3rd Annual BIAMO Conference  
“Creating a Better Future”  
Features Nationally Known Speakers

The Brain Injury Association of Missouri’s 3rd Annual Conference, held at the St. Charles Embassy Suites Hotel & Convention Center, October 3-6, 2007, featured nationally known speakers: Susan H. Connors, President/CEO of the Brain Injury Association of America; Dr. Mark J. Ashley, Sc.D., CCC-SLP, CCM, co-founder and President/CEO of the Centre for Neuro Skills, post acute rehabilitation center with facilities in California and Texas; Dr. Ross Zafonte, D.O., Chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Pittsburgh; and Holly Kostrzewski, a brain injury survivor and Injury Prevention Program Coordinator/Health Educator for the Fond du Lac Reservation, outside Duluth, MN.

The Conference attracted approximately 240 attendees, sponsors and exhibitors to its 4-day seminar geared for professionals, brain injury survivors and their family members. Conference Chair, Dr. Tom Martin, Psy.D., ABPP, Missouri Rehabilitation Center, welcomed the attendees on Wednesday followed by a pre-conference workshop on “Certification for Brain Injury Specialists: An Overview of AACBIS” by Dr. Debra Brauiling-McMorrow, Ph.D., Mentor ABI; and a Keynote Presentation “The Changing World of Brain Injury” by Susan Connors.

Thursday, the focus for professionals included: “The Pipeline: One Soldier’s Trip Down the Military’s Medical Mega-Ride” by Michael Mason, Brookhaven Hospital; “Assessment of Driving Readiness Following TBI” by Michael Taylor, OTR/L, CDRS, Rusk Rehabilitation Center; Keynote Presentation “Cognitive Rehabilitation: What Is It and What Works?” by Dr. Mark Ashley; “Understanding & Treating Awareness Deficits after Brain Injury” by Peggy Barco, M.S., OTR/L, BSW, The Center for Head Injury Services; “Rehabilitation Outcomes Impacting Life after TBI: Clinically Programming Hope & Optimism” by Dr. Jon Pearson, QLI & Dr. Jodi Palensky, Ph.D., QLI; “Impulsivity & Behavioral Challenges Following Brain Injury” by Dr. John Guercio, Ph.D., Mentor ABI; and “Visual Disturbance Following Brain Injury” by Dr. Carol Scott, Vision Enhancement Clinic.

Friday, the focus for physicians included an Update on Current Treatment Approaches and the Pathophysiology of TBI. Topics included: “Introduction to the Medical and Psychological Consequences of TBI” by Dr. Najdat Atallah, M.D., Missouri Rehabilitation Center & Dr. Tom Martin; “Medical Management of Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury” by Dr. Jon Rupright, D.O., FAOCMPR, Rusk Rehabilitation Center; Keynote Presentation “TBI Research: What We Know and Perspectives for Future Research” by Dr. Ross Zafonte; “Management of Spasticity Following Brain Injury” by Dr. Rod Thorley, M.D., Rehab Medicine Specialist; “Pediatric Brain Injury” by Dr. Jane Emerson, M.D., AFFP, University of Columbia; “Head Injury & Brain Plasticity” by Dr. Martin Wice, M.D., Rehab Medicine Specialist; and “Outcomes Following TBI with a Survivor’s Perspective” by Dr. Terrie Price, Ph.D., Rehabilitation of Kansas City & Holly Kostrzewski.

On Saturday, the focus for brain injury survivors and their family members began with a Keynote Presentation “I Am What I Am” by Holly Kostrzewski. Other topics included: “Promoting Quality of Life Following Brain Injury: Including Social and Intimate Relationships” by Dr. Michael Whetstone, Ph.D., St. John’s Memory Disorder Clinic; “Memory Compensation: Tools and Strategies to Promote Independence in Daily Living” by Lynne Whittaker, MOTR/L, Minds Matter, LLC; “Adjusting to Brain Injury: Survivor and Family Factors Influencing Positive Progression” by Dr. Carey Pawlowski, Ph.D., Rehabilitation Institute of Kansas City; and “The Role of Assistive Technology in Improving Quality of Life Following Brain Injury” by Judith Peavey, CCC-SLP, Missouri Rehabilitation Center. An afternoon panel discussion moderated by Dr. Tom Martin included experts in the field of “Social Security Disability Insurance”, Heather White, Allsup, Inc.; “Legal Rights”, L. Barry Gubin, Attorney at Law; “Pain Management/Pharmacology”, Dr. Jennie Gorham, D.O.; “Assistive Technology”, Judith Peavey, CCC-SLP; “Physical Therapy”, Jill Derner, PT, St. John’s Mercy Rehabilitation Center; “Occupational Therapy”, JoAnn Rasch, OTR, Rehabilitation Institute of St. Louis; and Financial Representative, Todd Gentry, MetDesk.

