12TH ANNUAL STATEWIDE CONFERENCE

The Brain Injury Association of Missouri (BIA-MO) 12th Annual Statewide Conference will be October 13 - 15, at the St. Charles Convention Center in St. Charles, Missouri. This is the only conference in Missouri dedicated to current trends in innovative therapeutic strategies, cutting-edge and best practice treatment options, and research specifically relating to brain injury. National and local experts will address issues of interest to professionals, survivors of brain injury, family members and caregivers.

Conference sessions on Thursday, October 13 and Friday, October 14, are primarily geared for healthcare professionals, rehabilitation specialists, social workers, vocational counselors, physicians, psychologists, mental health professionals, case managers, service coordinators, and all those who provide care for individuals with brain injury. Topics on Saturday, October 15, are for survivors of brain injury, their families and caregivers.

A list of topics and registration information are included in this newsletter, on our website at biamo.org, and in the Conference information packets sent by U.S. Mail.

There is literally something for everyone who is interested in making life better for individuals living with brain injury.

EXPLORE SPONSORSHIP OPTIONS

There are many options to maximize your outreach efforts through the BIA-MO Annual Statewide Conference. Let’s explore them.

Sponsorship reflects your commitment to support educational programming for professionals in the field of brain injury. It provides maximum exposure through at-conference recognition, printed material, and on our website and social media.

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CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION FORM ON PAGE 7
MAUREEN’S MESSAGE

More work is needed. This may seem negative to some people. It may sound overwhelming or being defeatist to others. But, it really is motivating.

It means the Brain Injury Association of Missouri (BIA-MO) is strong. It means we are moving forward to make a difference in the lives of survivors of brain injury and their families. There are opportunities.

As goals are reached, new partnerships are formed, and new initiatives begin, more work is needed by the Brain Injury Association of Missouri.

Long-time programs of BIA-MO, such as support groups, Information & Referral Services, educational programs, social-recreation activities and advocacy, create opportunities for more work needed to ensure exceptional, accurate and efficient services.

More work is needed, and you are needed, so please:
- Make, continue or increase your financial support for BIA-MO.
- Be a Sponsor for Camp, Professional Conference, Survivor & Family Seminar, Concussion Education or Bowling for Brain Injury.
- Attend service programs such as support groups, seminars and social activities.
- Register for the Professional Conference or Networking Coffee for Professionals.
- Recommend BIA-MO for a presentation at conferences or meetings of community, school, civic or professional organizations.
- Spread the legislative position of BIA-MO by sharing Advocacy Alerts.
- Follow social media: Facebook/BIA.MISSOURI and Twitter/BIA_MISSOURI
- Recommend BIA-MO to friends, colleagues and new acquaintances for help or donations.
- Be a Member of BIA-MO. Consider a monthly gift.

As you can tell, more work is needed and your participation is needed to continue to keep BIA-MO progressive, effective and a leader in the brain injury community.

To discuss your interest in the more work needed, contact me at MCunningham@biamo.org, 800-444-6443 or 314-426-4024.

ADVOCACY REPORT 2016

The 2016 Legislative Session of the Missouri General Assembly made “steps forward” for survivors of brain injury, families, the brain injury community, and the general public. There were also “steps backwards” as more work is needed.

Brain Injury Waiver

The Missouri Legislature increased general revenue appropriations to $750,000 for a Brain Injury Waiver. With the Federal matching funds, the appropriation totals nearly $2 million for services and administration of the Brain Injury Waiver.

The intent of the Brain Injury Waiver is to provide rehabilitation and support services for survivors of brain injury ages 21 to 65 who need intense rehabilitation for improved opportunities to live, work and play in the community.

Currently, survivors of brain injury are often discharged to home with no or limited rehabilitation due to no insurance or insurance maximums being quickly reached.

Unfortunately, there is a long road ahead for implementation of the Brain Injury Waiver.

Of the FY17 appropriation, $650,000 is being withheld due to a 35 percent decrease in FY16 net corporate income compared to the previous year. The stated result is funding not available for new programs, including the Brain Injury Waiver.

In addition, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has to approve the Waiver application which is currently being developed by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS). It is anticipated that CMS will not officially review the Waiver application until adequate funding is available. Then the review process takes up to six months on average, but can take longer.

