MARCH: BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

In March of each year an awareness campaign is conducted in observance of Brain Injury Awareness Month. The theme for the 2017 Brain Injury Association of America national campaign is “NOT ALONE.” The goal is to let people know of the research, treatment and support that is available for the more than 2.5 million children and adults who sustain traumatic brain injuries in the US each year. With the involvement of the Brain Injury Association of NC, Help, Hope and a Voice can be found; and people with brain injuries are not alone on their journey.

To raise awareness about injury please spread these few facts documented with the Center for Disease and Control (CDC):

- TBI contributes to over 50,000 deaths in the US each year.
- Annually, 280,000 people are hospitalized with a TBI diagnosis in the US.
- The annual estimated cost of emergency room visits, hospitalizations and deaths as a result of a TBI in the US exceeds $82 billion.
- Over 33,500 North Carolinians are injured each year, not including veterans (who are counted through other surveillance data mechanisms).
- Over 200,000 North Carolinians are living in the community disabled as a result of a TBI.
- No matter where you live in NC, the system of care for those working hard to overcome the effects of their injuries is woefully inadequate.

In our March newsletter, you will be introduced to North Carolinians who have experienced different types of Brain Injuries. Most of these individuals remember what their lives were before their injury. Many have coping skills that have allowed them to adjust their daily activities. Many still need our help and encouragement. We encourage you to take action and spread the word about brain injury. Educate yourself about issues important to the brain injury community. Talk with legislators about the importance of supporting this underfunded injury.

To learn more about brain injuries, resources, or ways to volunteer or advocate, visit the Brain Injury Association of NC website at www.bianc.net.

Join us during the month of March and let people with brain injury know they are not alone - #notaloneinbraininjury. The following link will also provide you with information about brain injuries and how you can help Brain Injury Association of America

Statistics from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention