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March kicks off Brain Injury Awareness Month

Brain Injury Association of Mass. calls for advocacy and continued support

(Westborough, Mass, February 27, 2017) - March 1 will mark the first day of National Brain Injury Awareness Month and [the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts](#) (BIA-MA) is pleased to invite the community to join the organization in increasing its support for brain injury awareness and help further the organization's mission.

"There are many ways that the community can join us this month to help us support brain injury survivors and raise awareness," BIA-MA Executive Director Nicole Godaire said. "First and foremost, you can call your state representative and ask them to support Cognitive-Rehabilitation."

Joint House and Senate bills, "An Act Relative to Improving Lives by Insuring Access to Brain Injury Treatment", were filed. These bills will ensure that commercial health insurance plans include cognitive rehabilitation services for individuals with Brain Injury (traumatic, stroke, tumor etc.). More information on legislative advocacy can be found at biama.org/advocacy.

BIA-MA will be supporting the [Brain Injury Association of America](#) (BIAA) particularly on March 22nd, which is Brain Injury Awareness Day on Capitol Hill. It will be a similar networking event to BIA-MA's Advocacy Day, held earlier this month at the Massachusetts State House, where several brain injury survivors and local representatives attended.

"Especially during Brain Injury Awareness Month, we invite the community to become members of our organization, which offers several educational and prevention programs to our members, in addition to special events," Godaire said. "There are also opportunities for businesses and other organizations to become sponsors and corporate partners."

More information on membership and sponsors can be found at biama.org/getinvolved.

“The strength of our mission and our organization is dependent upon the community that supports us,” Godaire said. “While we call for our community’s support year-round, this month is especially important as we enhance our call for advocacy and increased awareness of brain injury during Brain Injury Awareness Month. Please join us this month using the hashtag #NotAloneinBrainlinjury on social media and share your stories and information.”

The Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts is the first and oldest organization in the state to offer support and resources to brain injury survivors and their families. This, in addition to providing prevention programs, educational trainings, and legislative advocacy. On March 30th, BIA-MA will host their 36th Annual Brain Injury Conference and will continue furthering their mission to create a better future for survivors and their families.

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The Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts (BIA-MA) is dedicated to improving the lives of those affected by brain injury while reducing its incidence and impact through prevention programs, education and training and legislative advocacy. Founded in 1982, the BIA-MA is the primary conduit between survivors and an extensive network of facilities, programs and professionals including 40 statewide support groups. The Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts is a chartered affiliate of the Brain Injury Association of America. For more information, visit www.biama.org or call (800) 242-0030.