The $100,000 remaining in the FY17 Budget will allow DHSS to continue with the computer system work that is needed for the administration of the Brain Injury Waiver. This means that once the $650,000 is released from withhold the program infrastructure may already be complete.

More Work Needed

BIA-MO will reach out to the Governor’s Office about the importance of the Brain Injury Waiver. This will include submitting personal stories about brain injury and its impact on life, which are due by September 7, 2016.

Please send your personal story about brain injury to Maureen Cunningham, BIA-MO Executive Director, via email or letter. The email address is Advocacy@biamo.org or the mailing address is BIA-MO, 2265 Schuetz Road, St. Louis, MO 63146.

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UNMASKING BRAIN INJURY

Art, in all its forms, acts as an outlet for the artist to express visually, what words do not always seem to adequately describe. *Unmasking Brain Injury* is a project that provides this outlet to survivors of brain injury. By decorating masks to represent themselves, survivors are able to share their injury with individuals who do not understand the hidden or unseen challenges of life with brain injury.

Thanks to a grant for supplies from the Boeing Employees Community Fund, the Brain Injury Association of Missouri recently sponsored an *Unmasking Brain Injury* event in St. Louis. Nine Boeing employees volunteered to help 15 survivors create a visual interpretation of the impact of brain injury.

Pre-formed paper maché masks served as the base for survivors to use paints, paper cutouts, markers, and stickers to tell their story. The survivors also wrote an explanation of their masks to help clarify their feelings, reflections and challenges of life with brain injury.

The masks and accompanying stories will be used by BIA-MO in advocacy and educational outreach efforts to increase awareness of brain injury. This inaugural *Unmasking Brain Injury* event in Missouri was emotional, joyful, and very creative. Survivors, family members and volunteers worked together to create a visual interpretation of the impact of brain injury for sharing with others.

IN MY OWN WORDS

*By Karen O.*

My brain injury happened in an automobile crash. My fiancé died in that crash and I was very sad for a long time.

For my mask, I used stickers to show the ambulance and medical care needed after my accident. The One-Way and Do Not Enter signs show that there are better ways for me to learn, but sometimes the new information doesn’t enter my brain due to short-term memory loss.

All of the hearts show the dreams I have for my new life with my new fiancé Geoff. I do have a new future, a great life!

BOWLING FOR BRAIN INJURY

It is always inspiring and appreciated how supporters of the Brain Injury Association of Missouri step-up to help others impacted by brain injury. This is clear in a relatively new fundraising event – Bowling for Brain Injury. This year’s goal was bowled over when more than $26,000 was raised.

Nearly 200 individuals in St. Louis and Springfield along with Kansas City virtual bowlers formed teams to compete for pledges and dollars. The fun competition continued at the event with prizes for First Strike, Team Highest Average Score, Top Fundraiser and more.

It was a great day! Bowling for Brain Injury has caught on as a fun and easy way to help strike out brain injury and spare survivors and families from the feeling of being alone.

Proceeds from Bowling for Brain Injury support programs for survivors and families in Missouri and help increase awareness. Our services provide answers, guidance, emotional support, socialization and access to resources. Events like Bowling for Brain Injury create awareness and provide help, hope and healing.

Thank you for your continued support!

Please plan to join us at the bowling alley or as a Virtual Bowler next year.
Youth Sports Concussion Legislation

Legislation to strengthen the Youth Sports Brain Injury Prevention Act was filed. House Bill (HB) 2388 expanded education for coaches, game officials, parents and youth participating in community and competitive sports leagues. This education would reduce the risks of potential short- and long-term effects of concussions by more individuals having knowledge to recognize the signs and symptoms of a possible concussion. The protection of the bill also extended to youth 6th grade and younger.

No vote was taken on this bill.

More Work Needed:

BIA-MO is working with professionals of sports, youth, education, and healthcare fields, as well as elected officials, to more clearly identify which sports the bill pertains and to address other questions that may arise.

Coaches and parents of youth active in organized sports are encouraged to share information with team and school personnel about the Sports Concussions: Facts, Fallacies and New Frontiers seminars to be held in early January 2017. Education is the most effective way to reduce the risk of effects of concussions for youth.

