

A Great Day Provides Great Impact

The 5th Annual Brain Injury Services Charity Golf Tournament went off without a hitch on its rain date, July 28th, and raised **over \$45,000** for our programs and the individuals we serve.

This year, 128 golfers came to **Westwood Country Club** to enjoy a beautiful course, a fun atmosphere and great company and of course, to support BIS. After a gorgeous day on the links, participants enjoyed cocktails and a buffet dinner, silent and live auctions and prizes for the golfers. BIS was very fortunate to have Washington Wizards play-by-play man, **Steve Buckhantz**, emcee the event and



Board Member Rick Ferraro, survivor volunteer Brian Quigley, and Board Member John Quigley (top photo) enjoy the day. Steve Buckhantz (left) auctions off a Redskins Chris Cooley autographed football.

help raise over \$15,000 for Brain Injury Services by auctioning off airline tickets from Continental Airlines, American Airlines and JetBlue Airways, an autographed football from Chris Cooley and an executive suite from Deloitte for any Washington Mystics game.

MaryLou Werner shared the emotional story about her son, Garrett, and how Brain Injury Services has helped her entire family manage the effects of his brain injury. She explained how difficult it is for families like hers to find community services when they are already so overwhelmed with complex medical needs. She highlighted the BIS Sibshops program, which enables siblings of

survivors to participate in a group and share similar experiences. And, because there is so little public funding for this injury, she also expressed gratitude to the participants and conveyed the critical need for continued support of BIS and families like hers.

The feedback from our 5th tournament was very positive, and we are proud to report that some of this year's attendees are already reserving their spots to participate in and sponsor next year's tournament. One foursome even told us that their company participates in many charity tournaments, but this is THE tournament in which they MUST play and reserve their slot early every year.

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Message from Our Executive Director

Kit's Miracle Mile

Argon ST Supports BIS

Clubhouse News

Advocacy Update

Volunteer Corner

Upcoming Events

BIS Administrative Staff

Karen W. Brown, Executive Director

Karen M. Luffred, Director of Administration

Lisa Garver, Program Director of Outreach and Development

NKenya Lassiter, Program Director of Adult Case Management Services

Michelle Thyen, Program Director of Volunteer Services

Betsy Zeigler, Program Director of Pediatric and Adolescent Case Management Services

BIS Board of Directors

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John Quigley, Treasurer
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Jackie Mills, Secretary
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Janis Ruoff, Ph.D.
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www.braininjurysvcs.org
United Way #8237

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A MESSAGE *from Karen Brown*

As we move into Fall, we continue to hear regularly about the effects of our economic downturn and Virginia's large budget deficit. As a result, **Governor Kaine is requesting State Government Agencies to look at ways to reduce their budgets without hurting "core services" so that Virginia can have a balanced budget.** BIS and other brain injury State-funded programs are being asked to consider the impact of a 5%, 10%, or 15% cut on our services. The potential impact of any of these cuts will be devastating for our State funded programs as they continue to be woefully underfunded. It was almost 5 years ago that BIS received a 15% cut in State funding which resulted in a much longer wait list for services and ultimately major hardship on our vulnerable citizens. We were able to return to the General Assembly the following year and have 75% of this loss re-instated, but the remaining loss resonated throughout our programs for years. What many people do not realize is that there is no inflationary adjustment to our State funding, which means that the worth of the State dollar already exponentially decreases each year. In the brain injury community, there **already exists a huge disparity between the extensive need for services and the small amount of funding that exists statewide.** This is why our **public/private partnerships are extremely important** for the sustainability of this organization.

A cut of any kind means a direct impact on "core services."

