Toni A. Wolf Appointed Commissioner of Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

On July 17, 2017, Toni A. Wolf became the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC). Commissioner Wolf, or Toni as she prefers to be called, comes to the MRC after spending thirty years as a catalyst of change in the non-profit sector as the executive director of Employment Options, a ‘club house’ organization for people with mental illness in Marlborough, MA. Toni’s experience serving the disability community and passion for empowering the consumer will provide tremendous opportunity to lead the agency into the future.

Toni grew up in the Bronx of New York and later moved across the country to attend college at the University of Arizona. After completing a five year degree in special education, teaching, and rehabilitation counseling, she traveled the world to better understand peer support, cultural appreciation, and living. Her travels brought her to Australia, Ecuador, and ultimately Massachusetts where she spent the next forty years as a trailblazer in the mental health community. Her worldwide travels have and continue to compel her to actively seek out and embrace the voice of those with lived experiences, including their family members and caregivers, to better understand and be responsive to their needs and concerns.

The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission serves people with a variety of disabilities to both live and work within their community of choice. While Toni has an understanding of all disabilities, MRC will benefit most from her expertise in the mental health field. Mental health disabilities are currently the most served disability by the agency. In a recent statement, she promised to look at the gaps between brain injury survivors (both traumatic and non-traumatic) diagnosed with mental health illnesses to better improve our programs for employment and living in the community. By obtaining knowledge from experts and implementing best practices, MRC will be able to provide better services to our population in pursuing independent living and employment, regardless of disability.

As Commissioner of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, Toni plans to use her years of knowledge, life experiences, and skills to stimulate new ideas and methods to serve people with disabilities across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
This was an exciting year for the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts and it has been an honor and a privilege to be able to be a part of it.

Our core programs have continued to serve hundreds of survivors and thousands more throughout the brain injury community, including providing information and resources to hundreds of callers, running support groups for survivors and family members, organizing numerous educational and training programs for the public, professionals and family members, pursuing programs to prevent brain injuries, including the Brains At Risk program for driving offenders, the Think A-Head program for school-age students, and a Speakers Bureau where individuals affected by brain injury partner with us to address civic groups and organizations about their personal experiences.

BIA-MA expanded a number of initiatives this year, specifically its educational programs. The ABI clinical program continues to grow and address areas of interest to professionals and clinicians related to brain injury. We now offer a web based course for professionals to attain their Academy of Certified Brain Injury Specialist certification (ACBIS). And coming soon will be the Massachusetts Traumatic Brain Injury in Elders web course. More information for any of our education programing can be found at www.biama.org/education.

Our annual events continue to help us raise awareness and needed funds. September marked an important month as we hosted three fundraising walks that drew 700 individuals from across the state, raised over $65,000 in funds, and reached countless new friends through social media and press coverage. The Advocacy department continues to partner with public policy lobbyists Serlin Haley, to advance the Cognitive Rehabilitation Bill through the Legislature and re-establish the Brain Injury Commission. In addition to lobbying for renewed and increased funding for the Statewide Head Injury Program, BIA-MA has strengthened our relationships with both private and public providers, while reactivating the Providers Council.

Internally, we are continuing our efforts to strengthen the organization in order to serve the most people possible. You may have also noticed that BIA-MA has changed its logo. This has been an exciting change for us and brings the organization into conformity with our national organization, the Brain Injury Association of America.

Though BIA-MA remains fiscally strong, we are confronted with serious challenges, as are all nonprofits. State contracts are simply not enough to provide the resources needed for this population. Diversified funding from individuals and the private sector is a necessity and why we rely on...
2017 Walk & Roll for Brain Injury

September was a busy month for BIA-MA on the awareness and fundraising front with our three walks held over three consecutive weekends! In total, 700 individuals participated with us throughout the state raising over $65,000 in support of brain injury survivors and their families.

Special thanks to our wonderful sponsors: Berkshire Mountain Bakery, Healthsouth Rehabilitation of Western MA, BAMSI, and Community Rehab Care and Corporate Partners: NeuroRestorative, Vinfen, Spaulding, Advocates, Seven Hills, Ivy Street School/MAB, Supportive Living, Inc. and May Institute for their year round support.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who participated!