Motorcycle Helmet Law

The Missouri universal motorcycle helmet law remains intact. The House of Representatives passed a bill to repeal the Missouri all-rider motorcycle helmet law despite the facts that motorcycle helmets are a safety feature that save lives and reduce the severity or incidences of brain injury. This passage disregarded the reality that more brain injuries would cost Missouri taxpayers in higher healthcare costs and increases in insurance premiums.

The increase in motorcycle traffic and tourism dollars would not be a good trade-off for the increases in deaths, brain injuries and costs to taxpayers.

The Missouri Senate did not vote on this legislation.

More Work Needed:

BIA-MO will continue to educate new and returning elected officials about the need for all motorcyclists to wear a helmet while riding.

Survivors can share their personal story about brain injury and the importance of the all-rider motorcycle helmet law with legislators who visit support groups, or by receiving Advocacy Alerts to contact elected officials, and by testifying at Committee Hearings.

Remember when one of your first school assignments after summer break was to write about your vacation? To tell the class where you went and what you did?

Campers at the Donald Danforth Jr. Wilderness Camp do not have to write about their experience, but they did tell wonderful tales of adventure and exciting activities when arriving home.

The weeklong Camp provided survivors the opportunity to try new obstacles as they strengthened their self-confidence, friendships and physical endurance. They enjoyed camp and social activities in an accessible setting adapted to their personal needs and abilities. Swimming, sports, zipline, a rock climbing wall, an Alpine tower, and paddle boats plus a dinner dance, arts and crafts and nature walks filled the week with challenges and accomplishments.

For three decades the Brain Injury Association of Missouri has sponsored the Donald Danforth Jr. Wilderness Camp to help survivors of brain injury and their caregivers achieve their ultimate and shared goals of living fully, despite challenges of life with brain injury. This year’s Wilderness Camp was again a huge success!

This amazing Camp opportunity is supported by grants and the generous donations of many individuals and organizations. Without this generosity many Campers would not be able to afford to attend. The cost charged per Camper is only half of the actual cost to operate the Camp. Thank you to all who helped make this week of fun, adventure and relaxation possible for survivors of brain injury.

Watch the BIA-MO website for information about next year’s Donald Danforth Jr. Wilderness Camp. The 2017 adventure camp will, no doubt, be another success!

To receive Advocacy Alerts or to submit your personal story for sharing with elected officials, send an email to Advocacy@biamo.org. This email should include your name, address, phone number and email. Please also include how your brain injury occurred, the impact on your life, and what message you want to share with others.

The Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA) focuses on national legislative issues affecting survivors and the brain injury community. To receive the BIAA Policy Corner, visit www.biausa.org Advocacy & Government Affairs page.
AWARD NOMINATIONS 2016

The Brain Injury Association of Missouri (BIA-MO) each year honors individuals and organizations that have made an outstanding contribution to the brain injury community.

The BIA-MO Annual Awards will be presented at the Awards Luncheon and Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 15, 2016 at the Brain Injury Association of Missouri 12th Annual Statewide Conference.

Nominations for BIA-MO Awards 2016 are being accepted through September 15, 2016.

Courage Award
Honors the success of an individual with brain injury.

Bill Buell Memorial Award
Honors a Vocational Rehabilitation Case Manager or Counselor who has provided outstanding service to the brain injury community within or outside of his or her employment responsibilities.

Point of Light Award
Honors an individual who has provided outstanding service to persons with brain injury. Nominations must be made by an individual with brain injury.

Volunteer of the Year
Honors an individual who has furthered the Mission of the Brain Injury Association of Missouri throughout his or her volunteer service with the organization.

Legislator of the Year
Honors an elected official representing citizens of Missouri who has supported the prevention of brain injuries, services for survivors of brain injury or their families, or issues important to the brain injury community.

Service Excellence Award—Prevention
Honors an individual or organization for lasting contributions in brain injury prevention.

Service Excellence Award—Community Service
Honors an individual or organization whose service is exceptional within the brain injury community.

Service Excellence Award—Public Relations
Honors an individual or organization whose outreach and educational efforts increased the awareness of the needs within the brain injury community and the Brain Injury Association of Missouri.

Lifetime Achievement Award
Honors an individual or organization for significant contributions and long-term impact to the brain injury community.

