

HEAD LINES

Spring 2005

IMPROVING LIFE AFTER TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

Inverness Tennis Tournament Sets Fundraising Record

Inverness Country Club members and guests met on the courts April 29-May 1 in support of the Alabama Head Injury Foundation (AHIF). This ninth annual Member-Guest Tennis Tournament is the Foundation's top fundraiser. Sponsorships resulted in over \$37,000. To date, the annual tournament has gener-

ated more than \$280,000 for the AHIF and has become a cornerstone event in the tennis community. The Alabama Tennis Association recently recognized the tournament as "Charity Event of the Year" at its meeting on April 9.

awards ceremony honoring finalists and the following winners:
 Womens C Winners: Sabrina Thomas and Leslie Price
 Womens B Winners: Pam Bradford and Laura Holt
 Womens A Winners: Beth Carroll and Lisa Shulman



Several members of the Inverness Member-Guest Tournament Committee admire their prestigious award honoring the Inverness Country Club tournament as "The Tennis Charity Event of the Year." The award plaque, held by Deane Giles and Jerry Nixon, Inverness Racquet Club Pro, is proudly displayed by (front L-R) Ann Horne, Omar Alcaino, IRC Pro, Ron Giles, Charlie Stevens, event chair. Back (L-R), Tom Novack, AHIF Board President, Ken Horne, Charles Priest, AHIF Executive Director, Jack Woodard, Carlton Horne & Dodd Adair. (Photo by Thomas Sizemore)

This year's event included three days of competitive tennis action as well as a reception Friday night at the Inverness Country Club, lunch at the club provided by the Mellow Mushroom and a delicious dinner Saturday night provided by Culinar Catering at the beautiful home of Ronnie and Deane Giles. The Silent Auction, chaired by Susan Smith raised over \$6900 at the Saturday evening event.

Competition continued on Sunday commencing that day following a tournament

Mens C Winners: Jim Nix and Ken Wirt
 Mens B Winners: Robert Rourke and Tony Davis
 Mens A Winners: Tommy McLendon and Barry Shollenberger
 B Mixed Doubles Winners: Missie Miskelley and Billy Woodham
 A Mixed Doubles Winners: Martha Smith and Mark Kiel

"This event represents our single, largest fundraising event throughout the state. More importantly, it helps to increase awareness of our cause, our organization, and our needs," said Charles Priest, Executive Director of the Alabama Head Injury Foundation.

The Tournament originated in 1996
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IMPROVING ALABAMA'S SYSTEM OF SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH TBI

Focusing on TBI Resulting from Domestic Violence

by Augusta Cash

The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS) was awarded a one-year grant by the Health Resources Services Administration in 2004 to address traumatic brain injury (TBI) and domestic violence (DV). The goal of this grant was to develop a system to connect individuals who sustain TBI as a result of DV to appropriate specialized resources and services.

Studies suggest that the occurrence of TBI and domestic violence is a serious and often unrecognized problem. Research indicates that domestic violence is the most frequent cause of injury to women seeking medical attention and the primary reason women, ages 15-44 seek emergency room services (American Medical Association 1992, Boss 1994). In addition, greater than 90% of all injuries secondary to domestic violence occur to the head, neck or face region (Monahan & O'Leary 1999, Perciaccante & Dodson 1999). Both the abused woman and health care provider are typically unaware of the risks of brain injury following domestic violence and therefore fail to connect the issues emerging from an undiagnosed brain injury.

ADRS, the Alabama Head Injury Foundation (AHIF) and the Coalition Against Domestic Violence held a series of meetings during 2004-2005 to collaborate on the development of a model program to expand Alabama's capacity to identify individuals who sustain a brain injury secondary to domestic violence. A joint training conference was held for domestic violence shelter staff and TBI system resource coordinators and care coordinators to provide education about issues relevant to both DV and TBI service providers.