The Virginia Alliance for Brain Injury Services

Providers (VaBISP), a group BIS was instrumental in establishing in 1998, continues to work hard on educating legislators and the public on the needs of the brain injury community. Many individuals do not realize how lean BIS is in terms of our staffing. Most of our administrative staff carry caseloads and provide direct services. **A cut of any kind means a direct impact on "core services."** It will mean the loss of case management services, rehabilitation supports provided to some individuals and increases to the BIS wait list. It will also mean that we can't expand the scope of services that could benefit many of our survivors. We would like to be able to develop internal programs to directly address long term neurobehavioral issues as well as develop housing choices. There are so many things that we could put into place after almost 20 years of experience, but limited funding has prevented this from happening.

In 2007, The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission's report "Access to State-Funded Brain Injury Services in Virginia" documented the **extensive benefits**

of the few programs that exist in this state. This report addressed the unmet needs throughout the State and waiting lists for services. The initial work study report that was the basis for the establishment of BIS discussed the need for housing, and after 20 years, very little has changed. **Specialized housing is at a crisis stage** in this state. The inappropriate institutionalization of many of our citizens with brain injury due to few community-based options only magnifies the need for more person-centered supported living programs. **We need our stakeholders more than ever at this time!**

Please contact your local legislators (Delegates, Senators and Members of the Board of Supervisors) as well as Governor Kaine and let them know “your story.” They need to know how “wait lists” are full of “real people with real needs.” They also need to know that we don’t want them balancing a budget on the backs of our most vulnerable citizens. **We have posted a downloadable letter on our website (www.braininjurysvcs.org).** Please insert your personal story and edit as you see fit, and either mail it to your legislators or copy and paste it into the online message forms available at the following websites:

Governor Kaine

<http://governor.Virginia.gov>

Quick Links > Contact the Governor

Your Senators & Delegates

<http://legis.state.va.us>

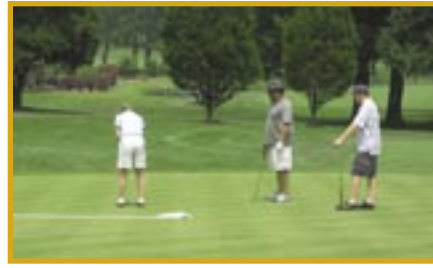
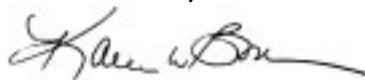
> Who’s My Legislator

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board

As always, feel free to contact me directly at kbrown@braininjurysvcs.org.

Sincerely,



Board Member Barbara Williams, Esq., lines up to sink a putt.

Golf, continued from page 1

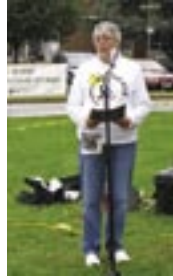
The success of this tournament is due to many and we would like to extend sincere thanks to all of our sponsors, supporters and committee members. We are especially grateful to our BIS Golf Tournament Chairman and Board Member **Michael Rebibo** (1st Portfolio Wealth Advisors) who always goes the extra mile, and to **Michael Clarke** and **Access National Bank** for continually supporting this tournament and BIS in so many ways.

Please mark your calendar for next year’s tournament at Westwood Country Club, **May 18, 2009**. If you are interested in joining the tournament planning committee, contact Karen Luffred at 703-451-8881 or kluffred@braininjurysvcs.org.

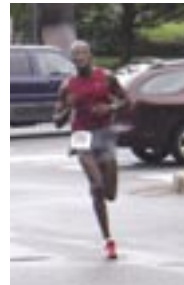
Committee Member and Volunteer Danielle Knight enjoys the company of Kevin Conley and Andy Pyo at cocktail hour.



Veteran tournament participant, Richard Thomas, and Tournament Chairman, Michael Rebibo, share some laughs at the silent auction.



Left: Honorary Chair, Peggy Fox, WUSA9 News, Middle: Kim Callahan, Right: Delegate Bulova, Speaker's Bureau members Rula Mufti, Molly Raymond, Sen. Petersen, Bob Martel, PAL Eric Stewart, BIS Executive Director Karen Brown.



