

AHIF offers first Bright Ideas TBI Camp



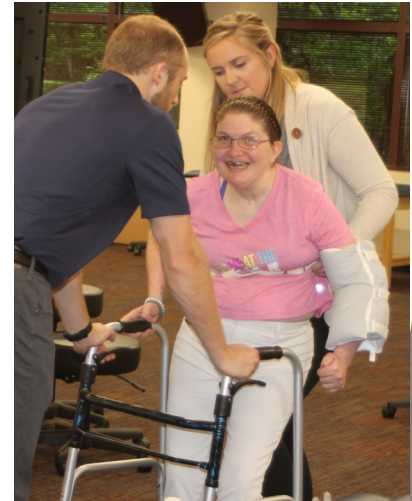
AHIF recently partnered with Samford University to provide its first Bright Ideas TBI Camp. The camp was a unique initiative, focusing on TBI survivors who are 3+ years removed from their injury, hoping to “jumpstart” an additional commitment to improved adjustment to their injury for both the survivor and for their caregiver.

AHIF identified 12 clients and their caregivers, and engaged them in a 3 day mini-camp where students from Samford conducted needs assessments and introduced an “at-home action plan” for the survivors. The students represented an interdisciplinary team from speech therapy, physical therapy, social work, pharmacy, nursing and dietary/nutrition. Additionally, AHIF contracted with occupational therapists from Encompass Lakeshore and Spain Rehab.

As part of their participation in the program, all participants were given an Amazon Fire Tablet, pre-loaded with apps that will support the “at-home action plan.” AHIF field staff will now work with the clients and caregivers over the next year to implement and adhere to the plan in hopes of improving the survivor’s ability to adjust to the long-term effects of their injury and improve the caregiver’s ability to support their loved one through serving in the 24/7 role of caregiver.

AHIF is grateful to the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham and the Robert Meyer Foundation, whose generous grant support made Bright Ideas TBI Camp possible. AHIF also thanks Jimmy John’s-Vestavia, Jason’s Deli-Brookwood Mall and Lunch Box Express for discounting the cost of lunches provided at camp.

AHIF is already planning another such camp at Samford University, and hopes to expand the camp concept to other colleges across the state in 2019.





A note from AHIF Executive Director Scott Powell

I am pleased to announce that, in the 2018 Alabama Legislative Session, House Bill 14 was passed by the House and Senate, and signed into law by Governor Kay Ivey. This bill extends the \$100 fee for DUI convictions to also apply to those utilizing the pre-trial diversion program.

Over the past 10 years, the utilization of pre-trial diversion programs led to an annual, cumulative reduction in revenue of 9-11% per year for AHIF from the Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund, resulting in a net loss of more than \$1.2 million.

Although this bill will not return the revenue to levels seen 10 years ago, it will hopefully “stop the bleeding” and stabilize what has been a volatile funding source for AHIF for many years.

I would like to specifically thank Senator Cam Ward and Representative Philip Pettus for their work in shepherding this bill through the legislature. I also would like to thank TBI Survivor Katie Davidson and her family for sharing their story, and to Bree Sison and Fox 6 News for running the story in support of the bill’s passage. If you have not seen the story, you can link to it from the AHIF website at www.ahif.org by clicking on the Fox 6 logo on the homepage.

House Bill 14 will officially take effect beginning July 1st, and the revenue effect should be as close to immediate as possible. I look forward to providing updates on its success in the months to come.

AHIF Birmingham Regional Board’s 4th Annual Beer, Band & BBQ a huge success!

On a beautiful Saturday in March, AHIF welcomed more than 500 people to Avondale Brewery for its 4th Annual Beer, Band & BBQ. Attendees enjoyed live music from The WD Band, food from Saw’s BBQ and the atmosphere that only Avondale can provide. Through sponsorships and ticket sales, AHIF raised more than \$9,200 in support of its local services to TBI survivors!



AHIF Montgomery Regional Board announces 2018 event!

AHIF’s Montgomery Regional Board will be holding a Mystery Dinner Theater Fundraiser on Thursday, October 25th at Alley Station in Montgomery. For more information, visit the AHIF website at www.ahif.org.

AHIF Wiregrass Regional Board announces two events!

AHIF’s Wiregrass Regional Board will be holding a Culinary Fundraiser in Fall 2018, and its 3rd Annual Charity Dove Shoot in October 2018! Check out AHIF’s website at www.ahif.org for more information!



Bessemer Elk #721 holds bike ride to benefit Alabama Head Injury Foundation

Bessemer Elks Lodge #721 once again held their Elks Ride Across America on April 8th, supporting ASKATE and AHIF. Despite the rainy day, they raised more than \$4,100 for AHIF, and we cannot thank them enough for their generosity or for choosing us as a charity they support.

Specifically, this year there was a sixteen-year-old young man named Hunter Todd, himself trying to raise money to go to Thunder Beach. He won third place in the Poker Run and elected to donate his winnings to AHIF as well. We are truly humbled by his extreme generosity, and hope he made it to Thunder Beach this year.