Products were developed to assist DV

continued on page 2

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Salon @ Proffitt's/Joel Melton
Santa Fe Day Spa
Sattersfields
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Sharp Detailing/Rod Sharp
Dr. James Skoney/EyeCare Associates
Jackson Smith
John Smith
SportsFirst- Greystone
Tony Thompson/Interior Design
Dr. Tracey Thomson/Shaw & Thomson
Dr. Donald Walters/Brookwood Dermatology
Yuppie Puppy/Buddy McDaniel
Zapata's Mexican Restaurant



Martha Smith, Dean Giles, Ann Horne and Susan Smith with Carlton Horne in the background, enjoy the Silent Auction, posing in front of a beautiful painting donated by artist Chris Burt. (Photo by Thomas Sizemore)

Inverness from page 1

when several families from the Inverness Country Club community came together to support Carlton Horne, a brain injury survivor, and his family in their support of the Alabama Head Injury Foundation.

The funds raised by this event benefit over 1,400 Alabamians disabled by traumatic brain injury each year through financial aid, housing services, in-home respite care, local resource coordination, recreational support groups, day programs and camps, professional training and advocacy.

Tournament Committee Members were: Charlie Stevens- Chairman; Ann Horne Co-Chairman; Jack Woodard, who chaired the Corporate Fundraising Committee which included Rick Bonsack, Bennie Bumpers, Mark Gallivan, Robert Rourke, Ken and Ann Horne. Other members were Dodd Adair, Buddy McDaniel, Art Boudreau, Paula Ponder, Herman Thrash, Charlie Priest, Janet Massey and Julie Schweer. Special Kudos to Committee members, Martha Smith and Marsha Faulkner, who pulled together all the food for the weekend; Jim and Cindy Kiel who designed and hand etched souvenir glasses to commemorate the tournament; Jerry Nixon and Omar Alcaino, Inverness Racquet Club Pros, who worked hard to coordinate the tennis at the Racquet Club; Susan Smith, who chaired a very successful and exciting silent auction; Ron and Deane Giles who extended their warm and gracious hospitality in their home for the Saturday night dinner.



Tony Davis and Robert Rourke proudly pose at the Racquet Club after they were declared Winners of the Men's B Doubles.



Carlton Horne with wife, Jennifer, is an employee of Virginia College, and the father of two beautiful children. His brain injury was the motivation for the incredible outpouring of support from the Inverness Country Club for AHIF. (Photo by Thomas Sizemore.)

TBI from page 1

shelter staff in identifying and accommodating individuals with TBI. A questionnaire: Brief Screening for Possible TBI and a tip sheet: Accommodations for Individuals with TBI were designed for incorporation into the existing DV system. A Traumatic Brain Injury and Domestic Violence Tool Kit was designed to insure continuous training of new DV staff about TBI, use of the Screening questionnaire and Accommodations Tip Sheet. Included in the Tool Kit is a consumer interview that exemplifies the real experiences of an individual who sustained TBI as a result of domestic violence.

This grant project was a shared collaboration among ADRS; Alabama Head Injury Foundation;

Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ACADV); local Domestic Violence Shelters, Advisory Council on Violence Against Women, Local Domestic Violence Task Forces; Domestic Violence Survivor Advisory Group; Alabama Department of Human Resources (HRD); Alabama Department of Public Health; AHIF; Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) at Mt. Sinai, NY; AHITF; NIDRR Research and Training Center on Community Integration of Individuals with TBI; UAB Injury Control Research Center (ICRC) and; Alabama Disability Advocacy Program (ADAP).

For information about this grant or any of these products contact Maria Crowley, Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, phone: (205) 290-4590, e-mail: mcrowley@rehab.state.al.us.

IMPROVING ALABAMA'S SYSTEM OF SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH TBI

HRSA/MCHB GRANTEE MEETING— FROM THE VIEW OF A FAMILY MEMBER

Melissa Slater

Melissa Slater, the parent of 28-year-old brain injury survivor, Charlie Slater, was selected once again to attend the Health and Human Services Administration's Maternal and Child Health Bureau Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Grantee Meeting Program in Washington, DC in March 2005. This eighth annual meeting was for states that had received Federal TBI grants from HRSA/MCHB.

