 5-7pm

The Harris Theater – 7:30pm Performance of Carmen

Wilderness Endeavor

June 7-13, 2009

Timber Pointe Outdoor Center – Hudson, IL

Camp application available on the website

15th Annual Golf Outing and Dinner

June 18, 2009

Highland Park Country Club – Highland Park, IL

Registration form and information available soon on the website

A Morning with Dr. Mona Lisa Schulz

Saturday, July 18, 2009

Lake Katherine Nature Center – Palos Heights, IL

Camp FunZone

August 7-11, 2009

Timber Pointe Outdoor Center – Hudson, IL

Camp application available soon on the website

Annual Educational Conference

October 30 – 31, 2009

Drury Lane Conference Center – Oak Brook, IL

Information will be available on website - Summer 2009

Other Events in 2009 to Benefit the Brain Injury Association of Illinois....

Michael A. Krawczyk 5th Annual Memorial Golf Outing

May 15, 2008 – Bloomingdale Golf Club, Bloomingdale IL

Muldowney Foundation Golf Outing

June 8, 2009 – Green Garden Country Club, Frankfort IL

Arlington/Aurora Rehab Center Golf Outing

June 25, 2009 – White Deer Run Golf Course, Vernon Hills, IL

Full Moon Festival

June 7-8, 2009 – Black Diamond Vineyards, Nashville IL

Partin-Wisecup Golf Outing

September 5, 2009 – Harrison Park Golf Course, Danville IL

Annual Grape Stomp

September 19, 2009 – Black Diamond Vineyards, Nashville IL

And in 2010....

Fashion Show and Luncheon

February 27, 2010

Drury Lane Theater – Oak Brook, IL

Annual Educational Conference

October 2010

Drury Lane Conference Center – Oak Brook, IL

Board of Directors

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2009 Gold Circle Benefactors

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Jim & Ginny Lazzara
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2009 Annual Arts Showcase Sponsors

Conductor

Friend of the Brain Injury Association
Nolan Law Group

Prima Donna

Jim & Tiffany Cantelupe
Intren, Inc.
Jim & Ginny Lazzara

Producer

Ron & Diana Nawrocki

2009 Fashion Show Sponsors

Gold

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Silver

Center for Comprehensive Services – Mentor
Faye & Nick Lack
Ginny & Jim Lazzara
Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital

Bronze

M.E. Olson Construction Company
Rehab Associates of Chicago at Rush University Medical Center

_____ **Yes, I want to be a member of the Brain Injury Association of Illinois**

_____ **I am a renewing member of the Brain Injury Association of Illinois**

MEMBERSHIP

The membership cards have recently been updated to include the designation “member since” to allow us to be more cost effective. If you have not renewed your membership in the past year, please consider doing so today. You will be receiving the new membership cards to replace your old one when you renew your membership. The basic membership is \$35, but please let me know if you are in need of financial consideration to maintain your basic membership. We want everyone to keep their membership in an active status. Please note that you are still listed as a current member until your renewal date. I will update your membership date when I receive your membership fee and mail the new card to you. Our membership numbers continue to grow each year. This is important as we work more frequently with our legislators throughout the state.

Your Brain Injury Association of Illinois membership matters – Join with us today!

Membership Information

Name:

Address:

Home: _____

Business: _____

E-Mail: _____

For Statistical Purposes:

- Person with brain injury
- Family member
- Friend of BIA of Illinois
- Pediatric interests
- Adult interests

Return completed form and payment to the
Brain Injury Association of Illinois.

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 64420
Chicago, IL 60664-0420

Fax (312) 630-4011
E-Mail info@biaill.org

Types of Membership

___ **Basic** **\$35.00**

- person who sustained a brain
injury, their family, or friend

___ **Professional** **\$50.00**

- any individual professional in a
brain injury related field.

Field: _____

___ **Century** **\$100.00**

___ **Patron** **\$500.00**

___ **Organization** **\$200.00**

- for any provider, business or
organization; includes up to
three memberships

Please make checks payable to:
Brain Injury Association of Illinois

The Brain Injury Association of Illinois is
able to process

__ VISA __ MasterCard __ Discover

Name (as on card) and Signature:

Card Number:

Expiration Date: _____