Top Fundraising Individuals: Doris Atkins/Team Chickadee, Rebecca Lipton/Team Eva, Joan Atchue/Katie’s Angels

Largest Teams: BCARC Renegades, Neuron Receptors, CRC You at the Finish Line
Helping Our Patients Live Life to the Fullest.

At Spaulding Rehabilitation Network (SRN), we help our patients rebuild their physical and cognitive function after traumatic brain injury. We focus on helping them find the emotional strength to thrive in the days to come.

Our brain injury clinical teams bring specialized experience and world-class expertise to the patients in their care. Our physician-led teams provide an unwavering commitment and the support to help patients and family members stay hopeful, determined and strong.

SRN provides patients and families access to an unmatched range of services and programs - from advanced evaluation technologies to evidence based rehabilitation programs to extensive family and community resources.

Patients in the BI Program at Spaulding consistently achieved higher rates of functional improvement than national averages (UDS & e-rehab database).

The TBI Program at Spaulding has been selected as a Model Systems site by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR).

Pushing our understanding of the biology of recovery.
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Rebuilding Lives After Brain Injury

NeuroRestorative Massachusetts is a leading provider of post-acute rehabilitation and support services for individuals with brain injuries and other neurological challenges. In a variety of locations and settings, we offer a continuum of care through our community-based programs.

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Spaulding’s TBI and Burn Injury Model System Sites Renewed
Timothy F. Sullivan, Spaulding Rehabilitation Network

Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital announced on October 5th that both its Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program and Burn Injury Rehabilitation Program have been renewed as Model System sites by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR). These selections combined with last year’s renewal of Spaulding as a Spinal Cord Injury Model System Site make Spaulding the only provider nationally to be selected as a Model System in all three specialties at the same time.

These grants are awarded in five-year cycles by NIDILRR through an extremely selective process. NIDILRR awards Model Systems grants to institutions that are national leaders in medical research and patient care. Each site provides the highest level of comprehensive specialty services, from the point of injury through rehabilitation and community reentry. Dr. Joe Giacino will serve as Program Director for the TBI Model System. Dr. Ross Zafonte will serve as Co-Principal Investigator for the TBI Model System.

“Our selection again by NIDILRR is an important validation of the work we have done and will now be able to continue to do for the communities we serve. All of us at The Harvard Medical School Department of PM&R at Spaulding take enormous pride in being able to contribute to the national model systems data base to advance the science and care for these populations,” said Dr. Ross Zafonte, Senior VP of Research, Education and Medical Affairs, Spaulding Rehabilitation Network and Chairman of the Harvard Medical School Department of PM&R at Spaulding.

This funding will allow Spaulding clinicians and researchers to continue to improve both regional and national understanding of TBI. Each Model Systems site contributes to the national Model Systems Database for a better understanding of long-term health outcomes. Spaulding will also expand its participation in collaborative research and expand education efforts such as in person and web streamed lectures and outreach efforts to inform individuals with TBI, their family and care givers, health care professionals and the general public about our work. Learn more http://www.sh-tbi.org/

“These Model Systems recognitions by NIDILRR are another acknowledgment of Spaulding’s standing as a national leader in rehabilitative care and research. Most importantly these grants can empower our talented researchers and clinicians with significant resources and support to continue to improve the quality of life for tens of thousands of people both here and nationwide,” said David Storto, President, Spaulding Rehabilitation Network.

About the Spaulding Rehabilitation Network

A member of Partners HealthCare, The Spaulding Rehabilitation Network includes Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, its main campus in Charlestown as well as Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital Cape Cod, Spaulding Hospital Cambridge and two skilled nursing facilities, as well as twenty-five outpatient sites throughout Eastern Massachusetts. Spaulding is a teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School. It is the only rehabilitation hospital in New England continually ranked since 1995 by U.S. News and World Report in its Best Hospitals survey, ranking #4 in 2017. Spaulding is a BLA-MA Corporate Partner, and BLA-MA sits on the Spaulding TBI Model Systems Grant Advisory Board.
Brain Injury Services
Our Brain Injury Services offer personalized solutions in the heart of the community.

• Community Supports
• Day Services
• Recreation
• Residential Services

For questions or more information contact BrainInjury@Advocates.org.