Maria Crowley, Coordinator of the Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Registry, Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services also represented Alabama. The following is Ms. Slater's report to our readers about what she learned as their representative.

Jane Martin Heppel, Federal TBI Program Director, welcomed everyone to this year's 8th Annual Federal TBI Program Grantee Meeting which was held March 14-16 in Washington D.C.

Every organization involved came prepared to share their hard work at the State Showcase and Resource Fair.

Maria Crowley, Coordinator Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Registry, spoke on "Alabama's Response to the Needs of Students with TBI".

Grant Partners were Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, AL Dept. of Education, Alabama Head Injury Foundation, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine,

UAB Pediatric Neuropsychology, National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), TBI Model System at UAB. The Goals were to accurately identify students with TBI, provide information and resources on appropriate accommodations for school success and transition students with TBI from school to post-secondary programs or work.

Copies of the project's CD-ROM are available from Maria Crowley, Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services - (205) 290-4590.

Warren Lux, MD Deputy Director, Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC) gave the keynote address on "Traumatic Brain Injury as a Signature Wound of Warfare in the 21st Century". Dr. Lux spoke on the tragedies our soldiers are going through in both Iraq and Afghanistan involving TBI's from airborne operations, policing in combat areas, gunshots and bomb blasts. He informed us that the goal of the DVBIC is to provide case management, individualized treatment and to provide services and supports to help soldiers suffering from TBI to return to duty, work, and community.

A Public Policy Training Session was held in preparation for a Capitol Hill

Reception honoring the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force. Susan Connors, President and CEO of the Brain Injury Association of America spoke on the **TBI Act Reauthorization and Appropriations**. Geoffrey Lauer, National Director of Affiliate Relations, BIAA, spoke on various topics including Medicaid, Veterans Issues and Social Security. Kyle Mulroy, Principal, Holt, Mulroy and Germann Public Affairs spoke on how to be an advocate.

This year's Grantee Meeting in Washington, DC had so many excellent speakers and all of them were so informative. There are too many to mention them all. Sandra Z. Salan, M.D., Social Security Administration spoke on data linkage. Rebecca Zeltinger, Director Knowledge Exchange, TBI Technical Assistance Center at the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators, spoke on TBI Collaboration amongst the states.

Most people do not realize how hard so many organizations are working to improve the lives of those persons suffering from TBI and how hard Lobbyists and Congressmen are working to improve funding to the states. I feel so very lucky to have been able to attend this 3-day meeting again this year. I certainly learned so much.

AHIF Resource Coordinators Play Important Role in Domestic Violence/TBI Grant

The Alabama Head Injury Foundation's statewide team of eight Resource Coordinators took the lead role in establishing collaborative relationships with professionals involved in the domestic violence system.

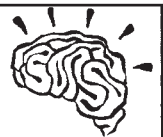
In many Alabama communities, Domestic Violence Task Forces exist to support battered women and children, and hold batterers accountable for their actions. These task forces are composed of representatives in the community from the health care system, justice system, education system, clergy, law enforcement, government, social service system and other groups that come into contact with victims of domestic violence.

AHIF Resource Coordinators attended local Task Force meetings where they shared information about brain injury and its impact on the domestic violence victim. Most importantly, they networked, and established themselves as valued

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Traumatic Brain Injury and Domestic Violence:

A Training Curriculum to Instruct Domestic Violence Service Providers



A training curriculum developed by the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation in conjunction with the Alabama Head Injury Foundation and the Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence with funding from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

Trainer's Manual containing:
PowerPoint Presentations
Speaker's Notes
Workshop Materials- agenda, evaluation, etc.
Participant Handouts
Literature for Service Providers
Literature for Victims
TBI Screening and Accommodation Tools

Two professionally developed videos on Domestic Violence and Traumatic Brain Injury:
1. Victim's Video
2. Service Providers Video

For information on how to obtain these materials contact:

Maria Crowley
Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services
P.O. Box 19888
Homewood, AL 35219-0888
Tel: 205-290-4590
Fax: 205-945-8517
mcrowley@rehab.state.al.us

Patton Ridge Apts in Hoover Nearing Completion

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE!

