**Get Involved Tab**

**Volunteer**

The Brain Injury Association of Michigan welcomes volunteers of all ages, abilities, and interests!

Your time spent supporting BIAMI will make a *huge* difference – one we’re happy to recognize and celebrate – so check out these volunteer options:

* ***BIAMI’S Brighton office***: Meeting and event coordination support, marketing and promotional support, data entry, telephone and office tasks
* ***Unmasking Brain Injury*** design and display events: Assist BIAMI staff in capturing survivor-artist stories, help set up and take down mask displays, coordinate publicity
* ***Annual Meeting and Spring Fling*** for survivors in Frankenmuth: Logistics, assisting survivors, transportation, supervising entertainment
* Our ***20 chapters and support groups*** throughout Michigan: Logistics, transportation, partnering with group leadership to plan and facilitate meetings and events
  + *Contact Kathie Sell for more information about the above opportunities:*

[*ksell@biami.org*](mailto:ksell@biami.org)*; (810) 229-5880*

* ***Lids for Kids:*** Free bike helmet fitting and giveaway events in Lansing, Traverse City, and Grand Rapids, plus a similar event in Saginaw: Assist in bike purchase, assist in helmet fittings and bike giveaway, help BIAMI representatives in staffing booth and managing games and contests for kids
* ***Spring Tribute*** ***Legacy Society Dinner***: BIAMI’s 1100-person annual black tie gala at the Suburban Showcase in Novi: Planning and coordination, on-site set-up and take-down, hosting and registration
* 2-day ***Annual Fall Conference*** in Lansing: Planning and coordination, exhibitor relations, logistics, transportation, speaker and guest hosting and support

***Brain Injury Awareness Month*** events throughout the state every March: Planning and coordination, marketing and publicity, media relations

* ***COMING SOON***: ***Family-oriented athletic events*** and ***campus-based activities***
  + *To learn more about the volunteer opportunities immediately above, please contact Gerry Schorin:* [*gschorin@biami.org*](mailto:gschorin@biami.org) *or( 810) 229-5880.*

**Organize a team or event**

The Brain Injury Association of Michigan occasionally considers non-profit sponsorship of, or partnership with, various fundraising events throughout Michigan. Frequently, these events allow for a team entry. If you’re a cyclist, runner, jogger, walker, or other athlete (or even non-athlete competitor!), you’re encouraged to recruit a team and help us raise funds. For more information, please email us at: [info@biami.org](mailto:info@biami.org).

**Donate**

*Because the Brain Injury Association of Michigan is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, every contribution is both tax deductible and greatly appreciated. We’re also a GuideStar Gold participant non-profit, which acknowledges our commitment to organizational transparency. Learn more and obtain BIAMI financial and other information at* [*www.guidestar.org*](http://www.guidestar.org)*.*

**Why Donate?**

At this juncture in our young history, the BIAMI’s work has significantly benefited Michigan’s brain injury professional community, the Michigan public (thanks to our diligent legislative advocacy efforts), and tens of thousands of brain injury survivors and their families through our **Family Helpline**, **online resources**, **chapters and support groups**, and **prevention and educational outreach**.

But enormous and critically important tasks remain. There are over 200,000 brain injury survivors in Michigan and our goal is to reach out and support every one of them. There are thousands of survivors and families whose injuries did not result from automotive accidents and thus don’t benefit from Auto No-Fault insurance coverage. For many of those people, the depletion of family finances due to medical bills pushed them into bankruptcy or insolvency and they’re in dire need of basic services. And the job of educating the public – especially kids and teens – about brain injury prevention and causes (distracted driving, for example) has barely begun. Every dollar of your gift is dedicated to these objectives and helps make it possible for the BIAMI to both reduce the incidence of brain injury and support the men, women, and children who’ve survived it.

Remember, too, a gift to BIAMI is a wonderful way to honor, remember, or thank someone, as well as recognizing that special person or occasion in your life. All honorary and memorial tributes not only receive our written thanks, but acknowledgment in BIAMI publications.

**Gift Matching … double the value of your contribution!**

Many corporations offer gift matching programs. If yours does – you can check with the organization’s Human Resources or Personnel staff to find out – your gift to the BIAMI can be doubled! Let us know if we can assist you in the process.

**Gift Types and Procedures**

***Personal donation***

Make your check payable to The Brain Injury Association of Michigan and mail to: BIAMI, 7305 Grand River Avenue, Suite 100, Brighton, MI 48114. You can also donate directly via our **online link.**

***In Honor of and Memorial Tributes***

You can donate as above but please be certain to let us know if you’re honoring or memorializing an individual and any other relevant details.

***Planned Giving***

For charitable bequests, estate, annuity, equity gifts, or major non-financial contributions, please contact BIAMI Director of Development and Marketing, Gerald Schorin, at [gschorin@biami.org](mailto:gschorin@biami.org), or phone the office at (810) 229-5880.

***Gifting Survivor Families in Need***

Should you wish to directly help support a brain injury survivor with significant financial needs and his or her family, whether acknowledged or anonymously, the BIAMI gladly accepts grocery, gas, and other gift cards that we’ll distribute appropriately. Please contact Vice President of Programs Nichole Shotwell at [nshotwell@biami.org](mailto:nshotwell@biami.org) to learn more.

***Corporate Partnership and Giving Opportunities***

The BIAMI offers companies both within and beyond the brain injury community multiple opportunities for contributing financially, sponsoring events and activities, and contributing through in-kind resources such as staff volunteering. Please contact Gerald Schorin at [gschorin@biami.org](mailto:gschorin@biami.org) for more information. Background on BIAMI **sponsorships** can be found at this link.

***Support BIAMI’s Legacy Society***

The Brain Injury Association of Michigan’s **Legacy Society** was founded in 1999 to develop a perpetual fund from which investment income will provide a financial base for the organization. Membership in the Legacy Society is open to individuals and families who are supportive of the mission and whose gifts satisfy the stated requirements.

New Legacy Society members are publicly celebrated at the BIAMI’s **Spring Tribute Legacy Society Dinner** each April, and honorary new members – professionals, practitioners, and outstanding leaders in brain injury – are at that time also inducted. Whether donors of significance or significant practitioners and leaders within the brain injury community, Legacy Society members are held in special esteem by the BIAMI membership and all of our constituencies.

***Start a Chapter***

No chapter or support group in your area? Let us know and we’ll be happy to work with you in identifying potential members and getting a group up and running. Contact Kathie Sell at [ksell@biami.or](mailto:ksell@biami.or)g for more information.