



*Celebrating 15 Years
of Excellence*

*Advancing Care,
Research & Advocacy*

*Shaping the Future of
Patient Treatments*

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

WWW.IBCDI.ORG

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A MESSAGE FROM **DR. TARANTINO**

BCDI Chief Executive Officer
BCDI Chief Medical Officer



We are extremely excited to share the 2024 BCDI Annual Report with you! This newsletter will provide a glimpse of what the BCDI staff, patients and community members accomplished together throughout the past year. In 2024 alone, BCDI continued to serve our patients with the highest level of care possible, added on to our executive leadership team and growing staff, won numerous high-profile awards, and saw record-breaking fundraising through events via the BCDI Foundation.

Based in Peoria, BCDI's motto of **"Nationally Recognized, Centrally Located"** resonates as strongly now as ever. Since BCDI's founding in 2010, our team of renowned hematologists have become trusted names in the bleeding and clotting landscape, offering expertise that is sought after on an international scale. Through collaborations with global organizations, contributions to leading research publications and participation in worldwide conferences, BCDI has played a key role in shaping the future of bleeding and clotting disorder treatments. BCDI's involvement in clinical trials of innovative therapies has helped improve patient outcomes not just in Illinois, but around the world.

BCDI has continued our mission of providing exceptional care to individuals and families with bleeding and clotting disorders. BCDI is not just a treatment center; we are also a certified medical home. This designation highlights our commitment to providing comprehensive, patient centered care. BCDI offers a coordinated approach to treatment, ensuring that patients receive multidisciplinary support, including medical care, social work, laboratory services, a specialized pharmacy, nutritional counseling and access to clinical trials. This model enhances patient outcomes by providing seamless care tailored to individual needs. BCDI treats the whole person, not just the disorder.

2025 is BCDI's 15th year of service to the bleeding and clotting disorders community, and we are honored to serve over 8,000 active patients. As we continue to move forward, BCDI's dedication to advancing treatment options, providing optimal outcomes for our patients and expanding collaborations and education globally remains steadfast. On behalf of everyone at BCDI, we thank you for your constant support and your role in making us **"The Blood Experts!"**

OUR PATIENTS SAY...

We highly value the thoughts and opinions of our patients regarding the quality of care received at BCDI. That's why all BCDI patients are prompted to complete an anonymous survey once annually after a visit with our team. Below is a sampling of anonymous comments the BCDI team received during visits in 2024!

“
Dr Tarantino and the **entire staff** are very polite, knowledgeable and thorough! I appreciate all they have done for me and will continue to address my bleeding disorder in the best way possible.
 ”

“I love these people I couldn't imagine going through this process with a different group
I appreciate you all.”

“I couldn't ask for a better team to work with. BCDI has always been my go-to as I have received **nothing but the best care** and treatment from this team.”

“
Dr Roberts is amazing. He definitely goes the extra mile for his patients.
 ”

“I so appreciate their kindness and genuine care of me as a whole person. **Jesla** and **Tiffany** are both great and committed to a thorough appointment, are patient in going over the details, and answer all of my questions and concerns.”

“I would recommend BCDI to **everyone** with a bleeding or clotting issue! ”

“Extremely blessed to have such an amazing group of people taking care of me.”

“
Everyone I encountered was awesome. The ladies who drew my blood and the physical therapist especially, but everyone was so nice! Great as usual, very professional and answered any questions appropriately.
 ”

“I'm thankful for BCDI **always reaching out** and coordinating with my other doctors. Most offices have us do it ourselves, and it's hard to remember everything and say the right things.”

“
Dr. Tarantino always takes time to talk through the issues. I never feel like he is rushed and I appreciate the time he spends.
 ”

“The pharmacists and technicians have been great to work with in their help learning the ins and outs of the new prescriptions.”

“I brought up questions about my joints and they were able to get me in with the physical therapist during the same appointment, which I appreciated so much.”

“I appreciate the efficiency, yet never feel rushed with **Dr. Roberts.**”

AWARDS IN 2024

DR. T NBDF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

At the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation's 76th annual Bleeding Disorders Conference on September 14th in Atlanta, BCDI CEO/CMO Dr. Michael Tarantino earned the distinguished honor of **NBDF's Lifetime Achievement Award**. Dr. Tarantino is passionate about advocating on behalf of individuals with bleeding and clotting disorders, and as a result, leads the way for improvements within this community. With NBDF, he served as a member of the Medical Advisory and Scientific Council from 2012 – 2022. In 2012, Dr. Tarantino was awarded the **Physician of the Year** by NBDF and in 2018 was honored with the Excellence in Healthcare Award by NBDF. Since 2006, Dr. Tarantino has served on the Medical Advisory Board of the Platelet Disorder Support Association (Chairman from July 2021 – July 2024) and is leading the charge to educate members of Congress about promoting a national network of centers of excellence for ITP using an adapted model of comprehensive care based on the first ever ITP comprehensive care clinic in the United States, which was held at BCDI in 2017.