Continuing Education Credits were awarded to physicians thru the University of Missouri, Columbia, School of Medicine. Nursing credits were provided by SSM Rehab, St. Louis. CEU’s for case managers, and rehabilitation service providers/vocational counselors were

continued page 3
President’s Message

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE!

Here we are at the end of BIA-MO’s 25th year. And what a year it has been! The association has been busy all year. We have received a number of grants to help with everything from camp to our convention. Hats off to Scott Gee for all his work in that area!

Our organization, unfortunately, doesn't just run on good works and feelings. In order to help all those in Missouri who have sustained a traumatic brain injury and their families, our funding has to grow and Scott has seen to that.

In the spring, we celebrated with and recognized our volunteers in the St Louis and Springfield area with wonderful dinners. What would we do without you? Our volunteers are the heart of our organization. Without you we wouldn't be where we are today.

Camp was tremendously successful, again, thanks to Scott, Trudy and our volunteers. Our campers truly enjoyed themselves and their families were able to enjoy a week of respite.

The St. Louis golf tournament in August raised a record amount of money thanks to Sue, Diane, Joan and their committee. The committee works year-round on this tournament and it shows. The golfers had a great day and everybody had a wonderful meal and the bidding was fast-paced at the auction.

The culmination of the year was our conference. New sessions were added this year specifically for doctors and these were very well-received. The speakers were incredible and the information they provided was extremely beneficial. I know that everyone who attended was pleased with the format. Many thanks go to Tom Martin and his committee. They did an exceptional job.

As my term as president comes to an end, I would like to thank everyone who helped make these past two years so successful. For our volunteers - thanks just doesn't seem adequate. Each of you puts in time the whole year to make BIA-MO what it is. For the BIA Board - you guys are fantastic – always stepping up to the plate when asked. Keep up the good work. For the Executive Board - Tom and Aimee - I couldn't have done it without you. It's truly been a team effort and a pleasure working with you. And last, but not least, Scott and Trudy. What more can I say. You two truly do "hold down the fort" with a smile. The work you do makes my job and the job of the rest of the board so easy. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

And to Tom Martin - incoming president - may your next two years be as wonderful as mine have been.

God Bless all of you and may you have a Peaceful and Joyous Holiday Season!

Lynne Unnerstall
President
provided by the Center for Comprehensive Services Mentor ABI, Carbondale, IL. CEU’s for speech language pathologists were provided by SSM Rehab, thru the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

We would like to especially thank the following sponsors for making it possible for us to put on this conference. **Host Sponsor:** Department of Health & Senior Services, **Keynote Sponsors:** Bridges of Missouri, Inc.; Center for Comprehensive Services-Mentor ABI; the Center for Head Injury Services; and The Rehabilitation Institute of St. Louis. **Break Sponsors:** Alternative Opportunities; Dynavox Technologies; SSM Rehab; The Rehabilitation Institute of Kansas City; and Timber Ridge Ranch NeuroRestorative Services.

Thanks also to our **Exhibitors:** Assistive Technology, Inc.; Heartland Care & Rehab; Prentke Romich Company; Quality Living, Inc.; Maxim Healthcare Services; Midwest Special Needs Trust; Missouri Developmental Disabilities Network; Missouri Rehabilitation Center; St. John’s Rehabilitation; Select Specialty Hospital St. Louis; Vocational Rehabilitation; and Wonderland Camp Foundation.