Left: Team Molly, Middle: Team Mac, Right: 10K winner, Morris Bodrick.



The 5th Annual Kit Callahan's Miracle Mile 10K Run/Walk, was held on Sunday, September 28, 2008 at George Mason University.

Over 240 individuals came out to support and celebrate the success stories of survivors of brain injuries and to help raise money for Brain Injury Services, Inc. The Honorary Chair of this year's event was *Peggy Fox, WUSA9 News*, who shared her story about her brother-in-law who

suffered a traumatic brain injury in Iraq. She told of his accomplishments to date and the challenges he faces in the future. A special award was presented honoring *U.S. Congressman Tom Davis*, and a proclamation was read by members of the *Speaker's Bureau* for his continual support of this event and survivors of brain injury. Other special guests at the event were *Senator Chap Petersen, Delegate David Bulova, Delegate Chuck Caputo and The Callahan Family*.

Despite the drizzle, participants completed the tough 10K course and were welcomed at the finish line by supporters who celebrated their accomplishment. Refreshments were provided by Safeway. The 10K winner was Morris Bodrick. Children enjoyed activities such as face painting, tattoos, bubbles and balls while family members and friends participated in the run/walk.

Brain Injury Services wants to thank all the participants and our supporters, especially Deloitte for being this year's corporate sponsor. We look forward to next year's event and seeing you all at George Mason University next September!

Deloitte.

For Race Results please visit www.kitsmiraclemile.org

EVENT SUPPORTERS

- True Blue Creative
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- Washington Sports Giant
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- Austin Grill
- Firehouse Subs
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- Costco
- Elie's Deli
- Road ID
- DC Running Coach
- King Street Blues
- Johnny Rockets

WATER STOP SPONSORS

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- Rod Beaton
- The Callahan Family
- Making Progress
- David W. Hebda, Ph.D.

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- Kathleen Wageley
- Karen & Phil Brown

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- Carl & Jean Josefson

FRIENDS OF THE MIRACLE MILE

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- Beverly Oyler
- Cathy & Allen Pearson
- Catharine B. Waldmann
- Charles Oyler
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- Craig & Susan Matthiessen

MIRACLE MILE TEAMS

- Deloitte Consulting
- Access National Bank
- Team Mac
- Bob's Buds
- Team Molly
- Team Weekenders
- Team Capital Seed
- Stroke Comeback Center
- Team BSW
- Dan's Team



One Child Inspires Many

Argon ST's Support Helps BIS Pediatric Clients Paint Happier Pictures

It all started with one child:

McKenzie Williams. You may recognize the illustration of her family (right) which was highlighted in BIS' Pediatric "Open Your Heart" Campaign. McKenzie was born with congenital heart disease, and after her fifth open heart surgery, she sustained a massive stroke which caused an acquired brain injury. With care and support from BIS, McKenzie was able to attend elementary school and even the SACC program after school. That's where she met a new friend, and soon, their moms, **Michelle Williams** and **Abbey Flowers**, became good friends, too.

Michelle, an enthusiastic BIS supporter, master networker and champion fundraiser, invited Abbey to come and get some exercise by joining McKenzie's team in **Kit's Miracle Mile** sponsored by BIS. As Michelle explains, "not only did Abbey participate in the event, she took it and ran" all the way to her employer, Argon ST.

Argon ST supplies advanced electronic systems to the communications, command & control, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance markets. They are committed to supporting the community in which their employees live, and contribute 1% of pretax profits each year. That year, Abbey was a volunteer employee on the company's Charity Committee, which reviews employee suggestions and chooses to support local charities with small budgets and fundraising ability, small administrative resources,



and little government or other corporate support, as well as those that their employees are directly involved with or have impacted their lives.

Using McKenzie's story as inspiration, Abbey was able to explain BIS' services and convey the pediatric program's acute need for funding. Soon after, Argon

ST became a major sponsor of the 2005 BIS Charity Golf Tournament.