We are excited to inform you that a new accessible, affordable apartment complex—Patton Ridge Apartments at 2122 Rocky Ridge Road in Hoover, Alabama will soon be opening. A cooperative effort between Accessible Space, Inc. (ASI) and the Alabama Head Injury Foundation, Patton Ridge will provide eighteen, 1 and 2 bedroom, barrier-free, HUD subsidized apartments for people with physical disabilities and/or traumatic brain injury (TBI)

All apartments are designed for wheelchair accessibility, but applicants do not have to be a wheelchair user to qualify. Applicants must be at least 18 years old, have a physical disability and/or traumatic brain injury (TBI), and meet other relevant selection criteria to qualify.

All eighteen apartments will be HUD subsidized. Qualifying persons will pay approximately 30% of their gross adjusted monthly income for rent, and are given allowances (deductions) for utility costs and out of pocket medical expenses.

For more information, or to request a Housing Application, please call Accessible Space, Inc toll-free at 1-800-466-7722 extension 284 or go to the website, www.accessiblespace.org to apply online.



Patton Ridge Amenities

Apartment Features

- Spacious accessible kitchens
- Large accessible bathrooms
- Roll-in showers
- Carpeted bedroom and living room
- Generous closet/storage space
- Lever-action door handles
- Raised electrical outlets and lowered light switches
- Window Blinds

Building Features

- Open Lobby/entryway
- Elevator service
- Controlled access entry system
- Convenient neighborhood location
- Large community room
- Library
- On-site laundry facilities
- Off street parking
- Approved pets welcome (with additional deposit)

Convenient Location

- Grocery Stores
- Shopping
- Restaurants
- Banking Services
- Churches
- Medical/Professional clinics
- Public Transportation

Basic Qualifications

- One adult household member must have qualifying disability
- Households must pass required rental, criminal and credit history search
- Households must be income qualified (Income limits apply & security deposit required)

Acknowledgements

Patton Ridge would not be possible without the funding and/ or support from:
 Accessible Space Inc.; The Alabama Head Injury Foundation; The City of Hoover, Alabama; Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta's Affordable Housing Program; and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
 Accessible Space, Inc. (ASIA), Sponsor/Owner/ Management Agent;
 Miller Hanson Partners, Architect
 Doug Hollyhand, General Contractor

Coordinators *continued from page 3*

participants of the Domestic Violence Task Forces in their communities.

An important goal of the Domestic Violence/TBI Grant was to build the capacity of the statewide TBI service system staff to recognize persons with TBI who are victims of domestic violence and more effectively serve them. As the AHIF Resource Coordinators enhanced their knowledge of domestic violence, our organization developed and modified service procedures that are more sensitive to the unique issues of victims of domestic violence. We have linked the AHIF Website with the Alabama Coalition of Domestic Violence so that any "web surfer" may have access to the most accurate information about TBI and domestic violence in Alabama.

AHIF Resource Coordinators are now

designated to be the point of entry for referrals from Domestic Violence Service Providers in their counties connecting domestic violence clients with appropriate service providers in the TBI service system.