(Above) Bessemer Elks Lodge #721 presents AHIF with charitable gift



(Left) Hunter Todd, who graciously contributed his winnings to AHIF

Guntersville Disabled American Veterans Chapter provides smoke alarm

Wounded Warrior Project referred a TBI survivor living in Arab to AHIF, and we were able to help with transportation to his VA visits in Birmingham. He served in Afghanistan and Iraq, and suffers from PTSD. His "trigger" is fire, and since he is hard of hearing needed a special smoke alarm for the hearing impaired. The Guntersville Disabled American Veterans Chapter #18 made a generous donation to AHIF, and AHIF was able to use its client support fund to purchase the smoke alarm for this individual. Guntersville DAV Chapter #18, along with each donor to AHIF, has our thanks and appreciation, as does this wonderful veteran for his service to our nation.



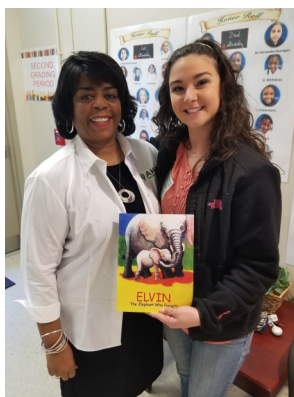
Guntersville DAV Chapter #18 presents AHIF local Resource Coordinator Dianne Pierson with check to help veterans living with TBI

AHIF raises TBI awareness during March 2018 - Brain Injury Awareness Month

AHIF staff and volunteers took part in an array of awareness activities throughout March and across the state. These pictures represent some of those activities!



Rehab Counseling students at Auburn University helped AHIF by participating in Coloring for a Cause at the Auburn Mall



AHIF staff and Birmingham Regional Board members read to students at Norwood Elementary



AHIF Gadsden Support Group painted rocks and hid them for others to find



Chick Fil-A supported AHIF by bringing their cow and food to the Tuscaloosa and Birmingham support groups



The Tippy Easel in Dothan supported AHIF by holding a fundraiser as part of Brain Injury Awareness Month



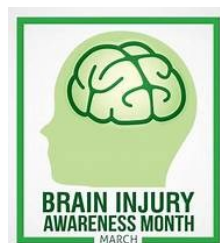
AHIF staff provided a school safety program in the Muscle Shoals/Florence area



AHIF staff met with Alabama's congressional delegation in Washington D.C. to encourage their support



AHIF staff, volunteers and clients took part in the annual Huntsville St. Patrick's Day Parade



Students from the University of South Alabama volunteer at the Mobile Support Group Meeting

AHIF welcomes new staff members

Cindy Woodcox joins AHIF as new Wiregrass Resource Coordinator

AHIF is pleased to welcome Mrs. Cindy Woodcox as the new AHIF Wiregrass Resource Coordinator. Cindy will be covering 11 counties in southeast Alabama, and serving more than 350 TBI survivors in the area. Cindy comes to AHIF after spending almost 20 years with Southeast Alabama Medical Center, working in Rehab Services. Cindy also has a personal connection to TBI, having served as a caregiver of a TBI survivor herself for many years. We are extremely excited to have Cindy join us, and look forward to her continuing the excellent services and programs AHIF offers to the Wiregrass community!



"It is a beautiful thing when your career and your passion come together. This has happened for me in working for AHIF."

Chandraia Whitted joins AHIF as TBI Camp Director

AHIF is also pleased to welcome Ms. Chandraia Whitted, BSW, as our new Camp Director! Following a generous gift from Encompass Healthcare, AHIF recently announced the return of its week-long camp experience at Camp ASCCA in Jackson's Gap, AL. Chandraia has a bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Alabama, and will coordinate our week-long camp experience. We are also looking for volunteers for camp. If you are interested, please e-mail us at info@ahif.org. All spots for our week-long camp have already been filled!



"I want to work with AHIF to help provide the greatest camp experience ever!"



AHIF TBI Camp

August 12-17, 2018



3100 Lorna Road Suite 203
Hoover, AL 35216
Phone: (205) 823-3818

Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for survivors of traumatic brain injury and for their families*

Our Vision: *We envision a state where traumatic brain injury is prevented where possible and fully understood and supported where not.*

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AHIF is a proud partner of:

United Ways of Central Alabama,
Lee County, Etowah County,
Marshall County, and West
Alabama



Help Us Do More with 84 Campaign

Each year, AHIF adds 150-200 TBI survivors as new clients. This adds to its total case-load, as most survivors remain clients of AHIF for life. Although AHIF is an extremely cost-efficient nonprofit, with an administrative overhead percentage of 10.4%, it remains challenging to consistently provide the highest level of services to those in need of its services without additional resources.

AHIF is asking that you join us in helping provide services to the 825-850 survivors AHIF will serve in 2018-19 by committing to just \$7 per month for an entire year, therefore helping AHIF “Do More With 84.” This \$84 annual contribution will help AHIF provide resource coordination, support groups, camp and respite care to survivors of traumatic brain injury and to their families.

For information on how you can become a monthly supporter of AHIF as part of this

campaign, or to learn more about the services AHIF provides please visit the AHIF website at www.ahif.org and click on the “Help Us Do More with 84” box.

ALABAMA HEAD
INJURY FOUNDATION

*Improving the quality of life for survivors of
traumatic brain injury and for their families*



AHIF will be recognizing its monthly donors who sponsor a TBI survivor as part of our new “Brain Trust” on our website at www.ahif.org.