BIA-MA’ Southeastern Regional Office Receives Grant for Healing and Awareness through Art; Exhibit at Middleboro Library, April 2012

The Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts’ (BIA-MA) Southern Regional Office has received a grant from the Wareham Cultural Council to support “Healing and Awareness Through Art.” The Council is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Members of 12 BIA-MA support groups, located in southeastern Massachusetts, have created art work and jewelry to be displayed at various locations in the region, including the Middleboro Library during the month of April.

“Art, music, and writing are all therapeutic to the healing process,” says Sandy Topalian, Ph.D., CBIST, manager of the BIA-MA’s Southeastern Regional Office in East Wareham. “We hope this exhibit will showcase the talents and capabilities of survivors of brain injury and increase awareness of brain injury that affects thousands of individuals in southeastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod, and the Islands.”

Local artists have been working with survivors of brain injury as they prepare pieces for the exhibits. More than 100 pieces of art and jewelry have already been exhibited at the Cotuit Center for the Arts, and several were sold.

BIA-MA has support groups in more than a dozen communities in southeastern Massachusetts, including Fall River, Plymouth, Middleboro, New Bedford, Wareham, Bourne, Falmouth, Harwich, and more. These groups provide social, recreational and educational opportunities to survivors of brain injury and their families.

The Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts, a private, non-profit organization, provides support to brain injury survivors and their families, offers programs to prevent brain injuries, educates the public on the risks of irresponsible behavior and the impact of brain injury, and advocates on behalf of brain injury survivors and their families.

For more information on brain injury and for resources, contact BIA-MA’s Southeastern Regional Office at 888-607-7678 or e-mail biamase@biama.org.
**Details:**

**Who:** Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts Southeastern Regional Office through a grant from the Wareham Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

**What:** “Healing and Awareness Through Art,” an exhibit of art and jewelry created by survivors of brain injury and caregivers. Most items are for sale.

**When:** April 3-26, 2012. The library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. It is closed on Fridays and Sundays.

**Why:** To showcase the talents and capabilities of survivors of brain injury and increase awareness of brain injury that affects thousands of individuals in southeastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod, and the Islands.

For more information, contact the BIA-MA Southeastern Regional Office 508-743-0333 or e-mail biamase@biama.org.