Most importantly, we would like to thank the following volunteers who served on our Conference Committee: **Chair**, Dr. Tom Martin; **Dr. Najdat Atallah**, Peggy Barco, John Bennett, Lisa Chandler, Peggy Igleheart, Amy Moleski, Sue Orton, Dr. Carey A. Pawlowski, Dr. Terrie Price, Marsha Rohrer, Dr. Jon Rupright, Lynne Unnerstall; as well as, Brain Injury Association of Missouri Executive Director, Scott Gee and Program Assistant, Trudy Rider.

Thanks also to our Event Volunteers: Lori Adams, Cameron Ankele, Mary Berneckius, Lisa Chandler, Sherry Dougherty, Kathy Hughes, Peggy Igleheart, Pat & Bob Murphy, Sue Orton, Bev Rubenstein, Lynne Unnerstall and Lori Winter. And, last but not least, a thank you goes to our live band entertainment provided by: singer/guitar player, Bob Case with QLI’s own Jon Pearson on harmonica.
The 25th Anniversary Awards Dinner held at the St. Charles Embassy Suites Hotel, October 5, 2007, honored volunteers for their service to the Brain Injury Association of Missouri. The evening was hosted by Board President, Lynne Unnerstall; Conference Chair, Dr. Tom Martin; and Executive Director, Scott Gee.

Recognition was given to retiring Board Members Glenda Cato and Dr. Jon Rupright, as well as, Board President, Lynne Unnerstall. The following new Board Members were also recognized: Dolores Coble, Nicole Davis, Barry Gubin, Tim Imhoff, Tim Landwehr, Sue Orton, Cheryl Price, Christopher “Mark” Schwenn and Lisa Scott.

Volunteers of the Year included: Marty Overstreet, owner of Circle Bar T Leatherworks, Columbia, MO, who was honored for his past 5 years of service to the Columbia BBQ Fundraiser. Marty donated time, labor & materials totaling up to $15,000 for the special one-of-a-kind trophies he designed for the BBQ event team winners.

Ann Lieb Frawley was honored for her 5 years of volunteer service as Auction Chair for the St. Louis Chapter Charity Golf Tournament; and for her innovative fundraising ideas, which have steadily increased the profits from year to year.

Special Recognition Award was awarded to St. Louis Chapter Charity Golf Committee Chair, Sue Orton; Golf Course Coordinator, Diane Trame; and Development Coordinator, Joan Vatterott for over a decade of involvement with the St. Louis Chapter Golf Tournament Fundraiser. Their tireless efforts helped to raise over $500,000 for the Brain Injury Association of Missouri.

Lifetime Achievement Award was awarded to Tim Imhoff, President of Bridges of Missouri, which specializes in brain injury rehabilitation and community support services to individuals throughout Missouri. Tim has been a steadfast advocate for brain injury survivors and their family members for many years, serving on Brain Injury Association state and national boards. He helped to formulate a state TBI action plan while serving on the Missouri Head Injury Council. He also serves on state and national strategic planning committees, and is a member of the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators.

Courage Award was awarded to Travis Bourret, who received a traumatic brain injury in 1996, while serving in the Army when his unit was deployed to Bosnia. Although he received a bleak diagnosis, spent months in a coma, endured five burn surgeries, and unending rehabilitation, Travis continued to meet each new challenge with his best effort. His determination and hard work through years of therapy have proven to be an inspiration to many, and his story has been used as a case study to assist other families with ways to continue rehabilitation beyond what is usually provided after a traumatic brain injury.

Brian Cressler was also awarded with a courage award. Brian received a head injury in 1991, which left him completely unresponsive in a coma following a car accident. Though it took a year of pool therapy to conjure a response, Brian is currently able to take partial care of himself and his support dog, Sarah. He is also a competitive athlete with DASA, the Disabled Athlete Sports Association. Brian helped DASA form a competitive archery team and attended his first competition in June at the Endeavor Games in Oklahoma. He inspired many athletes there with his different abilities to draw his bow back with his teeth, because he has limited motion with one of his arms.

