

Annual Report 2023 - 2024



Your Impact: Enhancing Support & Advocacy



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Message From Our Board of Directors

Dear BIAPH Community,

As we reflect on the past year, we are proud to share this Annual Report, highlighting a period of growth, resilience, and new beginnings for the Brain Injury Association of Peel & Halton (BIAPH). This year, we embraced the challenge of trying new things, stepping outside our comfort zone, and exploring creative ways to better serve ABI survivors and their caregivers. From exciting community events to meaningful program enhancements, this year has been a testament to our collective strength and adaptability.

We introduced new initiatives like the 12 Games of Christmas, which brought the community together in a lively and festive spirit during the holiday season. Meanwhile, our Fundraising Gladiator initiative sparked a wave of creativity and collaboration, expanding our reach and drawing in new supporters to champion our cause. In addition, we embarked on a significant research project focused on incorporating the perspectives of caregivers from marginalized groups, ensuring their voices contribute to program updates and fostering greater inclusivity within our services.

While we celebrate our successes, this year also brought deep sorrow with the loss of two cherished members of our BIAPH family: Kirsten Hadleycrane, Director of Programs, and Stephen Leitch, Treasurer. Their absence is profoundly felt, but their legacy of compassion and dedication continues to inspire us. As we honour their memory, we remain deeply committed to carrying forward the work they cared so much about, knowing their spirit remains with us as we serve those impacted by brain injuries.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to pushing boundaries, seizing new opportunities, and ensuring ABI survivors and caregivers receive the support they need. We are deeply grateful for your generosity and belief in our mission, which fuels everything we do.

Together, we are making a lasting impact.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors

Brain Injury Association of Peel & Halton



About Us

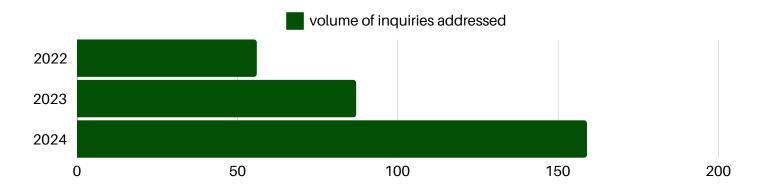
The Brain Injury Association of Peel & Halton (BIAPH) is a registered charity supporting acquired brain injury (ABI) survivors, their families, and support networks. We provide tailored programs, resources, and information to improve the quality of life for the ABI community, while promoting brain injury prevention through research, awareness, and education.



Our Mission

Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for persons in the region(s) of Peel and Halton who are living with the effects of an acquired brain injury through: **education**, **awareness and support**.

Inquiries to BIAPH have steadily increased, reflecting greater awareness of our programs and services. This visibility enables us to carry out our mission of providing education, awareness and support. By providing crucial education, peer connections, and community-led initiatives, we empower survivors and caregivers with the support they need.



Our Vision

We strive for BIAPH to be recognized as a gateway to: resources, preventon, leadership, support, and inclusive programs.



Our Board of Directors

BIAPH is guided by a dedicated Board of Directors who lead with integrity and a strong commitment to our mission. Their leadership sets a positive example, driving our advocacy efforts and ensuring we provide unwavering support to our members.



Roger Foisy President



Jon Corry Vice President



Geneviève Grenier
Treasurer



Meagan Buttle Secretary



Ed Roszczka Board of Director



James Bishara Board of Director



Dr. Hardeep Singh Board of Director



Nick Kuryluk Board of Director



Shelley Vaisberg
Board of Director

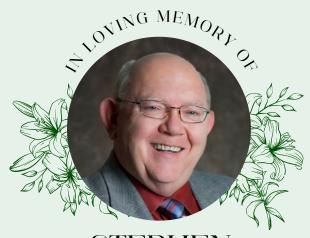


Chris MacDonald
Board of Director



Nichola Nonis
Director of Operations





STEPHEN LEITCH

AUGUST 30, 1954 - OCTOBER 15, 2023

It is with deep respect and gratitude that BIAPH remembers the passing of Steve, our dedicated Treasurer, who left us last year. Steve's unwavering commitment to his role was crucial in maintaining the financial stability of our organization. He carried out his responsibilities with a deep sense of integrity and commitment, leaving a lasting impact on BIAPH and those we serve.