FOR EACH NOMINATION, PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

• Name and contact information for the nominee.
• A 500 word or less statement of why you feel the person is deserving of the award and how the brain injury community has benefited from the efforts of the nominee.
• Your name and contact information. More than one person can nominate the same individual or organization.

Deadline for nomination is September 15, 2016. Nominations should be submitted to Maureen Cunningham, Brain Injury Association of Missouri 2265 Schuetz Road, St. Louis, MO 63146-3409 or online at biamo.org.

HONORARIUM AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

(Chances 1, 2016 – July 15, 2016)

IN HONOR OF
Leila Alder
Cheryl Price
Debbie Chilburis
Mr. and Mrs. Hank Schilly
Sarah Davis – appreciation of service
Care Choice Care Management
Ralph and Barbara Klink
Chad Gibson
Emily Gibson
Teddy Jayne
Thomas Campbell
Hannah and Tommy Jayne
Marty Jayne
Patti Jayne
Randy and Nancy Jayne
Kimberly Mumm

Robert Melton
Page Melton Ivie
Jaime Marulanda – Dog Training Certification
Cheryl Price
Diane Orr-Kelly
Cheryl and Dennis Chick
Renee and Scott Quinby - Marriage
Lori Winter

IN MEMORY OF
Lorraine Becker
Harry and Roy Becker
Edward Bleich
Beverly Rubenstein
Joe Robertson
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barnes
Mrs. Donald Danforth Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Byron Utterback

IN MEMORY OF
The Brain Injury Association of Missouri (BIA-MO) is proud to offer two educational scholarship opportunities for survivors of brain injury. Pursuing post-secondary education is often difficult and out of reach financially for many. Now, survivors of brain injury can get a little help through the SSM Rehabilitation Network Education Scholarship and the BIA-MO Jim and Lori Winter Scholarship.

The SSM Rehabilitation Network Education Scholarship assists survivors of brain injury on their road of recovery through encouragement and support for post-secondary education. This corporate sponsored opportunity will provide two $750 scholarships for survivors of brain injury.

The Jim and Lori Winter Scholarship honors the long-time volunteer leadership of Jim and Lori Winter for their efforts to strengthen the Brain Injury Association of Missouri statewide. Lori continues her volunteer service as a Support Group Facilitator for two groups. Donations made to BIA-MO allow us to offer two $500 Jim and Lori Winter Scholarships for survivors of brain injury to pursue post-secondary education.

Post-secondary education includes two-year colleges, four-year colleges or universities, and vocational or trade school educational institutions. Scholarship funding can be used for tuition, room and board, books, required class materials such as workbooks, and specialized tools.

Only one application is needed to be considered for both scholarships. Additional support material includes an application essay of 500 words or less, two letters of reference, and verification of acceptance by the educational/training program to be attended by the survivor. Download an application at www.biamo.org or request by email, info@biamo.org.

Applications are due September 15, 2016. Awards will be recognized at the BIA-MO Annual Meeting on October 15 in St. Charles, Missouri.

The mission of the Brain Injury Association of Missouri is to reduce the incidence of brain injury; to promote acceptance, independence and productivity of persons with brain injury; and to support their families.

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI • 2265 Schuetz Road, St. Louis, MO 63146 • 314.426.4024 • 800.444.6443 • FAX: 314.426.3290 • WWW.BIAMO.ORG
Conference Sponsorship and Registration Form

Sponsorship Opportunities
All sponsorships include signage during the Conference, a full page advertisement in the Conference Program and recognition at the Conference and on our website and social media.

__ Lunch Sponsor $3,000
Four professional Conference Registrations
Prime exhibit space in Exhibit Hall
Five minute (maximum) address at your sponsored Thursday or Friday luncheon

__ Keynote Sponsor $1,000
Two Professional Conference registrations
Exhibit space in Exhibit Hall
Signage displayed during sponsored Keynote Session

__ Break Sponsor $500
Signage displayed during your sponsored refreshment or breakout session

Exhibit
__ Full Conference Exhibitor $350
(no discount for fewer than three days exhibiting)
__ Survivor and Family Seminar Day Exhibiting $125

Days Exhibiting:
(Choose all that apply to ensure accurate table count.)

