

January 2012

Happy 2012 from the Brain Injury Association of North Carolina!

We are gearing up for a very busy event season and hoping to make 2012 one of the best years yet for the brain injury community here in North Carolina. As always, please feel free to pass this newsletter along to anyone that has been affected by the trauma of brain injury: friends, coworkers, or anyone that wants to get involved.



Happy New Year and let's get to work!

BIANC'S 3rd Annual Family Conference Coming February 24th

The Brain Injury Association of NC along with Division of MH/DD/SAS is excited about the 3rd Annual Family and Survivors' Conference ***Building Community From the Inside Out: 2012*** set for **Friday February 24, 2012** at the Best Western Plus in downtown High Point, NC. This conference targets people with brain injuries, their families, caregivers, military/veterans, and service providers. This year's conference features a full day of excellent presenters from the region.

If you did not receive the flyer/registration form via email, you can find it here:

<http://bianc.net/docs/Family%20Conference/Family%20Conference%20Registration%20Form.pdf>

We reached capacity last year very quickly, and we anticipate the same this year, *so please register early!*

For more information visit:

http://www.bianc.net/resources/education_and_training/annual_family_conference/index.html

BIANC Readies for March and April Walk & Roll-athons

The Brain Injury Association of North Carolina is getting ready for our annual "Walk Season". Each year in observance of the month of March as *Brain Injury Awareness Month*, BIANC hosts a series of Walk & Roll-athons throughout the state to raise awareness of brain injury and to help raise funds for continued training and outreach efforts for the entire year. Please come join us and show support for our NC brain injury survivors, our Veterans, and their families. We are hoping for the biggest turnout ever in 2012. We need all support group members and all of our rehab friends and their families to join us to support our NC survivors and their families and let them know we are here for them. Let us know of potential sponsors in your area who may want to help with these events.

These events are not only fun ways to get out to support those you know, love, and work with that are dealing with the trauma of brain injury, but a great way to increase the "visibility" and need for more brain injury services in North Carolina and beyond.

These are community events and include music, event shirt, excellent food, educational display booths, raffle prizes, and opportunities for exercise and activities that are fun for kids and adults. The official *Walk* course at each event is less than a mile on a smooth surface so everyone can Walk or Roll together but other options for longer walks or fun runs will be offered.



2012 Walk & Roll-athon Schedule

Concord:	Frank Liske Park	March 24, 2012
Raleigh:	Lake Crabtree County Park	March 31, 2012
Asheville:	Carrier Park	April 14, 2012
Triad:	Tanglewood Park	April 21, 2012

How can you get involved? Form a team and bring your family, friends, and co-workers!

Register for an event:

<http://bianc.net/docs/Walk%20&%20Roll-athons/Statewide%20Registration%20Form.pdf>

Help as a sponsor:

<http://bianc.net/docs/Walk%20&%20Roll-athons/Statewide%20Walk%20&%20Roll-athon%20Sponsor%20Brochure%20-%20legal%20size.pdf>

Print a poster:

<http://www.bianc.net/docs/Walk%20&%20Roll-athons/Walk%20Posters/StatewideWalkPoster.pdf>

Have a Display Booth:

<http://bianc.net/docs/Walk%20&%20Roll-athons/Statewide%20Display%20Booth%20Form.pdf>

Read a letter from BIANC President Sandra Farmer:

<http://bianc.net/docs/Walk%20&%20Roll-athons/LetterPotentialSponsors.pdf>

Collect donations to help with fund-raising:

<http://bianc.net/docs/Events/BIANC%20Donation%20Form.pdf>

Please call our Raleigh office at 919-833-9634 for more information or to have copies of any of these forms mailed to you. The cost is \$20 in advance and \$25 on the day of the event so register early. Donations are tax deductible and can be raised through pledges you can collect from others to support your walk. Contact us at BIANC for pledge sheets.

Save the Date: Western NC Brain Injury Summit March 23-24, 2012

Dr. Jay Scifers, Director of the School of Health Sciences and associate professor of athletic training at Western Carolina University, will be the featured speaker at the 2012 WNC Brain Injury Summit: *Community Challenges, Community Solutions* to be held at the MAHEC Biltmore Campus in Asheville, NC on March 23-24. Scifers, who co-authored the Gfeller-Waller Concussion Awareness Act, will present on concussion related sports injuries. More information will be available soon at www.bianc.net.

ACBIS Announces Updated Manual with Additional Chapters

In the December 2011 ACBIS (Academy of Certified Brain Injury Specialists) newsletter, it was announced that development of a new *Essential Brain Injury Guide*, otherwise known as the "CBIS Manual" will begin in January 2012. The updated *Guide* will feature 2 new chapters including chapters on Case Management and Returning Veterans. ACBIS will partner with the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC) for the latter chapter.

Brain Injury in the News

Concussion Prevention in Youth Hockey

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2011/12/19/1719682/youth-hockey-aims-to-curb-concussion.html>

Featured Article in US News (Gfeller-Waller Act, Dr. Kevin Guskiewicz)

<http://health.usnews.com/health-news/family-health/brain-and-behavior/articles/2011/12/29/parents-speak-out-on-catastrophic-youth-sports-injuries?PageNr=1>

Upcoming BIAA Webinars

***Thursday, January 26, 2012, at 3 p.m. ET: Guardianship and Brain Injury, William Dussault, Dussault Law Group**

Registration Price: \$30

Continuing Education awarded: 1 hour

Registration closes at 5 p.m. ET on January 24.

Click [here](#) to register. Information on how to join the webinar will be sent to registrants on January 25.

***Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 3 p.m. ET: TBI and Military Personnel, Joan Griffin, PhD**

Registration Price: \$55

Continuing Education awarded: 1 hour

Registration closes at 5 p.m. ET on February 3.

Click [here](#) to register. Information on how to join the webinar will be sent to registrants on February 6.

BIAA Webinar Topics in 2012

Topics in the planning stage include:

- Breakthroughs with Stem Cells
- Resource Facilitation
- High Level Cognitive Rehabilitation
- Technology and Cognitive Issues
- Epidemiology of Brain Injury
- Health Care Reform Annual Report
- Substance Misuse
- Community Resources
- Post-TBI Fatigue

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