Doug Ehlers, a twice-weekly, nine-year volunteer in our St. Louis office, received the courage award for his many years of volunteer service. Although Doug sustained a traumatic brain injury in a car accident over 35 years ago, he has managed to live his life with great grace, dignity and joy. No matter the day or the task, Doug is always pleasant, positive and eager to face whatever challenge comes his way. He possesses an infectious sense of humor and a “can-do” attitude in all the areas of his life. Doug does various computer data input projects for us, and always manages to brighten our days with his recollections of music trivia and vast knowledge of his beloved St. Louis Cardinals.

Andrea Buening was awarded the courage award for her accomplishments after receiving a traumatic brain injury in a car accident in 1997. Although her family was told that she was not a good candidate for rehabilitation, Andrea was transferred to the transitional living program at the Missouri Rehabilitation Center after only four months. Since then, she has worked with the Independent Living Center in Joplin, MO, for over six years. She is currently a Special Projects Coordinator for them. She started a brain injury support group two years ago, and has been a BIA-MO Board member since 2005. In 2006, Andrea was appointed by Governor Blunt to the MO Head Injury Advisory Council. She has also testified at the Department of Social Services hearings on changes in Medicaid, etc. She is recognized throughout the state as a positive advocate for persons with brain injuries.

The following people contributed to this article: Kelly Behlmann, Terry Bourret, Scott Gee, Aimee Olmstead, Sue Orton, Sheila Rider & Trudy Rider.
Social Communication
A Short Easy Version

Do You Communicate, or do you just talk?
Communicating is more than talking. It takes skill and can be hard for a person with a traumatic brain injury (TBI). To communicate, you need to do certain things and avoid other things.

These are things you need to do:
1. Listen and ask questions
2. Take turns talking and listening
3. Give accurate information
4. Be organized and get to the point
5. Keep your emotions under control
6. Be aware of how you are affecting the other person

These are things you need to avoid:
1. Interrupting
2. Rambling
3. Making the other person do all of the work to keep the conversation going
4. Yelling
5. Making comments that others might think are rude or mean

What happens if someone’s communicating skills are not good?
1. It may be “too much work” to communicate, so he or she may not try
2. Others may avoid having conversations with the person
3. It could become difficult to make or keep friends; it may be hard to find a “girlfriend” or a “boyfriend”
4. It may be hard to keep a job
5. They might not catch and correct errors they make when talking
6. They may get off the topic
7. They may not give enough detail
8. What they say may not be interesting
9. They might sound disorganized
10. It may be too difficult to understand what they are saying

Signs and Symptoms
These are signs that a person’s communication skills might need improvement:
1. Conversations may be confusing to others
2. When they talk, they may give too little or too much information
3. They might sound disorganized
4. They might ramble and repeat themselves
5. They might not catch and correct errors they make when talking
6. They may get off the topic
7. They may not give enough detail
8. What they say may not be interesting
9. They may talk or process information too slowly
10. The other person may have to ask a lot of questions to keep the conversation going. They may not know how to use “clues” or “hints” from the other person. This includes things like gestures, eye contact, and emotions. Other hints might be how close to stand to the other person, or how loud to talk. Here are more examples of the kinds of clues people might miss:
   • What is the speaker driving at? What is her intent?
   • Is the other person uncomfortable?
   • Does he seem to be in a bad mood? Is he sad?
   • Does she look like she’s in a hurry?

Re-learning Communication Skills
If you, or someone you know, has some of these symptoms after a TBI, there is good news: communication skills can be improved. Training and practice can help. Practice in real-life situations is especially good. One good way to work on your social communications skills is to join a group of people who are doing the same thing. Groups usually have several people with TBI. They usually are led by someone who is experienced in social communications. This could be a speech therapist, a psychotherapist, or both. If there do not happen to be any groups near you, you can still practice on your own with a partner, friend, or family members.

Here is what you can do:
1. Go back and look at the lists of examples we gave you. Use these lists to identify what your problems are.
2. Ask a partner, friend or family member to look at the same lists. Ask them what they think your problems are.
3. Start with the things on your list that are the biggest problems for you or that limit you the most. If something shows up on your list, it is probably an important one.
4. Set a goal. Pick one of the bigger problems to work on.
5. Practice and work on your goal. Have your partner or family member give you feedback. For example, if your goal is to not interrupt someone, ask them to tell you when you interrupt someone. If your goal is to listen more closely and ask good questions, ask your partner to tell you when you do a good job. Ask them to remember specific examples for you.
6. Practice these same skills in the “real world.” Work on your goals when you are shopping, at school, or at a party. If your partner or family member gets to see you while you are having a conversation with a stranger, ask them to give you feedback.
7. Keep practicing! You’re almost sure to see improvement.