Abbey says that increased awareness within Argon ST is what has led to increased support over the past four years, now totalling **\$33,000**. "Employees began to realize just how many people they know who are affected by an acquired brain injury." This year as a Gold sponsor, eight golfers participated in the BIS Golf Tournament, and Abbey graciously helped Karen Brown, BIS Executive

Director, present the player awards at the tournament dinner.

Betsy Zeigler, BIS Program Director of Pediatric and Adolescent Case Management Services, says that Argon ST's increased donation last fiscal year helped BIS to be able hire a full time pediatric case manager instead of the part time position originally budgeted.

Thanks to the many small seeds that were planted — by one amazing little girl, one loving mom, one supportive, resourceful friend, and one

caring, generous company — much has taken root and grown, not the least of which are the smiles on the faces of BIS pediatric clients and their families.



Pictured left to right, Argon ST's **Jay Turner, Dave Carlton and Lonny Moyer** relax after playing in this year's BIS Golf Tournament.

The clubhouse communities have been hard at work this past summer season.

Membership at **Westwood** is on the rise, with promising membership numbers in the future. The **Kitchen Unit** has done a lot of experimentation with their new unit coordinator, Zack. The meals they make have been fun and interesting. Members are also revamping their **marketing tools** with the hope of drawing more donations and increasing membership.

Members of **ADAPT** have been planning their upcoming **fundraisers** and contributing to **Kit Callahan's Miracle Mile**. ADAPT's **Garden Unit** did a great job cultivating another wonderful garden that enhances the visual aesthetics of the program and gives members a real sense of pride.

ADAPT is very sad to report the recent loss of one of its members, Steve Brown. Steve had been a vital member of ADAPT's communication/business unit



Steve Brown

working on anything that he could create on the computers. Steve was a great friend to the members of ADAPT and the stroke community. He was a perpetual jokester and his sense of humor could lighten any environment. Steve was also a great advocate for stroke survivors, and members of

the brain injury community who experienced aphasia. Steve started a "stroke forum" for stroke survivors, and actively sought information and devices to assist individuals who lived with aphasia.

In celebration of Steve and what he meant to those who knew him, the members of ADAPT have designated a corner of the garden to plant a tree. Next to the tree will be a plaque and a bench for members to remember Steve and reflect on the successes they have accomplished.

Join a Group, Feel Better

Recovery Group

Helping Yourself after Mild Traumatic Brain Injury or Concussion

Meets Monthly, 10:30am-12:00pm

Braddock Hall, adjacent to Kings Park Library
9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA 22015

- **October 8, 2008** — How Do I Get Through the Day?
- **November 12, 2008** — Why Do I Look Fine but Don't Feel Fine?
- **January 14, 2009** — How Can I Interact with Other People?

Resource Education Program (REP)

Common case management topic discussions

Meets Monthly, 1:30-3:00pm

Brain Injury Services
8136 Old Keene Mill Road, Suite B102
Springfield, VA 22152

- **October 16, 2008** — Housing
- **November 20, 2008** — Returning to work or school
- **December 18, 2008** — Transportation
- **January 15, 2009** — Day Programs

Caregivers Support Group

For Caregivers of survivors of brain injuries — respite available on-site

Meets 1st and 3rd Monday of the month

Contact Earl Durant (703) 437-9993

Adjustment Group

For Survivors of brain injury

Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month

Brain Injury Services
8136 Old Keene Mill Road, Suite B102
Springfield, VA 22152

Contact Earl Durant (703) 437-9993

VOLUNTEER CORNER



PAL John McHale, volunteer John Ruff and PAL Brian Rife enjoy dinner together.



Speaker's Bureau members, from left to right, Mahlon Frankhauser, Bob Martel, Molly Raymond, Mac Fedge, (Michelle Thyen, BIS Program Director of Volunteer Services,) Matt Brooker and Cathy Pearson.