The AHIF Resource Coordination Program is a support service provided by AHIF. It provides support for Alabamians to help them cope with issues of living with traumatic brain injury and helps them transition back into their families, their schools and their communities. The program is funded through a contract with The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services and The Impaired Drivers

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Donate your cellphone

Visit WWW.AHIF.ORG online and click on the cellphone donation button. Simply find your cellphone(s) in the list of phones accepted, submit your personal information and you will receive a box with a prepaid return label. The value of the cellphone will be donated to the Alabama Head Injury Foundation in your name. If you do not have access to an online service, you may call 1-800-364-0258 for assistance.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is amazing to me how traumatic brain injury can impact our lives in so many ways. The AHIF, often joined by other organizations such as the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS), has increased public awareness of how brain trauma can occur and where the effects can be seen. We are all aware of the potentially devastating effects of motor vehicle crashes, the leading cause of TBI. But how many of us were aware of shaken baby syndrome until the AHIF initiated an awareness campaign in this area? How about injury due to bicycle crashes? The AHIF started a campaign to provide bicycle helmets to riders. Recent efforts, in collaboration with ADRS, have focused on the coincidence of TBI and psychiatric disorders. Finally, the AHIF has broken new ground with the ADRS by examining domestic violence as a cause of TBI. Folks, this is cutting edge stuff!

The AHIF for years has been at the forefront in increasing awareness of TBI issues. Increasing awareness alone is enough to get me excited-as you can tell!-but the story does not stop there. Awareness coupled with action is the goal of the AHIF. Awareness of TBI caused by bicycle wrecks led to passage of the bike helmet law in Alabama. The AHIF had a strong hand in that legislative effort. Information about psychiatric disorders and TBI has been (and continues to be) distributed to mental health providers in Alabama. A committee is working on how to best address the psychiatric problems, particularly behavioral difficulties, exhibited by some people with TBI. Staff from the AHIF and ADRS is meeting with staff at women's shelters to educate them about TBI in abused women and how this might impact their treatment of this population.

These issues are not dealt with overnight. It takes a long-term, persistent effort to create change in established systems. Your AHIF has the staying power to effect those changes! We have proven it in the past, we are doing so today, and we will continue to do so in the future.

Tom Novack

United Way of Central Alabama Impacting our Community



United Way
of Central Alabama, Inc.

History

United Way of Central Alabama, Inc., (UWCA), (formerly The Birmingham Community Chest) was organized in 1923 with 31 agencies and a goal of \$450,000. Even in 1929, the year of the stock market crash, the goal was met as more than half a million dollars was raised—a remarkable amount, considering the economic conditions.

In 1943, during World War II, the Birmingham Community Chest campaign raised more than \$1 million for the first time. In 1956, it changed its name to the United Appeal. Two years later, the \$2 million milestone was passed.

In 1969, the local organization was invited into neighboring Shelby County and in 1970 agencies in Walker County asked to be included, too. That year more than \$4 million was raised. In January 1985, the legal name was changed to the United Way-Community Chest of Central Alabama, Inc. And in 1992, the name was changed to United Way of Central Alabama, Inc.

Throughout its history, the United Way of Central Alabama has not changed its basic purpose—to increase the organized capacity of people to care for one another and to improve their community.

Community Impact

United Way is in the business of creating meaningful and tangible impact in

each and every community in its five county service area. UWCA's theme is "what matters". UWCA brings together people from across our service area—people from government, business, faith groups, nonprofits and ordinary citizens to tackle issues that matter most. UWCA focuses on six impact areas:

- Helping children succeed
- Strengthening and supporting families
- Promoting self-sufficiency
- Improving people's health
- Making our community safer
- Helping in times of emergency and disaster

UWCA's business is to improve lives and community conditions by building and mobilizing resources. They do this by raising community awareness about needs and focus attention and resources on solutions; bringing people together to address critical human service issues.

United Way of Central Alabama makes funding decisions based on local priorities. United Way supports organizations like the Alabama Head Injury Foundation that work in this community to strengthen families and individuals.

AHIF's allocation from UWCA for 2005 is \$133,000.

In 2004, over 600 community volunteers representing 291 organizations made their recommendations to United Way's allocations committee for funding United Way partners.