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To Donate to BIA-MA, use #35330 on your Pledge Card

“David” continued from page 2

friends like you to help. As we move into the end of the year, I hope you will consider making a personal donation to BIA-MA and partnering with us in the future so we may better serve the brain injury community on all fronts.

In closing, I want to thank Nicole and all the staff for their hard work and dedication to our mission. In addition, I would like to thank all the survivors, family members, professionals and other members of our community who volunteer their time and resources to support the organization. Happy and Safe Holidays to you and yours!
Reduce Your Risk of a Fall in 4 Simple Steps
Gwendolyn Larsen, PT, MSPT, NCS, Physical therapist at Community Rehab Care, Watertown, MA

Living with a brain injury, perhaps you are not a stranger to falls or worrying about falls due to issues with your balance, but with aging a fall may no longer just be an embarrassment but a legitimate concern. The most common injuries for which people are hospitalized after a fall are a brain injury or a hip fracture. These are very serious injuries and can result in long periods of recovery and sometimes permanent disability.

Fortunately, there are things you can do pro-actively to reduce your risk of having a fall. Take control of your health and safety with these four steps below.

1. Review your medications with your primary care physician. Some medications have side effects that can cause dizziness or drowsiness which can impact how steady you are on your feet. Your doctor may also recommend supplements if your levels are low for optimum bone and muscle health.

2. Exercise. There are two types of exercise that are particularly important in reducing falls. The first is leg strengthening exercises which are done with resistance such as bands, ankle weights, weight machines, or even your own body weight. Balance exercises should also be a regular part of your routine; an example of this would be Tai Chi or yoga. If you do not have an exercise program and are not sure where to start, consult a physical therapist who can help you develop your own program based on your current abilities or provide recommendations for classes and resources in your community.

3. Have your eyes checked. Book annual appointments to have your vision assessed by an eye doctor, and keep your glasses updated to the current prescription. Vision is critical to balance and you want to make sure that what you see is clear and accurate.

4. Make Your Home Safer. Consider reducing clutter and throw rugs that could be a tripping hazard, add grab bars in the bathroom, have railings installed on both sides of any stairs, and ensure there is adequate lighting throughout. Ask a family member or friend who can see your home with fresh eyes to do a walk-through or consult with an occupational therapist who can provide a professional assessment and make recommendations for modifications or adaptive equipment.

Completing these steps and building your own fall prevention team of medical professionals, social supports, and community resources will allow you to maintain optimal independence in later life and continue participating in those activities that are meaningful to you.

Community Rehab Care provides community-based outpatient rehabilitation and support services to adults and children with neurologic, musculoskeletal, or orthopedic injuries or illnesses.

Donna suffered a brain injury in 1989 with resulting right-sided weakness and spasticity which impacts her mobility. She says that she avoids falls by seeing her doctor regularly, keeping up with her home exercises, and using adaptive equipment recommended by her therapists such as a wheelchair with seat belt and bed rail for transfers.
Vinfen proudly supports the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts!

Thank you for serving the needs of people with brain injuries, their families, and their caregivers across Massachusetts.

Vinfen transforms lives by building the capacity of individuals, families, organizations, and communities to learn, thrive, and achieve their goals. Our services promote the recovery, resiliency, habilitation, and self-determination of the people we serve. As a human services leader, we strive to be the provider, employer, and partner of choice.

Strengthening Brain Injury Supports

Seven Hills NeuroCare (SHNC) supports people with brain injuries in their seamless transitions from clinical facilities to residential options that provide person-centered, community-based recreation through day and residential programs. SHNC helps identify each person’s life goals and the steps needed to achieve them. The SHNC interdisciplinary team includes:

- Certified brain injury specialists
- Certified co-occurring treatment specialists
- Clinical behavior specialists
- Medical doctors
- Allied health professionals
- Psychiatrists
- Mental health counselors
- Neuropsychologists
- Neurologists

Through a distinctive array of comprehensive supports, the experienced and dedicated Seven Hills NeuroCare team works to restore hope, independence and dreams. To learn more, call 508.983.2976 or visit sevenhills.org.
BIA-MA Education
Beth Pusey, BIA-MA Education Manager

It’s an exciting time for the Education Department as we continue our Fall 2017 Acquired Brain Injury Clinical Continuing Education Series with one more presentation by Dr. Francis Sparadeo – Substance Abuse and ABI. In addition to our ABI Clinical Series, we are wrapping up the Fall launch of the ACBIS (Academy for Certified Brain Injury Specialist) Prep Course, presented by Dr. Christopher Carter, PsyD. With over 60 participants enrolled in the online prep course, and an overwhelming increase in interest, BIA-MA will be offering a Winter 2018 ACBIS class – dates and time to be determined.