KRISTIN ANSTEATT ILCC AMP CHAMP

BCDI Advanced Practice Provider Supervisor Kristin Ansteatt, APRN, FNP-BC was awarded with the **2024 CUREageous AMP Champ Award** from Illinois CancerCare Foundation! Kristin received the AMP Champ Award at the CUREageous event on November 22, 2024. The AMP Champ Award is given each year to a medical professional in the Peoria area who provides exemplary contributions to research, demonstrates outstanding patient care and is moving patient care forward through research support.

DH2 AWARD FOR SUPPORT/DEDICATION

BCDI was extremely honored to support The Deveraux Hubbard II Foundation, as we helped celebrate their 10-year anniversary with a Black Tie, Red Cause Gala in East Peoria on August 10 as a grand sponsor. The DH2 Foundation is dedicated to raising awareness and providing education about the risks of blood clots and clotting disorders, and the DH2 Gala raised over \$21,000 in support of the blood clot community. **Dr. Michael Tarantino** and the **BCDI staff** were recognized with an award during the Black Tie, Red Cause Gala in recognition of unwavering support and dedication of raising blood clot awareness "2" steps at a time.



BEACON BUZZ

The Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Institute is excited to share that **Becky Burns**, Chief Operating Officer at BCDI, has been named the **Chair of the Board of Directors** for the **Hemophilia Alliance**. Becky officially assumed her new role with the Hemophilia Alliance effective January 1, 2025, and will serve a two-year term running through 2026.

"I am honored to have been selected to lead the Hemophilia Alliance Board of Directors as Board Chair," Burns said. "The Hemophilia Alliance's work to strengthen our national Hemophilia Treatment Center (HTC) network and ensure patient access to world class care is in line with BCDI's mission to provide integrated, family-oriented care, treatment and education for individuals with bleeding, blood clotting and other blood disorders."



Becky previously served as Vice Chair of the Hemophilia Alliance Board of Directors from 2023 – 2024 and provides a wealth of experience and dedication to the organization. In her new role as Chair, she will lead board meetings, provide strategic leadership and share her extensive finance and executive knowledge to further the Alliance's mission of supporting HTC's and the bleeding disorders community nationwide.

“

BCDI and our patients directly benefit from the advocacy work of the Hemophilia Alliance whether with legislators, payers, or manufacturers," Burns said. "My role as Board Chair will allow BCDI and those we serve to have a voice in these very important discussions, ensuring that issues affecting our community are at the forefront.

”

Since joining BCDI in 2016, Becky has championed the battle that the bleeding disorders community faces with access to care issues. Becky has played a crucial role in advocating for new legislation that benefits access to medication for individuals with bleeding disorders locally, statewide and nationally, while also overseeing BCDI's business and 340B pharmacy operations. Becky is widely regarded as a top expert with insurance and payer issues, serving as an advisor for notable organizations such as the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation and the Bleeding Disorders Alliance Illinois.

"Becky's leadership, strategic insight and commitment to the bleeding disorders community have been invaluable to BCDI, and I have no doubt that she will bring the same level of dedication and acumen to the Hemophilia Alliance Board of Directors," said BCDI CEO/CMO Dr. Michael Tarantino. "This is a well-deserved recognition of her expertise, and I look forward to seeing how she will continue to positively impact patients' lives nationwide."

The Hemophilia Alliance is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting federally funded HTC's, like BCDI, aiming to ensure that individuals with bleeding disorders receive the best care possible. The Hemophilia Alliance works alongside HTC's to provide resources and public support to the community regarding pharmacy services, insurance policies and advocacy support that lead to optimal patient outcomes.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Members of BCDI's team pose for a picture with Congresswoman Mary Miller at the U.S. State Capitol.

MARCH 7, 2024

NBDF WASHINGTON DAYS

BCDI's team including COO Becky Burns, Nurse Coordinator Nichole Swango and Director of Outreach & Communications Matt McClain spent March 7th in Washington D.C. representing the bleeding disorders community across Illinois and educating members of Congress about various access to care issues and the importance of Hemophilia Treatment Centers. Thank you so much to Representative Darin LaHood and Representative Mary Miller, plus the offices of Representative Eric Sorensen and Senator Dick Durbin for taking the time to speak with us about these imperative topics.