DIRECTORY OF NEUROPSYCHOLOGISTS IN ALABAMA NOW AVAILABLE

AHIF has developed a statewide Directory of Neuropsychologists compiled from information provided by the Neuropsychologists listed. We hope that this directory will be informative and helpful, facilitating access to their professional expertise and services.

A Neuropsychologist is a psychologist with specialized training in brain behavior relationships. Neuropsychologists have many different kinds of jobs, and not all Neuropsychologists do the same thing. Many Neuropsychologists administer psychological tests and perform assessments to diagnose specific disorders of the brain. Neuropsychologists study ways to measure recovery from brain damage as well as developing strategies for interventions that are effective in remediation, retraining and accommodation.

Some Neuropsychologists also provide psychotherapy. Neuropsychologists may teach, and some conduct research in colleges and universities to better understand the functioning of the brain. Neuropsychologists who work in the court system are called Forensic Neuropsychologists. These Neuropsychologists choose to use their knowledge to help in legal issues.

To request a free copy of the directory, phone Sandra Koplton, Director of Community Outreach at 205-823-3818, toll free at 1-800-433-8002 or email her at www.sandykoplton@bellsouth.net

A new decision making strategy was introduced to this year's process. Teams were asked to shift from agency focus to a community needs based focus. The committee then prioritized a list of needs to assist in making the difficult funding decisions. United Way is committed to the citizen review process as the most equitable way to fund community needs.

AHIF would like to thank the United Way of Central Alabama for a wonderful 15 year partnership.

Visit our Website

WWW.AHIF.ORG

- Obtain information about AHIF
- Learn about our services and programs
- Download current articles about brain injury
- Link to other brain injury websites
- Make a donation
- Learn about Volunteer Opportunities



The Alabama Head Injury Foundation is very pleased to announce that we are now a member of the Community Health Charities of Alabama!

This organization will coordinate workplace giving campaigns across the state, principally with Federal and State employees. These campaigns will include AHIF, except in areas where AHIF is a United Way member agency.

The mission of the CHC is to provide a better quality of life for children and adults by creating, developing and maintaining relationships that connect workplace communities and member health agencies.

AHIF is proud to be a member of CHC and encourages federal and state employees to support our cause through your local CFC, State Employee Campaign or United Way Campaign!

United Way of West Alabama

United Way of West Alabama, under the direction of Homer Butler, has provided financial support for our Small Places Recreational Program since 2000. Our grant allocation for 2005 is \$6,832.00.

Many thanks to the hard working staff, volunteers, Board of Directors and of course, contributors to United Way of West Alabama.

AHIF Brain Injury Survivor, Brian Smith, Urges Alabamians to Prevent Injuries

Brian Smith spoke of his experiences with brain injury and the importance of preventing brain injury at a Governor's Proclamation Ceremony at the State Capitol Auditorium in Montgomery on March 31. Brian represented the Alabama Head Injury Foundation, one of thirty members of the State of Alabama Injury Advisory Council. The Council unveiled its report entitled "Injury in Alabama, A Focus on Prevention" outlining specific strategies to prevent injury in Alabama. Governor Riley's proclamation endorsed the Injury Council's report as "the state plan to support injury prevention and encouraged all citizens to learn more about injury prevention and become partners in this important endeavor to reduce injury and death."

The statistics of injury cited in the report are staggering! Injury is the leading cause of death in children and young adults 1-35 years of age. Injuries affect everyone regardless of age, race or economic status, and are a substantial and preventable public health problem. In 2001, there were 3,178 deaths due to injuries such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, fires, suicides and homicides.

Brian Smith survived a motor vehicle crash in 1995, but sustained a serious traumatic brain injury. Brian was in his Junior year at Hoover High School.

Smith described the auto accident that changed his life and left him with a brain

injury, his coma and the difficulties that followed in a tone of acceptance. After ten years, Brian, 26, realizes that bad things happen sometimes, and sometimes they don't get in the way of life, they may even make it more meaningful!