The “Thrivers Workshop” presented by Barbara Webster, BIA-MA Family & Survivor Educator, was a great success. Thrivers is a 7-part series developed to educate survivors of brain injury on effective strategies for daily life. Workshops were available at all three locations – Pittsfield, Wareham and Westborough and will be available again coming Spring 2018.

And finally, the planning for the 37th Annual Brain Injury Conference is underway! Save the date for Thursday, March 29, 2018 at the Best Western Royal Plaza and Convention Center. If you are interested in presenting at this year’s Conference or would like to learn more, please visit biama.org/education. We hope to hear from you!

Brain Injury Prevention
Justine Cote, BIA-MA Prevention Manager

The Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts (BIA-MA) is dedicated to bringing awareness to the community! A key program used to achieve this goal is Think A-Head, a dynamic school-based program offered by the BIA-MA to promote brain injury awareness and prevention among students in Grades 1-12. Programs include age-appropriate modules on topics such as basic brain anatomy, helmet safety, pedestrian safety, driving safety, and concussion awareness. In addition, each Think A-Head program includes an impactful personal testimony from an individual who has either sustained a brain injury or has been impacted by brain injury.

And now, as a special promotion for the 2017-2018 school year, our Think A-Head programs are being offered at no cost! To sign up for your FREE Think A-Head program, or learn more about Think A-Head, please visit biama.org/thinkahead.

Advocacy Update
Kelly Buttiglieri, Public Policy Manager

On October 17, 2017, Kelly Buttiglieri, Madeline Uretsky, and Sarah Lepsevich testified before the Joint Committee on Public Health in support of two concussion bills, H.1124 and H.1155. H.1124 promotes expansion of the state concussion law to include all private schools, even those that do not fall under the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA). H.1155 would create a commission to study concussions in varsity sports in public and private high schools, and make recommendations based on their findings surrounding prevalence data, safety guidelines and cost, and effectiveness of baseline testing. Madeline and Sarah were concussed while playing girls’ soccer at private high schools. Madeline’s school is a member of MIAA while Sarah’s school is not.

Please contact members of the Committee to urge them to support the concussion bills. https://malegislature.gov/Committees/Detail/J16/190/Members.
Summer Picnic in Northborough

On a beautiful Saturday summer afternoon, BIA-MA held the 2nd annual regional summer picnic at Ellsworth-McAfee park in Northborough MA. Survivors, family members, and caregivers joined together to enjoy some great food, play lawn games, share stories, provide encouragement and make new bonds. Marilyn Spivak, co-founder of Brain Injury Association of America, was able to join us with her daughter and played a great game of bag toss! We hope to see you at some of our upcoming events:

- For a schedule of other upcoming events, visit biama.org/centralregion.

For more information or to register for an event, please contact Laura at 508-475-0032 or lmacfeeley@biama.org.

9th Annual Halloween Costume Ball in Wareham

It was a warm and muggy day for late October, with shades of red, yellow and orange from the leaves turning. We were set to celebrate at our annual Halloween Ball with survivors, caregivers and their families. The party began when one by one, they entered the room, some spooky others showing their imagination with the costumes they wore. It was a perfect night to celebrate Halloween at BIA-MA Wareham office. Be sure to join us for some of our upcoming events:

- Creative Corner: Jan-Feb-Mar
- Movie night: March

- For a schedule of other upcoming events, visit biama.org/southeasternregion.

For more information or to register for an event, please contact Zelinda at 508-743-0333 or zpereira@biama.org.
Increasing Awareness of TBI in Older Adults

In collaboration with the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission and the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts is promoting awareness of traumatic brain injury in older adults as part of a federal grant entitled, “Improving the MA System of Care for Elders Sustaining a TBI.”

