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Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts Returns to Buzzards Bay for Regional Walk & Roll

The second of three annual walks to be held across Massachusetts

(East Wareham, Mass, August 11, 2017) The [Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts \(BIA-MA\)](#) is pleased to announce the return of its annual Walk & Roll fundraiser events. This year, BIA-MA returns to the Buzzards Bay Recreational Center in Bourne, MA for their second event on Saturday, September 16 starting at 9:30am.

Participants throughout the South Shore and Cape Cod areas are encouraged to attend as BIA-MA returns to the same venue as last year's event in southeastern Massachusetts. Residents can register as individuals, set up a team, start a fundraising page or provide a one-time donation. The official page for the event can be found at give.classy.org/biamawalkcape.

"Our Walk & Roll events provide an excellent opportunity for BIA-MA to connect with our local communities across the entire state," BIA-MA Executive Director Nicole Godaire said. "We are very excited to return the Buzzards Bay Recreational Center and welcome everyone from the region to join us!"

One of the participants joining this year's walk is Vicky Carr from Pocasset, MA, who is a caregiver to her son Nathan. Nathan suffered a traumatic brain injury (TBI) in Kawasaki, Japan, and was in a coma for nearly 8 ½ months. After years of undergoing traditional therapy as well as alternative methods, Nathan can now get up and down stairs, and in his free time, tutors first graders in reading, writing and phonics.

Carr explained that at the time of Nathan's recovery, there were no support groups in the Cape Cod area, and that they would drive all the way into Boston to attend one.

Carr was encouraged to attend a national caregivers conference in Washington D.C. with fellow caregivers, where she was inspired to connect with BIA-MA. “With their help we started the first support groups in the southeast region of the state, so I could give my son a higher quality of life,” Carr said, citing the support groups as a pivotal moment for their family. Nathan was able to meet others who shared his experiences, and Carr and her husband met other families living and learning about brain injury.

“[BIA-MA] is a place where we feel supported and can share conquests and frustrations in caring for our sons, daughters, spouses, brothers, and sisters. The Walk & Roll is an opportunity for all of us to show how strong we are together!” Carr said.

BIA-MA is the first and oldest organization in the state to offer support and resources to brain injury survivors and their families. They provide prevention programs, educational trainings and legislative advocacy. The 2017 Walk & Roll season will continue with a final events for the season held in Framingham, MA. Registration is currently open at biama.org/walk.

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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 56 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.