

Brain-e-News

FALL 2014

RESOURCES

MOSS REHABILITATION
RESEARCH INSTITUTE
www.mrrl.org

MOSSREHAB RESOURCE NET
www.mossresourcenet.org

THE CENTER FOR OUTCOME
MEASUREMENT IN BRAIN
INJURY
www.tblms.org/combl

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA
WWW.BIAUSA.ORG

BRAIN INJURY RESOURCE LINE
1-800-444-6443

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF
PENNSYLVANIA
www.blapa.org
1-866-635-7097

BRAIN INJURY ALLIANCE OF
NEW JERSEY
www.blanj.org
1-732-745-0200
FAMILY HELPLINE
1-800-669-4323

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF
DELAWARE
www.blausa.org/Delaware/bla.htm
1-800-411-0505

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH BRAIN INJURY
HELPLINE
1-866-412-4755
TTY **1-877-232-7640**

MODEL SYSTEM KNOWLEDGE
TRANSLATION CENTER (MSKTC)
www.msktc.org

www.Brainline.org

Planning for November 8 Brain Injury Consumer Conference in Home Stretch

It's taken nearly a year, but the group planning the November 8, 2014 conference, *New Roads, New Directions: Finding Your Way After Brain Injury* is dotting i's and crossing t's for our best conference ever! Print brochures were mailed around September 5th; if you have not received one or if you need more information about this event, call Sheila Wallace at 215-663-6457 or go online at www.mossrehabconference.com.

The *New Roads, New Directions* conference is sponsored by the Moss Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Model System and has a stellar group of partners: 6 local rehabilitation facilities in addition to Moss-Rehab, and both the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania and the Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey. This 1-day conference is geared toward persons with brain injury and their family members, and offers networking opportunities as well as lectures, workshops, and hands-on opportunities for learning. All of the topics were selected by persons with brain injury and family members working side by side with brain injury professionals, and many consumers will be involved in presenting and facilitating the individual sessions as well.

The day will kick off with an inspirational keynote address by Doug Markgraf (pictured right), a young man who sustained a severe TBI in a bicycle accident in 2006. In 2011, Doug not only biked across the US to raise awareness of TBI; he made a film of his journey, called *This Beats a Coma*. Doug will share his experiences with forging a "new direction" after his injury. **Continued on page 3**



The Faces of the TBI Model System: Shira Neuberger

The TBI Clinical Research Laboratory welcomes Shira Neuberger, MA, as our Study Coordinator for a new multi-center trial of donepezil for memory disorders due to TBI. Shira graduated from Brown University with a degree in Psychology, and received a Masters in Health Psychology Education from Stanford University. In addition to her duties for the memory study, Shira is conducting wrap-up interviews by phone with participants in our NIH-funded clinical trial of anger management training. She has prior telephone counseling experience and has also been active in her school district's anti-bullying campaign. In her spare time Shira enjoys reading, running, and watching films.

Welcome to the lab, Shira!



Moss TBIMS Team, L to R: Tincy Philip, Kelly Bognar, Monica Vaccaro, Lauren McLaughlin, Dr. John Whyte, Dr. Tom Watanabe, Dr. Tessa Hart, and Caron Morita

We celebrated with a cake! MossRehab has now enrolled 1000 participants in the TBI Model System Database! We've been working since 1997 to include people with TBI in this unique database, which includes information on more than 13,000 people nationwide; they've been followed up for more than 20 years, and counting. Our heartfelt thanks to all those enrolled at Moss for your participation.

EMPOWERMENT and SUPPORT GROUP INFORMATION

PENNSYLVANIA EMPOWERMENT GROUP

The Elkins Park Empowerment Group meets on the second Monday of each month from 5-6:30 at 60 Township Line Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027.

For more info, contact Debbi Eisen at 215-663-6857.

NEW JERSEY SUPPORT GROUP

The New Jersey Support Group meets on the Fourth Tuesday of each month from 3:00-4:00 at 135 S. Broad Street, Woodbury NJ 08096.

For more info, contact Dayna Scott at 856-853-9900, ext. 102.

New Roads, New Directions Conference Info (continued)

The day continues with multiple breakout sessions, on topics such as mood management, using ‘apps’ for better living, how to find long-term services and get them paid for, substance abuse, mindfulness and yoga, art and music, how to deal with cognitive challenges, aging with grace, sexuality, caregiver challenges, healthy eating, medications, job coaching, and more! Booths will also be available to provide information on driving, working, legal issues, adaptive sports, and organizations concerned with advocating for persons with brain injury. And of course, there will be food. A light breakfast, box lunch, and snacks will be supplied to all registrants.

How do you wrap up such a full day? We’ll have two choices for a closing session. In Mastermind Speed Networking, you’ll be invited to sit with a small group of others. Everyone will take turns sharing everyday problems and challenges, and possible solutions for them, in a “round robin” format. Or, you can join a Journaling Corner led by an experienced Speech Therapist, to explore ideas and techniques for capturing the events of this special day, and every day.

We hope to see you at *New Roads, New Directions* on Saturday, November 8. Come join us and help us make this the best Moss TBIMS conference yet!

Pennsylvania Receives Another HRSA Grant

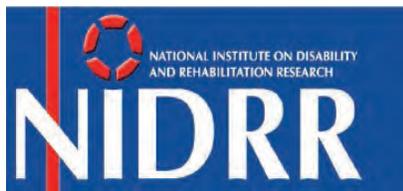
Congratulations are once again due to the Pennsylvania Department of Health, which was recently awarded a 4-year traumatic brain injury (TBI) grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The overarching goal of the HRSA grant program is to address barriers to needed services encountered by children, youth and adults with TBI. HRSA has identified a nationwide trend of four common barriers to accessing TBI care and services. Responsive applications were required to include a plan to help overcome all four: to address information and referral services, professional training, screening for TBI, and resource facilitation.

States were given the latitude to select from various at-risk populations and to develop interventions and initiatives to meet the needs of these populations. Pennsylvania opted to address the needs of athletes of all ages and incarcerated individuals, specifically juvenile detainees.

The objectives for Pennsylvania’s project are to (1) Increase TBI knowledge in the athletic community particularly in programs serving young children; (2) Increase appropriate referrals for young athletes who have sustained a brain injury; (3) Increase the knowledge of the medical community, specifically primary care physicians, medical home providers, and emergency room physicians, about TBI and available TBI resources in PA; (4) Educate juvenile justice facility staff on the topic of brain injury; (5) Screen youth in juvenile justice facilities for TBI; (6) Conduct neuro-resource facilitation for youth with TBI residing in juvenile justice facilities, to facilitate appropriate community referrals upon discharge; and (7) Increase community awareness of TBI.

For this set of ambitious goals, the Pennsylvania Department of Health is partnering with the Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers’ Society and the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania. Funding commenced June 1, 2014. Watch this space for updates on this important work.





MossRehab at Elkins Park Hospital
50 E. Township Line Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027
ATTN: Kelly Bogner

The Moss TBI Model System

The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research has designated MossRehab as a Model System of Care for traumatic brain injury since 1997.

The TBI Model System program seeks to improve lives by creating and disseminating new knowledge about the course, treatment and outcomes of TBI.

**The Traumatic
Brain Injury
Model System
(TBIMS)
Centers for
the current
funding cycle
(2012-2017)**