The purpose of this four-year, $1 million grant has been to maximize the services that exist in Massachusetts for brain injury survivors and older adults. In the last several years, close to 800 professionals who work with older adults in the Commonwealth have received training on brain injury, including strategies for working with individuals, screening for brain injury, and information on the programs and services that are accessible to brain injury survivors and their families.

Recently, the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission’s Gabriela Lawrence-Soto, Program Coordinator for the grant, and Liz Harnois, Elders Information & Resource Specialist at the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts, presented information on the training strategies that were utilized during the grant at the National Conference for State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA) in Phoenix, AZ. Executive Director Nicole Godaire from BIA-MA and Sandy Biber, Director of Community Based Services at MRC, travelled to the conference as well and gained knowledge from other states’ current initiatives and programming. In addition, BIA-MA received the “Award of Excellence for Collaboration” from the Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA) for its collaboration with state agencies on the elders grant efforts.

In the final year of the grant, efforts are now focused on the sustainability of the work. A web course was created to provide free education on traumatic brain injury and links to mental illness, alcohol and drug use, homelessness, and psychopharmacology. Also included is information on both screening for TBI and information on the resources that exist in the health and human services systems in Massachusetts. The Massachusetts TBI in Elders Web Course is now available through the following link: https://elderswebcourse.org.

Nightmare on Elm Street

The BIA-MA Pittsfield office had their annual Nightmare on Elm Street Halloween party* on October 26th. The costumes were very creative and a little scary. We started with a pasta and meatball supper followed by the movie, Young Frankenstein, an all-time favorite! The night was topped off with some good old pumpkin pie for dessert. We would love to see you at some of these upcoming events:

- Holiday Hibachi lunch at Enso*: December
- Holiday Tea & Talk: December
- For a schedule of other upcoming events, visit biama.org/westernregion.

For more information or to register for an event, please contact Scott at 413-443-0200 or sdoane@biama.org.
What is a Synapse and What Does It Do?

Changes in these essential communication points between nerve cells help the brain adapt and learn in response to experience.

Everything your brain accomplishes depends upon an intricate network of neurons (nerve cells) connected by synapses—communication points that relay signals from neuron to neuron and make our thoughts, behaviors, and feelings possible. Understanding how the synapses function and learning ways to strengthen and protect them can help you maintain an alert and active mind at any age.

“Virtually all important brain activity occurs at the synapse, which is a gap between a neuron's axon—a single tubular filament that conducts electrical signals away from the cell—and the message receiving dendrites of a neighboring cell,” says neuroscientist Stephen J. Haggarty, PhD, Director of the Chemical Neurobiology Laboratory in the MGH Center for Genomic Medicine. “Maintaining brain cells and synapses in good condition is critical, since mental performance and the ability of the brain to change in response to new information is totally reliant on the health of the brain’s vast and complex network of synapses.”

How Synapses Function

To communicate, the neuron sends an electrical signal through its axon to the synapse, where it triggers the release of a chemical called a neurotransmitter. The neurotransmitter, in turn, crosses the synapse to the branches of a receiving dendrite, where it is converted to an electrical signal once more to continue along from cell to cell.

“The more synaptic connections are used, the stronger the signaling pathways and their networks become, and the greater the likelihood that the information they process will be retained,” explains Dr. Haggarty. “Synaptic interconnections play a critical role in learning and memory, changing and growing stronger as the brain absorbs and processes new information, and weakening with disuse.”

Keeping Synapses Healthy

“Almost all brain disorders involve some sort of dysfunction of the synapses,” says Dr. Haggarty. “Deterioration or loss of synapses can result in changes in mood and cognition, and in alterations of brain functioning, such as those associated with neurological disorders or aging.” A number of factors are known to threaten the health of synapses in the brain and nervous system. Some of these factors may be beyond the individual’s control, such as the effects of diseases (e.g., Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias, Parkinson’s disease, or schizophrenia), aging, viral infections, or oxidative stress (the production of unstable molecules called free radicals that contribute to cognitive decline and pathologies in the brain).

continued on next page
Other threats to synaptic health can be avoided, however. They include:

- **Stress**: Chronic stress interferes with the function of neurotransmitters and promotes excessive accumulation of toxins in the synapse, which can interfere with learning and damage cells. Stress also leads to loss of cell connections and shrinkage in the hippocampus and prefrontal cortex, key memory regions of the brain. To reduce stress, exercise regularly, and learn relaxation techniques, such as meditation or visualization.