Beyond his professional contributions, Steve was an avid reader and would often take time to share thoughtful insights or exchange jokes with colleagues, leaving a quiet but memorable impression on those around him.



KIRSTEN HADLEYCRANE

APRIL 16, 1977 - JUNE 3, 2024

With heavy hearts, we reflect on the passing of Kirsten Hadleycrane, our Director of Programs, after a brief but hard-fought illness. Kirsten's unwavering dedication to BIAPH's mission and the individuals we support was a source of inspiration to everyone around her. Her passion and commitment touched the lives of countless families and survivors, leaving an enduring legacy.

Beyond Kirsten Hadleycrane's professional accomplishments, Kirsten was a beloved wife, mother of three, daughter, sister, and friend. Her warmth and compassion will be deeply missed by all who knew her.



Our Team

Our team consists of individuals from diverse disciplines and skills, who approach BIAPH's mission with empathy and a strong drive for advocacy. Throughout their time at BIAPH, each team member has played a significant role in ensuring our support programs are quality-driven, member-focused and are aligned with the specific needs of our community.



Mitch Lubbe
Support Groups Program Coordinator



Sarah Vu Nguyen
Peer Support Program Coordinator



Sarah Diaz
Business Development Specialist



Julie Tran HeadSpin Facilitator



Sarah Hurtubise HeadSpin Facilitator



Ashley Budd HeadSpin Facilitator



Sue Brushey

To new beginnings and happy memories. Wishing you all the best for this exciting new phase in life!



Youth Engagement Team (Volunteer Program)

Dear BIAPH Community,

As we look ahead, our strategic goals and objectives for the upcoming year are centered on supporting BIAPH's sustainability and fostering personal growth among our volunteers.

The theme for the YET for Year 2 will be "Charity Champions: Fostering BIAPH's Sustainability Together," reflecting our commitment to making a significant impact through our collective efforts to boost the funding initiatives of BIAPH. This theme will be carried out through the "Fundraising Gladiators" initiative, designed to enhance our funding efforts and ensure long-term financial stability through long-term relationships with various partners.

We are also dedicated to providing students with valuable opportunities to build their skills and enhance their resumes through meaningful volunteer experiences over the coming year.

By focusing on these key areas, we strive to secure the necessary resources for BIAPH's mission while empowering our volunteers with the tools and experiences they need to succeed in their future endeavours.

The Youth Engagement Team





To learn more about the Youth Engagement Team, please visit our website: https://sites.google.com/biaph.com/youthengagementteam





\$15,000
Annual Program
Cost

150
Members Supported
Annually

36
Annual Meetings

ABI Support Groups

Supporting Acquired Brain Injury Survivors & Caregivers

Empowering ABI survivors and caregivers is at the heart of BIAPH's mission.

Our ABI support groups provide a safe space for ABI Survivors and Caregivers to connect, share experiences, and learn valuable strategies for living with brain injury. Members can discuss common challenges, gain insights from professionals, and enjoy social activities in a positive environment.

By investing in these groups, you're fostering a supportive network that empowers individuals and strengthens our community.

Caregiver Support Group

Our dedicated Caregiver Support Group offers a monthly haven for those who selflessly support loved ones with ABI. This safe space fosters peer-to-peer connection, allowing caregivers to share experiences, access valuable resources, and find emotional support.

They have given me so much resources to help me. The guest speakers at the meetings online have helped me with, managing pain, eating the proper foods, seeing the right doctors.