Smith's life since his brain injury has been a most impressive journey! After six months in a coma, and much hard work, and rehabilitation, Brian went on to graduate from Hoover High School in 1998, only one year later than scheduled. Now, a senior at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, Brian will graduate with an undergraduate degree in Information Technology. He has been employed part time for several years while going to school, in the Business School's Technology Division/Desktop Support where he is a trouble-shooter for their computer labs.

Last summer, Brian left his hometown of Talledega to spend a most successful eleven weeks in Washington, DC., one of 15 recipients of a 2004 Microsoft-American



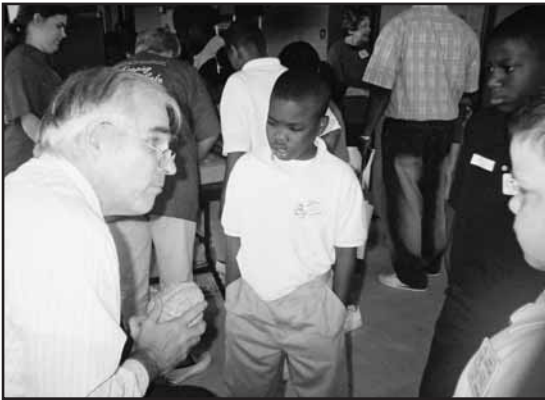
L-R: Steve Shivers, Commissioner, ADHS, Brian Smith, Donald Williamson M.D., State Health Officer, Dept. of Public Health, and Charles Priest, AHIF Executive Director at Governor's Proclamation Ceremony in Montgomery.

Association of People with Disabilities Federal Information Technology Internship. He worked with the Federal Elections Administration Committee, and learned about election technology only five months before the 2004 presidential elections.

This summer, Smith faces recuperation from brain surgery that he underwent the week after he spoke in Montgomery. The surgery was planned to correct a secondary problem that had developed after his brain injury. His dad reports that he is well on the road to recovery.

Imagine The Alabama Head Injury Foundation without Volunteers. Next to impossible, isn't it?

Volunteers sharing their personal strengths and talents make our mission of improving the quality of life for persons who have survived brain injury, and for their families, possible.



Doyle Lemaster, Huntsville AHIF Volunteer, and brain injury survivor, talks to a group of fourth grade students at the Montgomery Regional Safety Fair about the brain, and the importance of keeping it protected. More than 400 students from Autauga, Elmore, Lowndes and Montgomery counties passed through the AHIF Interactive booth at Riverwalk Stadium on Monday, April 18th. Sponsored by the Injury Prevention Division of the Alabama Department of Public Health, the Fair focused on Injury Prevention. Many thanks to volunteers, Bobby and Sandra Arnold, Lisa Dalsin, Keith Girdner, Brett Heartsill and Connie Shreve from the Montgomery Support Group who contributed over 30 hours in talking to the children about their Brain injuries and offering safety tips!!! Cathy Hicks and daughter, Ariel joined the volunteer effort from the Gadsden Support Group.

Sandy Koplou, Director of Community Outreach, trains volunteers, Dale Alosi, Melissa Butler and Kim Hooks on how to get the AHIF message across to the thousands of visitors to the AHIF Booth during the NBC 13 Health and Wellness Fair at the BJCC in Birmingham the week-end of April 16 and 17th. AHIF interactive activities helped the public understand some of the consequences of brain injury. Deno Posey, Karen Boyd, Leathe Gray, Dale and Jim Alosi, Diane Polito, Steve Perett, John Estock, Richard McRae and Gene Boles also volunteered their assistance to staff the AHIF display area during the two-day event.



Chris Morris, Jonathan James, Kirk Flanagan and Aaron Jones (not present), student volunteer team from the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa Small Business Consulting Management Class, presented a marketing strategy recommendation for an AHIF fundraising project to Charles Priest, AHIF Executive Director. These students received educational credit for their volunteer effort while providing valuable expertise to AHIF.