- **Lack of mental stimulation**: Lack of mental challenge is associated with fewer synaptic connections in the brain, a factor that may increase vulnerability to AD. Keep your brain stimulated with novel experiences, and activities such as games, puzzles, learning to play an instrument, or mastering a new hobby. (See What-You Can Do for more ideas.) It is thought that the larger number of neuronal interconnections associated with regular intellectual activity may provide extra insurance against cognitive decline.

- **Neurotoxins**: Limit exposure to pesticides and heavy metals, which can damage synapses. If you drink, restrict yourself to one drink a day.

- **Insufficient sleep**: Too little sleep at night has been linked with impaired cognition, and new research may help explain why. A study in mice suggests that, while synaptic connections are strengthened during the day as new information is processed, some of the smaller, less important synaptic connections shrink during sleep. The work, published in the Feb. 2, 2017 issue of Science (journal), indicates that the brain may undergo a sort of downsizing at night to clear away irrelevant material and make way for new learning. To avoid the harmful effects of insufficient sleep, try to get at least seven hours of sleep at night, and see a doctor for treatment of conditions that are interfering with your night’s rest.

“It’s important to look after your overall health as well, as this will help keep your synapses healthy.” Dr. Haggarty says. “In addition to getting adequate sleep, exercise regularly and eat a nourishing low-calorie diet with plenty of antioxidants and omega-3 fatty acids. Work with your doctor to manage medical conditions, and seek help for mental problems.”

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

Looking for ways to stimulate your synapses? Try these challenging memory exercises you can use every day:

- **Commit important numbers to memory** - such as telephone or credit card numbers.
- **Memorize the names of new acquaintances** then try to add the names of their family members to your mental file cabinet.
- **Memorize favorite poems, jokes and sayings;** then share them with your friends and family.

### SURVIVOR CORNER

**Thank You Aubrey Baumbach!**

It was on parent’s weekend in 2013 when Lafayette College freshman Aubrey Baumbach was struck by a hit & run driver and suffered a traumatic brain injury. Baumbach, an accomplished athlete, was returning to her car from crew practice with her teammates when she was struck. After 11 months in hospitals and inpatient rehabilitation, Aubrey has continued extensive outpatient rehabilitation, which has brought her to using art to heal. She started a website to display her artwork (www.aubreysodyssey.com) and donates the proceeds from her artwork to brain injury causes. She is now taking an Art History course at Regis College and writing her autobiography. If you are interested in fundraising for BIA-MA, visit http://www.biama.org/fundraising.
The Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts gratefully acknowledges the following gifts from our generous contributors received between July 1, 2017 and September 30, 2017

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**SAVE THE DATES! UPCOMING ADVOCACY EVENTS**

**STATE HOUSE ADVOCACY DAY**
February 8, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.
Massachusetts State House, Grand Stair Case - 2nd Floor

**ADVOCACY WORKSHOPS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 8, 2018</td>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>BIA-MA Wareham Office, 3119 Cranberry Highway, Suite 5F, East Wareham</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 17, 2018</td>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>BIA-MA Pittsfield Office, 180 Elm Street, Suite C, Pittsfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 3, 2018</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>BABIS Support Group, Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital 1st Floor, Rooms A &amp; B, 300 First Ave., Charlestown</td>
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For more information please visit biama.org/advocacy or email kbuttiglieri@biama.org

Heads Up *headlines* - Fall 2017
Upcoming BIA-MA Events

ABI Continuing Education Certificate  January 17-18, 2018
Advocacy Day at the State House  February 8, 2018
Advocacy Workshops
   BIA-MA Wareham Office  January 8, 2018
   BIA-MA Pittsfield Office  January 17, 2018
   BABIS Support Group  February 3, 2018
   BIA-MA Annual Conference  March 29, 2018

Learn more at www.biama.org or call 508-475-0032

YOUR BIA-MA FALL 2017 NEWSLETTER HAS ARRIVED!!