Headspin Young Adult Support Group

Headspin ignites creativity and life skills in youth with acquired brain injury through engaging activities like cooking and painting. Our safe and inclusive space fosters social connection, while volunteer opportunities nurture civic engagement. Our facilitators, a diverse group with a passion for youth development, act as mentors, fostering a sense of belonging and positive social connections.

Invest in our youth and invest in a stronger, more vibrant community. Together we can create a future where young people feel connected, supported, and empowered to reach their full potential.

50

46

10

ABI Survivors
Supported Annually

Annual Meetings

Members per Meeting

66

Headspin fills an important void in my son's social life. Through the Headspin events, he has the opportunity to socialize in a non-judgmental environment and to break out of isolation that fills much of his days.

\$40,000 Annual Program Cost



\$9,488

Annual Cost Per Family

3,120
Hours of Annual PSW Services



I wanted to express how much you have changed my life. The help I received from the PSW was absolutely wonderful. I can't believe the number of things I was able to accomplish while she was here.

15
Families Supported



Caregiver Relief Program

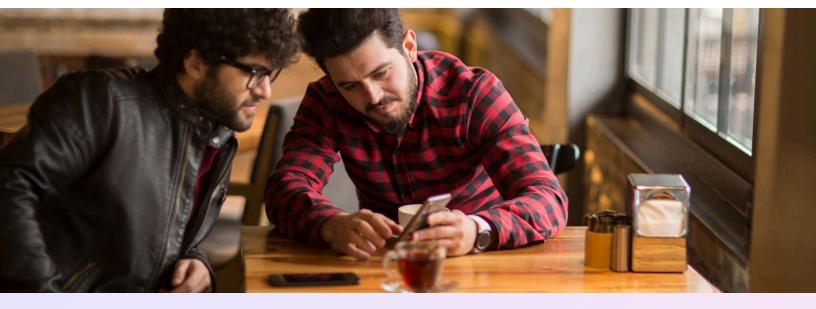
Investing in Resilience.

The Caregiver Relief Program offers a lifeline to families caring for loved ones with acquired brain injuries (ABI). Recognizing the unique needs of each family, we provide flexible relief options, including in-home personal support worker (PSW) services for up to 4 hours weekly over the course of one year. This crucial support gives caregivers the much-needed respite they deserve, fostering resilience and ensuring the continued well-being both of themselves and their loved ones.



Peer Support Program

Our Peer Support Program connects individuals living with ABI with trained mentors who share similar experiences. These mentors provide emotional support, share valuable knowledge, and guide participants facing related challenges. This program, coordinated by the Ontario Brain Injury Association and run in partnership with local brain injury associations across Ontario, fosters a supportive community empowering ABI survivors on their journey.



24
Partners

32
Matches

11 Mentors

\$10,000

Annual Program Cost



Our Research

Our research aims to collaborate with brain injury survivors and caregivers to understand their recovery experiences. Our objective is to bridge knowledge gaps and contribute to the development of evidence-based support programs and practices. We are committed to engaging survivors and their support networks, ensuring their insights and experiences guide our research.

Enhancing Caregiver Support

Are you an ethnic minority caregiver for a loved one with a brain injury?



BIAPH is conducting a project to better understand the unique needs and challenges faced by caregivers of individuals living with brain injury. We are recruiting caregivers to take pictures and discuss their day-to-day experiences caregiver. These as will photographs and experiences be presented as a photobook to raise awareness of caregiver experiences. The project includes a 60-minute introductory meeting, and a 60minute interview over the phone or Zoom.

Research Team



Dr. Hardeep Singh Board of Director



Jasleen Grewal Research Assistant



Sarah Vu Nguyen Research Assistant



Nichola Nonis
Director of Operations

To learn more about our Research, please visit our website: https://biaph.com/research/



Our Research

Publication in Disability and Rehabilitation

Grewal, J., Vu Nguyen, S., Nonis, N., & Singh, H. (2024). A qualitative study of individuals with acquired brain injury' and program facilitators' experiences in virtual acquired brain injury community support programs. Disability and Rehabilitation, 1–10. https://doi.org/10.1080/09638288.2024.2383398

Poster Presentations

World Congress of Neurorehabilitation

Grewal, J., Vu Nguyen, S., Nonis, N., & Singh, H. (2024). A qualitative study of individuals with acquired brain injury' and program facilitators' experiences in virtual ABI community support programs. World Congress of Neurorehabilitation. Vancouver, Canada.

Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists

Grewal, J., Vu Nguyen, S., Nonis, N., & Singh, H. (2024). Understanding user experiences of virtual acquired brain injury support programs. Poster presentation. Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists. Halifax, Canada.

Toronto Rehabilitation Institute's 16th Annual Brain Injury Conference

Grewal, J., Vu Nguyen, S., Nonis, N., & Singh, H. (2024). Individuals with acquired brain injury and program facilitators' experiences in virtual ABI community support programs: A qualitative study. Poster presentation. Toronto Rehabilitation Institute's 16th Annual Brain Injury Conference. Toronto, Canada.

GTA Rehab Network Best Practices Day

Grewal, J., Vu Nguyen, S., Nonis, N., & Singh, H. (2024). Experiences of attending and facilitating virtual ABI support programs: A qualitative study. Poster presentation. GTA Rehab Network Best Practices Day. Toronto, Canada.

American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine

Grewal, J., Vu Nguyen, S., Nonis, N., & Singh, H. (2023). A qualitative study of individuals with acquired brain injury' and program facilitators' experiences in virtual ABI community support programs. Poster presentation. American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine. Atlanta, United States.



Grants and Funded Projects

CANADA SUMMER JOBS GRANT

This funding led to the expansion of our Youth Engagement Team and BIAPH's Fundraising Gladiator initiative, through the hiring of 4 Business Development Officers. Their assistance has not only amplified the voices and efforts of youth, but has also contributed to creating meaningful and positive changes within our community.



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

HALTON REGION COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND

Thank you to the Halton Region Community Investment Fund for the funding provided. This support will help us to sustain our HeadSpin program, and provide quality services for our youth and young adult members.



COMMUNITY SERVICES RECOVERY FUND

This funding helped improve our Caregiver Relief Program, making it more accessible and inclusive for ethnic minority families. By collaborating with these communities, we will continue to adapt the program to meet the growing diversity in our service areas.

Funded by the Government of Canada's Community Services Recovery Fund





Grants and Funded Projects

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES FUND

This funding enabled our organization to grow the Fundraising, Research, and Program Development streams within BIAPH. We extend our thanks to the Government of Ontario and the Ontario Trillium Foundation for their support provided to the Brain Injury Association of Peel and Halton.



An agency of the Government of Ontario Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES FUND

As part of our long-term community engagement and program expansion strategy, this funding will pilot a newly adapted Caregiver Relief Program and help develop a photobook that documents the daily experiences of caregivers for individuals with acquired brain injuries. Recognizing the challenges in accessing services faced by ethnic minority families, our project will have a specific focus on families in the Peel-Halton region, with a particular emphasis on the top language groups



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12 Games of Christmas

This year, we elevated our 12 Minutes of Christmas event through an exciting partnership with the Mississauga Steelheads, an esteemed Ontario Hockey League team. Together, we hosted a 50/50 raffle and a 'Goal in One' car contest during 12 selected home games from September to December 2023. In collaboration with Pfaff Automotive Partners, the contest added extra excitement to our '12 Games of Christmas' event.









Thank You Sponsors





















Bartimaeus Rehabilitation Services Inc.



















12 Games of Christmas















Annual Holiday Party

On November 30, 2024, we proudly hosted our 28th Annual Holiday Party. Together with the BIAPH team, members, their families, and our generous sponsors, we celebrated the achievements of the ABI community and BIAPH's efforts throughout the year. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our valued sponsors, whose support made this event possible. All proceeds from the event will directly fund BIAPH's Support Programs, providing critical assistance to brain injury survivors and the broader ABI community.