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IN MEMORY
Lee Anne Barry Loses Life During B.I.G. Ride to Create Awareness about Brain Injury

Lee Anne Barry, brain injury survivor and advocate, died October 21, 2007, when she and friend, Tom Hoskins, were struck by a car just 27 miles short of the end of the 2007 B.I.G. Ride - and just seven miles short of a stop where they were to be escorted to the finish. Lee Anne and her husband, Ben, who drove their supply van, had made four cross-country bicycle treks over the years to raise awareness for brain injury. They traveled thru the St. Louis area in late September. Ben evoked that “her passion to help those with brain injury and prevention, her faith, her beauty will be sorely missed and challenge all of us to live our lives worthy of her memory.”

We Need Your Input

The Brain Injury Association of Missouri is working on a cooperative project with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to revise the current Missouri Resource Packet for TBI Survivors. The revision committee is considering the opportunity to include brief words of advice, thoughts and reflections from TBI Survivors across the state. You never know how a few words can really touch someone at the time they need it.

Please consider submitting 2-3 sentences that describe your experience/thoughts/advice/most valuable resources/helpful tips that you would like to share with others. Include your name and hometown with the sentences. This information must be submitted to the Brain Injury Association of Missouri (via fax, 314-426-3290 or mail, 10270 Page Ave., St. Louis MO 63132) no later than February 1, 2008.

The revision committee reserves the right to select a few, none, all, or portions of each submission for inclusion within the publication. Thank you!
Springfield Chapter Celebrates 25th Anniversary at Awards Dinner

The Brain Injury Association of Missouri-Springfield Chapter celebrated its 25th Anniversary Awards Dinner on Saturday, May 5, at the Clarion Hotel, Springfield, MO. The BIAMO was pleased to host 60 members and their guests for this milestone event. The evening was hosted by Brain Injury Association of Missouri Executive Director, Scott Gee, and Board Vice-President, Dr. Tom Martin.

The following awards were presented during the evening: Special Recognition of Service: Ethel Campbell & Dennis Stambaugh; Corporate Commitment Award: Lakes Country Resource Center & Missouri Rehabilitation Center; Survivor Recognition of Accomplishment Award: Kevin Feather & Richard James; Special Recognition of Family Commitment: Chris & Debbie Feather. The celebration culminated with a music video presentation, which commemorated 25 years of people, events and volunteer service to the Brain Injury Association of Missouri.

A Plea for Help

by Mary Bernickus

If you’ve ever read the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, you’ve heard of its annual 100 Neediest Cases campaign. From Thanksgiving to Christmas, it publishes 100 “cases”—individuals or families with major needs—from the 1,500-2,000 that are “nominated” by various area groups that help people with needs.

For the past three years, a small group from BIA-MO’s St. Louis Chapter has “adopted” some individuals/families affected by brain injury from the list. We’ve helped people in the City of St. Louis, in St. Louis County and in Jefferson County so far.

“Adopting” means contributing some money (and in a few cases, donating “gently used” items if specified in the “needs list”), shopping for items requested by the people being adopted, wrapping a few gifts, and delivering the gifts and gift cards to a specified location. We never see the people/families we’ve adopted (a branch of United Way runs the program), but we make sure that they know something about the Brain Injury Association, because we include a bit of information with the “gifts.”

Have you ever wanted to donate to the Brain Injury Association of Missouri, but realized your disposable income is not what you would like it to be?

If we gave you a way to donate to the Brain Injury Association of Missouri without spending a dime, would you be interested?

www.goodsearch.com is a new search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any search engine, and it’s powered by Yahoo!, so you get great results.

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter the Brain Injury Association of Missouri as the charity you want to support. Just 500 of us searching four times a day will raise about $7,300 in a year without anyone spending a dime! And be sure to spread the word!

It is easy to download the GoodSearch toolbar at http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbars.aspx.

