

Brain Injury



Connection

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Introducing the Brain Injury Connection During "March is National Brain Injury Awareness Month"

Alameda, California, February 22, 2008 — The **Brain Injury Connection (BIC)** is honored to participate in the *Cerrito Speakeasy Theater's Sunday Salon* to host the movie, "The Loss of Nameless Things" between 2 – 4 PM on March 2, 2008 at the Cerrito Speakeasy Theater in El Cerrito, California.

The primary purpose of the film is to contribute to brain injury awareness during National Brain Injury Awareness month, and to introduce the **Brain Injury Connection**, a local non-profit organization based in Alameda.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimate that **over 9 million** people in the U.S. are living with impairments from traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and strokes - two of the many causes of acquired brain injury. TBI is the "*signature wound*" of the conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan.

More about the Brain Injury Connection (BIC) –

The **BIC's** mission is to enrich the lives of people affected by an acquired brain injury (ABI) through education and connection to community resources. It is a predominately survivor and caregiver driven organization with professionals who work directly with the ABI community on our Board of Directors, and Advisory and Honorary Boards.

Brain injury survivors are a neglected and misunderstood population, in part because the most prevalent problems are

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More about the *BIC* (page 2) –

invisible, which often causes symptoms to be ignored or misdiagnosed.

Our initial programs include an educational and interactive web site and an online educational publication. Our web site includes a searchable directory; medical and legal glossary; an online publication; current news applicable to the ABI community; and a community calendar and forum.

The brain injury community guides the content of the *BIC* publication. Our aim is to educate others about acquired brain injury (ABI) and empower those affected by brain injury.

Brain injury changes lives. The *BIC* wants people affected by brain injury to know they're not alone; to connect them to important resources immediately and be available for them after the diagnosis, hospitalization, rehabilitation and courts when they begin a new chapter—living a normal life with the challenges of brain injury.

For additional information, contact Deborah D. Palmer via E-mail at: debi@braininjuryconnection.org or by phone at (510) 865-4953 or via her cell phone: (510) 517-3994.

Summary

The *Brain Injury Connection*'s mission is to enrich the lives of people affected by an acquired brain injury (ABI) through education and connection to community resources. Initial programs include an informative and interactive web site and an online publication.

History

The *Brain Injury Connection (BIC)* started out as a newsletter. The first issue was published in the spring of 1996. The demand for the newsletter was greater than expected and the founder/managing editor contemplated forming a nonprofit organization, but because of a number of factors, it took several years to accomplish. The *BIC* applied for and received 501(c)(3) tax exempt status in 2005, which paved the way to fundraise, solicit donations and apply for grants to build our programs. The *BIC*'s primary focus is the direct needs of those affected by brain injury. One of *BIC*'s many goals is to grow the former newsletter into a magazine and develop programs to help meet the needs of those affected by ABI.

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