

Contact:
Tori Dumstorf
tori@mungocreativegroup.com
(646) 649-4771



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

The first of three annual walks to be held across Massachusetts

(Pittsfield, Mass, August 9, 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 kicks off their season with a return to the [Ashuwillticook Rail Trail](#) in Cheshire, MA on Saturday, September 9 starting at 9:30am.

Participants throughout western Massachusetts are encouraged to attend as BIA-MA returns to the same venue as last year's event. 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/biamawalkwest.

"We are very excited to return to the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail for one of this year's Walk & Roll events. Not only is it a beautiful location, but it provides the accessibility we need to give access to all of our participants," BIA-MA Executive Director Nicole Godaire said.

One of the Team Captains joining this year's walk is Scott Steeves, a brain injury survivor from North Adams, MA. Steeves suffered a brain injury at 14 years old when he was struck by a truck. He has been attending BIA-MA activities since 2014.

"Though timid at first, Scott has become more involved recently," Godaire said. Most recently, Steeves threw out the first pitch at the Pittsfield Suns Brain Injury Awareness Game in July.

"[BIA-MA] changed my life," Steeves said, explaining that BIA-MA has allowed him to learn more about brain injuries and gain more independence.

Steeves' passion for advocacy is what led him to form Team Shiloh at this year's walk, seeking to support fellow survivors but also teach others on what it means to live with a brain injury.

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 two additional events held in Bourne, MA and Framingham, MA, respectively. Registration is currently open at biama.org/walk.

###

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.