Thanks for your support and happy searching.
20th Annual Charity Golf Tournament Raises over $80,000 for the Brain Injury Association

The 20th Annual Charity Golf Tournament held Sunday, August 19, 2007, at Forest Park’s Norman K. Probstein Golf Course, raised over $80,000 for the Brain Injury Association of Missouri-St. Louis Chapter. Kudos goes out to the many sponsors, advertisers, auction donors and participants in this very successful event. Another special thank you also goes to Gayla & Jim Bernardini and Dobbs Tire and Auto Centers for their Diamond Sponsorship and to Tim Reuther and Reuther Jeep-Chrysler-Dodge for their “hole-in-one” donation of the use of a car. We were also very pleased to have John Kelly, “Voice of the St. Louis Blues”, as our celebrity auctioneer and Anthony Granda as our course photographer.

This year’s winners included: Men’s Division 1st Place Team “A” Flight (Score 56): John Vatterott, Jr., Bowderm, Bowderm, Brad Gruenwald; Men’s Division 1st Place Team “B” Flight (Score 63): Dr. Michael O’Connell, Don Hake, Jim Kissel & Bruce Wright; Mixed Division 1st Place Team “A” Flight (Score 56): Kevin O’Sullivan, Ellen O’Sullivan, Butch O’Brien & Rita Scott; Mixed Division 1st Place Team “B” Flight (Score 60): John Vatterott, Joan Vatterott, Amy Gill & Amrit Gill; Women’s Division 1st Place Team (Score 68): Laurie Westfall, Judy Metzger, Jill Goad & Sue McNealy.

Other winners included: Closest to the Pin Women’s: Gail Overstreet; and Closest to the Pin Men’s: Andre Vatterott; Longest Drive Women’s: Rita Scott; Longest Drive Men’s: Tom Schmittgens. The winner of the Putting Contest was William Roth.

This year’s successful tournament was also mostly due in part to the tireless efforts of the volunteer Golf Committee Chairman Sue Orton; Golf Course Coordinator Diane Trame; Development Coordinator Joan Vatterott; Auction Coordinator Ann Lieb Frawley and Volunteer Coordinator Gloria Burns, in addition to the Golf Committee members and event volunteers.

Connections

John Vatterott, Joan Vatterott, Golf Pro, Jo D. Duncan & Executive Director, Scott Gee

Board President, Lynne Unnerstall; Tommy Bernardini & Gayla Bernardini

Bev Brassil, Diane Trame, Sue Orton, Don Hanneke, Gayla Bernardini & Joan Vatterott

Joe Bernardini in front, Tommy Bernardini on left, Matt Bernardini & Jim Bernardini, owner of Dobbs Tire & Auto Center Diamond Sponsor

Schnucks Shoppers

Support Brain Injury Association of Missouri, Inc.

Pick up a Schnucks eScrip Community Card at Schnucks today!

Schnucks will contribute up to 3% of your purchases to our organization every time you shop and swipe your card.

eScrip

It’s Free • It’s Easy • It’s Powerful • It’s eScrip

www.escr...
### Membership Application for the Brain Injury Association of Missouri

Your dues include membership in the Brain Injury Association of Missouri which entitles you to a copy of its national and state newsletters. There have been many gains toward awareness of brain injury and the development of brain injury rehabilitation in Missouri. Your dues are essential for us to continue positively affecting the lives of many people.

*This is your organization. We look forward to your continued support! Yes, I want to be a member of the Brain Injury Association of Missouri, Inc.*

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Your brain injury connection is:  
- [ ] Survivor  
- [ ] Family  
- [ ] Caregiver  
- [ ] Other  

Make checks payable to BIA-MO and mail to: 10270 #100, St. Louis, MO 63132  OR  use your credit card.

- [ ] VISA  
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Expiration Date: _______  
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Signature: ____________________

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Phone Home: ( ) ___________________  
E-Mail Address: ___________________

*Membership in the Brain Injury Association of Missouri is open to everyone!

*Survivors/family members with limited resources.
Brain Injury Association of Missouri
Community Support Groups

MISSOURI

Cape Girardeau
- Meetings are the first Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m., at Healthpoint Plaza/SE Outpatient Rehab, 2126 Independence St. Contact: Cathy Tanksley (573)651-5825 or (573)986-4411.