Volunteer Placement Program Specialist Tomoko Taguchi with volunteer Adrienne Walker.

● At present, we are especially in need of male volunteer PALS. **To become a BIS volunteer**, or for more information about events sponsored by the BIS Volunteer Program, please contact Michelle Thyen at 703-451-8881, x232 or mthyen@braininjurysvcs.org.

Volunteers Are Our Treasure

On August 13, 2008, BIS held its' 6th Annual Volunteer Recognition Event at the Waterford in Springfield. Over 100 consumers, volunteers, staff, family and friends came out to celebrate the accomplishments of those who give to their communities.

We highlighted the PALS program, the Person-Centered volunteer program, E-Pals and the Speaker's Bureau. Volunteer Placement Program Specialist Tomoko Taguchi was there to pass out awards to those individuals involved in her program who volunteer in the community with her assistance in placement and/or job coaching.

Highlights of the evening included the delicious "island" fare and the treasure chest awards for all the volunteers. Volunteer speakers included Grete Roeber, Lauren Smerbeck and Mac Fedge. Congratulations to all the volunteers and we hope to see you again next year!!

Caregiver, Volunteer and Advocate Joan Frankhauser Honored

Joan was this year's recipient at the 6th Annual Volunteer Recognition Event for the Most Outstanding Caregiver and Consumer Advocate Award. Joan is the devoted wife of long time BIS consumer Mahlon Frankhauser.

For over 5 years, Joan has been steadfast in her support for the members of the Speaker's Bureau. She has volunteered her time to laminate speakers' presentations so that they have an easier time reading their stories. She offers rides to those whose Metro Access ride does not show or for locations that certain individuals can not get to. Joan also offers comic relief and someone to talk to for those who are speaking for the first time or for those whose first time speaking was an emotional experience.

Joan is an outstanding advocate for survivors of brain injury because she is always willing to push for services and she is always putting her needs aside for the needs of her husband and other survivors. Joan accepted her award on the evening of August 13 with her usual grace and she spoke about how much volunteerism means in her life and how much she appreciates the ability to help others. Congratulations to Joan Frankhauser!



Joan Frankhauser accepting her award as the outstanding advocate/caregiver of the year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 2008

Holiday Giving Tree at Brain Injury Services, Springfield, or online at www.braininjurysvcs.org
Help a survivor with a special holiday gift. Items usually requested are gift cards to gas stations or grocery stores, clothing items, blankets
Contact: Karen Luffred, 703-451-8881, ext 223

January 2009

Brain Injury Services Celebrates 20 Years!
Stay tuned for events to celebrate our success. For more information, contact: Karen Luffred, 703-451-8881, ext 223

March 12-13, 2009

International Conference on Culture, Ethnicity and TBI Rehabilitation
Marriott Gateway Hotel Crystal City, Arlington, VA.
For more information on this and other 2009 conferences, visit www.tbiconferences.org

Thanks again to the sponsors of our Fifth Annual Charity Golf Tournament:

Access National Bank, Argon ST, Barbara Williams, Esq., JK Moving and Storage, TNI Solutions, Evo Bistro, Austin Westin Center for Cosmetic Surgery, DeChristopher Insurance, Capital Markets Cooperative, Scott & Stringfellow, Pleasant Valley Business Solutions, 1st Portfolio, Inc., Bean, Kinney & Korman, National Counseling Group, Greenlief & Moffett PLC, Lindsay Cadillac, Brennan & Waite PLC, Business Finance Group, BDO Seidman CPAs, Open Solutions, Blue Kamen Benefits, and our in-kind supporters: Minuteman Marketing Solutions, True Blue Creative, EmbroidMe of Herndon, Evo Bistro, Continental Airlines, American Airlines, JetBlue Airways, Southwest Airlines, and also Randy Babbitt and Oliver Wyman.



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