

Brain Injury Association of Ohio (BIAOH)

- 1983: founded by parents, medical and rehabilitation professionals
- State Affiliate of the Brain Injury Association of America
- Non-profit governed by a Board of Trustees elected by the membership

Mission: "To create a better future through brain injury prevention, research, education and advocacy"

Vision: A world where all preventable brain injuries are prevented, all unpreventable brain injuries are minimized, and all individuals who have experienced brain injury maximize their quality of life.

Values: Our values and conduct center on principles related to a deep appreciation for:

- Individual Dignity & Worth
- Self-Determination
- Inclusion & Community Support
- Collaboration & Solidarity
- Excellence & Integrity

Core Services & Supports Concentrated in 5 key areas:

- 1) Information & resource coordination
- 2) education & training
- 3) peer support
- 4) prevention & outreach initiatives
- 5) advocacy.

(See Current Programs for more detail.)

Brain Injury Definitions

Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) an injury to the brain which is not hereditary, congenital or degenerative. Causes of ABI include external forces to the head and/or neck, anoxia, aneurysms, infections to the brain and stroke.

What Is A Brain Injury?

Each year more than 7,300 Ohioans are hospitalized with a traumatic brain injury. An estimated 227,063 Ohioans live with the residual effects of brain injury.

Serious brain injuries can cause loss of consciousness, lasting only a few minutes or resulting in coma, which may last for days, weeks or months. Intellectual impairment, short-term memory loss, speech problems, personality changes, behavioral disorders and physical disability are common problems. Individuals and their families often face a long period of rehabilitation.

Most brain injuries are the result of motor vehicle accidents, but falls, gunshot wounds and assaults are also common causes. Brain injury can also be caused by infections, bleeding, or lack of oxygen to the brain.

Brain injury occurs primarily in young people who are more likely to survive after severe injury, but face a dramatically changed life. Infants, toddlers, seniors and minority populations are also at greater risk.

For more information, call:
614-481-7100 (in the Columbus area)
or 1-866-OHIO-BIA (644-6242) toll free in Ohio
e-mail: help@biaoh.org

Give with confidence!

The Brain Injury Association of Ohio meets the **Better Business Bureau's Standards for Charitable Accountability** and has met the rigorous requirements for membership in:



BBB/Central Ohio



BIAOH is also an approved agency for the **United Way of Central Ohio's Contributor Choice Program** for the current campaign year. Call us or visit our website (www.bioah.org) for workplace giving codes.

Annual Membership Application

Name _____

Agency _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Business Residence
Check One: **New Member** **Renewal**

- Person with brain injury Parent Spouse
 Sibling Child Other Family Member
 Friend Professional

Please share the record of my membership and 1/3 of my membership fee with the Support Group I attend in: _____

\$35.00: **Regular Membership**

Constituent Member - annual renewal not required. This category is for individuals with brain injury or their families who cannot afford the annual membership fee, but who want to receive Association mailings. All privileges of membership apply, except voting and holding office.

Please EXCLUDE me from future BIAOH correspondence and mailings, except renewal reminders.

Contact our State Office to locate a support group or Community Support Network office nearest you.

Your membership in BIAOH also includes membership in the support group in your area. BIAOH is a non-profit tax exempt organization and Equal Opportunity Employer. Please make checks payable to:

Brain Injury Association of Ohio
855 Grandview Ave., Suite 225
Columbus, OH 43215-1123

CURRENT PROGRAMS

■ Helpline BIAOH's State Office staff responds to telephone and email requests for information, educational materials and assistance Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM. Contact: 1-866-OHIO-BIA (1-866-644-6242) toll-free in Ohio, 614-481-7100 in Columbus, or help@biaoh.org

■ Community Support Networks

(CSNs) Staffed BIAOH "field" offices provide service linkage, education and "community capacity building" assistance within multi-county areas. Of 15 proposed CSN areas identified in Ohio's blueprint for a comprehensive resource coordination system, eight are currently in operation. (See map for CSN boundaries; colored areas are staffed.) CSN Coordinators work in close collaboration with each other, BIAOH's State Office, and representatives from an array of service-providing agencies to maximize continuity and coordination of assistance.



■ Frequently Requested Educational Documents

- or "FRED" files include articles, fact sheets, reports, videos and manuals on wide-ranging prevention and brain injury-related topics available through BIAOH's State Office.

■ Programs & Services Database

BIAOH regularly updates and maintains a database of over 2000 providers in over 70 service categories. State Office and CSN staff search the database to link individuals with needed services and supports.

■ Annual Conference & Membership Meeting - a two-day fall event for those who've experienced brain injury, family members, service providers, public policy makers and professionals. Outstanding educational, information-sharing and networking opportunity!

■ Outreach, Prevention & Training BIAOH's website (www.biaoh.org), update memos, newsletter, and action alerts inform members and supporters of developments within the brain injury and wider disability community, sources of assistance, upcoming events, and ways to become involved. Through trainings, curriculum development, literature distribution, and prevention initiatives, BIAOH also promotes awareness and understanding.

■ Advocacy BIAOH promotes public policy and system changes to improve services to individuals with brain injury and their families to make them more accessible, available, appropriate, and acceptable. This effort is central to BIAOH's purpose since in Ohio there is no identified state agency responsible for the long-term service and support needs of one of the state's largest disability populations.

■ Linkage & Technical Assistance to Support Groups BIAOH maintains a database of over 50 independent support groups around the state offering peer support. BIAOH regularly shares information with group leaders, and provides technical assistance upon request.

Call the State Office for the local contact's phone number:

1-866-OHIO-BIA (644-6242) toll free in Ohio

**Coming together is a beginning;
Keeping together is progress;
Working together is success.**

- Henry Ford



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Brain Injury Association of America

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through brain injury
prevention, research,
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