Columbia
- Meetings for survivors and families are the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m., at the Rusk Rehabilitation Center. Contact: Lisa Scott (573)817-4780.

Fulton
- Fulton Support Group meets the last Tuesday of the month from 4-5 p.m., at Calloway Health Dept. Contact: Tyyna Bailey (573)826-0200.

Hannibal
- Meetings are held every third Thursday at 6:00 p.m., at the Hannibal Regional Center, 805 Clinic Rd. Contact: Mark Morton at (573)406-6620.

Jefferson City
- Meetings are the last Monday of every month at 3:00 p.m., at the Independent Living Resource Center, 3620 West Truman Blvd. Contact: Sandy Barbour (573)556-0400 or (877)627-0400.

Jefferson County/South St. Louis County
- Meetings are the third Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m., at the DRA Office, 420-B South Truman Blvd., Crystal City. Contact: Suzan Weller (636)931-7696 ext. 126 for more information.

Joplin
- Meetings for survivors and families are the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., at St. John’s Rehabilitation Center. Contact Bill & Penni Fallow (417)782-1232. Other meetings are the second Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m., at the Independent Living Center. Contact: Andrea Buening or Dan Rife at (417)659-8086.

Kansas City
- The meetings are the second Tuesday, monthly at 7:00 p.m., at the Hillside Christian Church. Contact: Kathryn Dixon (816)353-8754.
- Support Group meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., at the Truman Medical Center-Lakewood. Contact: Dawn Tish (816)404-8426
- Support Group meetings are the first Monday of the month, 5:00 p.m., at the Rehabilitation Institute. Contact: Michele Tietz (816)751-7856. If interested in forming a new family support group, call Dr. Terrie Price at the Rehabilitation Institute (816)751-7732.

Rolla
- Peer Support Group meets on the last Tuesday of the month at Christ Episcopal Church from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Contact: Deb Merrel, M.S. (573)364-6644
Sedalia

- The Sedalia Support Group meets the first Thursday of every month at Bothwell Hospital-3rd floor education classroom from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Contact: Nicole Davis (660)827-9577 or Dennis Gard at (573)200-0834

Springfield

- The Springfield Support Group meets the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., at Lakes Country Rehab (Scenic & College). Recreational activities are held the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m., at Lakes Country Rehab (Scenic & College). Contact: Marsha Rohrer (417)862-1753 St. Charles
- St. Charles County Family & Survivor Support Group meets the second Thursday of the month, from 7-9 p.m., at St. Joseph’s Health Center, 300 First Capitol Dr., St. Charles. Call (314)426-4024 for more information.

St. Joseph

- N.W. Missouri Brain Injury Association meets the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m., 4420 S. 40th St. (MERIL). Contact: Lori Hansen at (816)279-8558 or (800)242-9326 for more information.

St. Louis

- Brain Tumor Support Group meets the third Thursday of the month from 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Wellness Community, 10425 Old Olive Rd., Creve Coeur. Contact: (314)238-2000 for more information.
- Hydrocephalus Support Group, P.O. Box 4236, Chesterfield, MO 63006. Contact: Debby Buffa, Executive Director, (636)532-8228.
- St. Louis Family & Survivor Support Group meets the third Wednesday of the month from 7-9 p.m., at the BIA office, 10270 Page Ave., St. Louis. Call (314)426-4024 for more information.
- Stroke Support Group, SSM Rehab (314)344-6460

ILLINOIS

Belleville

- Brain Injury Support System for Southern Illinois meets the third Friday of the month at 10:00 a.m., at Glad Tidings Church, 4180 Smelting Works Road, Swansea, IL Call Barbara Lea (618)616-1700 for more information.

Collinsville

- Collinsville Support Group meets the first Tuesday of the month, at 7:00 p.m., at Anderson Hospital, Maryville, IL. Call (618)346-6641 for more information.

Quincy

- Quincy, IL Support Group, now known as the Brain Trauma Awareness Organization Support Group, meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m., at Blessing Hospital. Contact: Margie Williams (217)223-8566 or Karen Campbell (217)223-5296.