Annual Bowl-a-thon

On February 28th, 2024, BIAPH celebrated our 18th Annual Bowlat Classic Bowl a-thon Mississauga. We are immensely grateful to our Sponsors, Donors, and Fundraisers whose generosity and commitment made this event possible. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to the success of our fundraiser!



Thank You Sponsors

TROPHY SPONSOR

TCL Economic Valuation Experts Professional and Courteous Services Vivek Gupta FSA, FCIA

FOOD & BEVERAGE SPONSORS



Principal Actuary



LANE SPONSORS









RAFFLE SPONSORS





















Thank You for Attending the Dueling Pianos Fundraiser!

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us for our exclusive Dueling Pianos fundraiser event, made possible by the generous sponsorship of UpTown Social House, Macdonald Injury Lawyers, and McKellar Structured Settlements. Your energy, enthusiasm, and generous support made the night an unforgettable success!











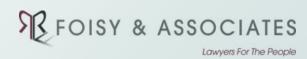
Corporate Partners

Corporate Partners

Brain injuries affect over 500,000 Canadians each year, changing the lives of survivors and their caregivers in profound ways. BIAPH provides crucial services, including support groups, caregiver resources, and young adult programs that help individuals navigate their journey to recovery and regain independence. By becoming a corporate partner, you will help sustain these essential services, ensuring that no one in our community has to face brain injury alone.



Bartimaeus
Rehabilitation
Services Inc.











Partnership Perks

- Exclusive Event Access: Enjoy VIP access to BIAPH's signature events, such as the 2024 Holiday Party (Table of 8) and 2025 Bowl-a-thon Lane reservations.
- Community Engagement: Take part in community initiatives, such as speaking opportunities at ABI Support Group meetings, where your company can demonstrate leadership in supporting brain injury survivors.
- Tailored Marketing Opportunities: Our team will work with you to create personalized campaigns to highlight your company's contributions across BIAPH's media platforms.

Become a Corporate Partner Today! https://biaph.com/corporate-partners/



Corporate Partners



We extend our deepest gratitude to our corporate partners for their invaluable support. Your commitment has empowered brain injury survivors and their families, helping us expand essential programs and provide vital resources.

Bartimaeus Rehabilitation Services Inc.

Bartimaeus provides specialized therapy, transitional support, and community integration for individuals recovering from acquired brain injuries and serious trauma, with over 30 years of experience and a diverse team of Rehabilitation Support Workers across Ontario, offering personalized, culturally inclusive, and costeffective care.



Roger R. Foisy Injury Law specializes in personal injury and long-term disability claims, offering personalized legal support to accident victims in Ontario, with a focus on maximizing settlements through a case management approach that successfully resolves over 95% of cases before trial.



Invisible-Care provides remote, customizable assistance with Activities of Daily Living for injured individuals, offering virtual attendant care rehabilitation support to enhance quality of life. promote holistic well-being, and support cognitive functions in an accessible and cost-effective way.



MacDonald Injury Lawyers is a dedicated team of professionals who prioritize both the short and long-term interests of their clients, providing timely, impactful settlements while acting as trusted advocates through the complexities of personal injury claims, ensuring access to necessary resources and healthcare for a successful recovery.



Vivek is trusted by Ontario personal injury law firms for delivering precise economic valuation reports that support fair settlements. His reports are designed to win the confidence of juries, judges, and opposing counsel, helping clients achieve the best outcomes. Known for high-quality actuarial services and community support, Vivek is a valued partner in the legal field.



Private Footprint is a powerful, permission-based tool that enables lawyers to efficiently access, organize, and generate detailed, evidence-quality reports of clients' social media activity, streamlining the review process for cases involving lifealtering events like personal injury and disability.