Members of the Walker County Fraternal Order of Police, Officer Ronnie Phillips (on porch), Capt. Dennis Corbell (using saw) and Lt. Mike Clark (on roof), recently volunteered to give Small Places of Walker Cty. a helping hand. The three officers spent one of their Saturday's off enlarging the porch on the front of the Small Places building in Jasper as well as adding a roof over the porch to protect the clients who go to Small Places, like Jasper Police Motorcycle Patrol Officer James Hobbs who was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident two years ago while on duty. (Photo by Daily Mountain Eagle photographer Elane Jones)

Since AHIF began, Volunteers have been a most valuable resource to our Camp programs! Camper, Kennedy Harrison, along with Americorp volunteers, Tameika Washington and Aisha Dickerson, gear up for a tubing ride from Adaptive Aquatics. The setting is beautiful Lake Martin at Camp ASCCA during AHIF Spring Camp, 2004.



University of South Alabama Recreational Therapy Students volunteered their time at the Mobile AHIF Recreational Support Group in February. The students and members, Thomas Burgum and Brian Hayes, had great fun during the balloon trivia activity planned by the students and their professor, Dr. Ellen Broach. The volunteers obtained valuable experience, and the Recreational Support group benefited from their enthusiasm!

*With each new volunteer, AHIF increases our effectiveness. **Won't you join our volunteer team today?** You will not only be helping others, but you will be making your own life more meaningful! Contact Sandy Koplou, Director of Community Outreach, 1-800-433-8002 to discuss your interests and AHIF Volunteer statewide opportunities or go to www.ahif.org. Flexible scheduling is available.*

Thank You to Our Generous Donors

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Giving Opportunities to Show You Care

- **Cash Gifts/Credit Card Donations**
- **Bequest**—Designate the Alabama Head Injury Foundation as part of your estate or set up a gift annuity.
- **Stocks**—Use as a tax advantage- a great year-end idea!
- **Insurance**—designate the Alabama Head Injury Foundation as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy.
- **Tributes**—Honor someone living or deceased, or celebrate an occasion of graduation, promotion, birthday or holiday with a contribution to AHIF!
- **Matching Gift**—See if your company will make a matching gift.

Contact Charles Priest, Executive Director, for further information at 1-800-433-8002.

Coordinators *continued from page 4*

Trust Fund making it possible for AHIF to offer the program as a free service to clients.

Domestic violence service providers were trained by the Grant to recognize symptoms that might raise a "red flag" that a domestic violence victim might have sustained a brain injury during the acts of violence, even when there was no medical documentation.

AHIF Coordinators were trained by the Grant to administer the BISQ screening (developed by the Research and Training Center on Community Integration of Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury,

Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York City), to determine the likelihood of a TBI. If a domestic violence victim with a suspected TBI is referred to AHIF by Shelter staff, a BISQ screening is performed. When the outcome of the screen shows a positive likelihood of a traumatic brain injury and the domestic violence victim desires Resource Coordination Services, AHIF provides services, working in close collaboration with our domestic violence service provider colleagues.

The positive outcomes of the Domestic Violence/Traumatic Brain Injury Grant are that both the domestic violence and traumatic brain injury providers statewide are much better informed about the conse-

quences of traumatic brain injury resulting from domestic violence, as well as the services each provides in the state. In addition, there has been heightened awareness about traumatic brain injury and increased communication and collaboration between the Domestic Violence Task Forces and the TBI Service Providers. Most importantly, women in Alabama who are victims of domestic violence are being screened for brain injury and are now being connected to appropriate brain injury resources and services.

Alabama Head Injury Foundation

AHIF

IMPROVING LIFE AFTER
 TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

3100 Lorna Road, Suite 226
 Hoover, Alabama 35216



This edition of Headlines was produced with funding from HRSA/MCHB CFDA #93234 and EBSCO Industries, Inc. Please notify us if you receive multiple copies or if you have changed your address.

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