Professional Audience
__ Thursday, October 13   __ Friday, October 14

Survivor and Family Audience
__ Saturday, October 15

Attendance Registration

__ Professional $185 (non-member of BIA-MO)
__ Professional $135 (BIA-MO Member)
__ Survivor $60/Family Member $75

Name ________________________________
Agency ________________________________
City/State/Zip __________________________
Email __________________ Phone __________

Method of Payment
__ Visa/MC/Discover   __ Check   __ Invoice me

Total $___________ Name on card __________
Card Number ______________________________
Exp. __________ V-code on back __________

Name and address if different than above for this card ________________________________

Mail to: BIA-MO, 2265 Schuetz Road, St. Louis, MO 63146. The Conference Sponsorship and Registration information is also available online at www.biamo.org.

Explore Scholarship Options
Continued from Page 1

As an Exhibitor, you have one-on-one marketing access through an exhibit at the conference. It’s an effective opportunity to share information about your products and services with professionals, survivors of brain injury and family members.

Advertising in the conference program book is an invitation for participants to visit your exhibit table and to share the program book with colleagues unable to attend.

BIA-MO appreciates all Donations to help support this important educational opportunity, the 12th Annual Statewide Conference.

Please visit our website, biamo.org, or contact Maureen Cunningham, MCunningham@biamo.org, for more information about Sponsorship Opportunities. It’s a win-win for you, participants and BIA-MO.

Professional Conference Schedule

AT A GLANCE

Thursday, October 13, 2016
• Neuro Imaging and TBI
• Aging with Brain Injury
• Neurological Disorder Treatments via Telehealth
• Motivational Interviewing
• Pediatric Brain Injuries
• Understanding WIOA: Missouri’s New Workforce Partnership
• Yoga and Tai Chi for use in Prevention and Treatment of Traumatic Brain Injury and Stroke
• Changes to Healthcare and Impact on Services that Affect Resource Referral

Friday, October 14, 2016
• Decreasing Burnout for Health Care Professionals
• Substance Abuse and Brain Injury: Strategies that work despite cognitive and behavioral impairment
• Treating Patients with Severe Disorder of Consciousness
• Care for Survivors of Brain Injury in Home Health Services
• Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA): What is it and how can it benefit individuals with TBI?
• Chill, Thrill, Heal: From Traumatic Brain Injury to Personal Trainer
BIA-MO is a membership organization. Please join at www.biamo.org

2265 Schuetz Road
St. Louis, MO 63146-3409
P 314.426.4024 | 800.444.6443
F 314.426.3290 | W www.biamo.org

Facebook: BIA.Missouri
Twitter: BIA_Missouri

Service Address Requested

Check if appropriate:
__ My name is misspelled
__ My address is incorrect
__ I receive more than one copy
__ I prefer to receive email

Please clip your label and mail with corrections to the BIA-MO office, or email your request to info@biamo.org.

PLEASE JOIN US...
Mark Your Calendar and Register Today

SPORTS CONCUSSIONS: FACTS, FALLACIES AND NEW FRONTIERS
January – February 2017 with dates TBD
Regional seminars in Cape Girardeau, Columbia, Kansas City, St. Louis and Springfield
Updated information about recognition and management of concussion in youth.
Seminars for Coaches, game officials, licensed athletic trainers, athletic directors, team managers and school personnel.
Registration will open late Fall 2016.
To be added to the invitation list, send an email to Concussions@biamo.org.

NETWORKING COFFEE FOR PROFESSIONALS - SPRINGFIELD
Thursday, August 18, 2016 at 8:30 am – 10:00 am
Preferred Family Healthcare, 2626 W College, Springfield, 65804
Share information about resources and learn from others.
Professionals of various disciplines who provide care for survivors and family members should attend.
RSVP not required, but is appreciated at 800-444-6443.
To be added to the invitation list, send an email to DMenzie@biamo.org.missouri.edu

NETWORKING COFFEE FOR PROFESSIONALS – ST. LOUIS
Tuesday, September 6 at 8:30 am – 10:00 am
BIA-MO Office, 2265 Schuetz Road, St. Louis, 63146
Share information about resources and learn from others.
Professionals of various disciplines who provide care for survivors and family members should attend.
RSVP not required, but is appreciated at 314-426-4024.
To be added to the invitation list, send an email to DMenzie@biamo.org.