Learn more about our Corporate Partners https://biaph.com/corporate-partners/



Fundraising Gladiators



Fundraising Gladiators

The Fundraising Gladiators initiative is an exciting, community-driven platform that gives passionate individuals the opportunity to raise funds in creative ways for BIAPH's free support programs and services. Whether you host events, launch an online fundraiser, or run a marathon, every dollar you raise helps brain injury survivors on their journey to recovery and independence.

- Personalized Webpage & Social Media Promotion: You will receive a customized webpage on our Gladiators page, highlighting your commitment to supporting the brain injury community. This is paired with strategic social media shoutouts across our platforms, ensuring your story reaches a broad and engaged audience.
- Premier Recognition for Raising \$5,000: Unlock premier recognition and exclusive experiences. You'll be invited to our Partner Appreciation Cocktail Hour, held before major events like the Holiday Party and Bowl-a-thon, where you can network with top supporters and stakeholders while celebrating your impact.
- Elite Recognition for Raising \$10,000: Achieve the \$10,000 milestone and be invited to speak at BIAPH's Holiday Party, with a reserved table of 8 for your team. Additionally, you'll receive a designated lane for your team at the Bowl-a-thon, offering a fun and engaging opportunity for visibility.







Become a Fundraising Gladiator Today! https://biaph.com/fundraising-gladiators/



Fundraising Gladiators

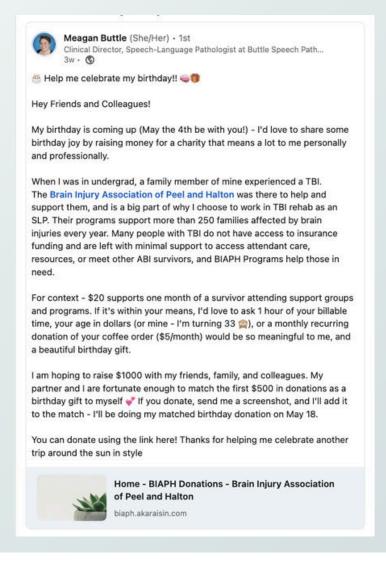


We extend our heartfelt thanks to our Fundraising Gladiators for their unwavering dedication and support. Your efforts have made a meaningful impact on the lives of brain injury survivors and their families, and we are deeply grateful for your commitment to our cause. Together, we are building a stronger, more compassionate community.



A heartfelt thank you to Meagan Buttle for graciously sharing her birthday joy with our association and community. Through her efforts, Meagan raised funds for BIAPH's support programs, enabling us to continue delivering quality support to our community.

Buttle Speech Pathology is committed to working with clients and families of people with communication disorders. They understand how frustrating and lifealtering communication difficulties can be and are passionate about helping individuals return to activities they love.



Learn more about our Gladiators https://biaph.com/fundraising-gladiators/



Fundraising Gladiators







Thank you to Saif Hyder and Amir Atabak of Apexshine Cleaning and Qualicare for hosting an incredible Driving Range Fundraiser, raising vital funds to support and sustain BIAPH's support programs.

ApexShine Cleaning offers exceptional residential cleaning services in the GTA, known for exceeding client expectations with reliable and personalized solutions.

Qualicare provides compassionate, personalized home care, supporting families with tailored plans to meet their loved one's unique needs.



Learn more about our Gladiators
https://biaph.com/fundraising-gladiators/



THANK YOU!

To all of our incredible supporters—our funders, sponsors, donors, dedicated volunteers, and the entire BIAPH community—we extend our deepest gratitude for your continued support throughout 2024. This year, we've achieved significant milestones, and none of it would have been possible without your steadfast generosity. Your contributions have ensured that brain injury survivors and their families have uninterrupted access to the critical programs and services they rely on.

As we move forward into the coming year, we invite you to stay engaged with BIAPH through our upcoming events and initiatives. Visit our website at www.biaph.com to learn more about how you can make a difference in the ABI community. Your commitment remains the driving force behind our success, and we thank you for being such an integral part of our journey.