MARCH 22, 2024

DR. T AT CAPITOL HILL WITH PDSA

On March 22, 2024, Dr. Michael Tarantino met with 15 different congressional offices and legislators in Washington D.C. to promote a national network of centers of excellence for ITP, using an adapted model of comprehensive care. Alongside Caroline Cruse, CEO of the Platelet Disorder Support Association and Dr. Alex Kruse of PDSA, Dr. Tarantino helped educate Congress about the challenges and opportunities across the bleeding disorders community and with hemophilia treatment centers.



Dr. Tarantino and members of PDSA pose with Congressman Darin LaHood during a visit to Washington D.C.



Becky Burns and members of the alternative Funding Task Force gather after a meeting with the White House Domestic Policy Council.

MARCH 28, 2024

BECKY AT THE WHITE HOUSE

BCDI Chief Operating Officer/Chief Financial Officer Becky Burns spent March 28, 2024, in Washington D.C. meeting with the White House Domestic Policy Council. Alongside representatives from the Alternative Funding Task Force, Burns led conversation about the danger alternative funding programs pose to the bleeding and clotting disorders patient community and others with rare diseases, while also discussing how the administration can help push a resolution to the situation.

APRIL 18, 2024**ALLIANCE HILL DAYS**

Members of BCDI's expert staff visited Washington D.C. on April 18th alongside the Hemophilia Alliance for a Hill Day visit with members of Congress. BCDI COO Becky Burns, Pharmacy Manager Dane Christ, and Social Worker Marsha Hurn were part of the group, as well as BCDI patients Chelsea Wood and Maddox Grubb. The group advocated on behalf of the importance of Hemophilia Treatment Centers, the ability to participate in the 340B program so HTC's can continue to serve and provide the highest quality of life for patients, and shared issues related to alternative funding



BCDI's advocacy team meets with the office of Senator Tammy Duckworth during Hemophilia Alliance Hill Days.

**AUGUST 10, 2024****DH2 RUN, WALK, OR TROT**

On August 10, 2024, BCDI hosted the Deveraux Hubbard II Foundation Run, Walk or Trot 2 Stop Blood Clots at our BCDI campus and the Rock Island Trail. This incredible community event helped raise awareness about blood clots and blood clotting disorders, and encourages people to spend less time sitting and more time moving to decrease the risk of blood clots.

Becky Burns, Dr. Tarantino, Jim Rea and Matt McClain worked the BCDI booth at the Deveraux Hubbard II Foundation Run, Walk or Trot 2 Stop Blood Clots event.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**MOLINE EDUCATION EVENT**

Alongside community partners Bleeding Disorders of the Heartland and Bleeding Disorders Alliance Illinois, BCDI hosted an educational dinner in Moline on September 30th at The River House restaurant. With over 40 guests in attendance from the Quad Cities area, BCDI Associate Medical and Research Director Dr. Jonathan Roberts presented an educational discussion entitled "Optimizing Outcomes Beyond Treatment: The Value of Comprehensive Care for Individuals with Bleeding Disorders." In this interactive presentation, Dr. Roberts explained that living with a bleeding disorder requires lifestyle changes that not only affects the individual with the diagnosis, but their loved ones as well.

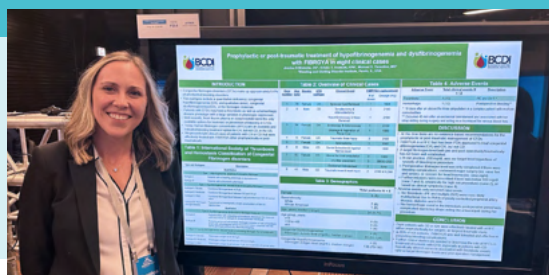


BCDI leadership worked hand-in-hand with Bleeding Disorders of the Heartland and Bleeding Disorders Alliance Illinois to host a free educational dinner in Moline.

CONFERENCES & EDUCATION

THSNA APRIL 4-6, 2024

BCDI's team of expert physicians and research specialists spent April 4 - 6 at the Thrombosis & Hemostasis Summit of North America (THSNA) presenting cutting edge research and programming across various bleeding and clotting disorders. BCDI Associate Medical Director/ Associate Research Director **Dr. Jonathan Roberts**, Staff Physician **Dr. Jessica Mistretta** and Research Associate/ Data Manager **Nikki Barclay** presented six research posters/exhibits regarding research done at BCDI.



PDSA ITP CONFERENCE JULY 26-28, 2024

BCDI Chief Executive Officer and Chief Medical Officer **Dr. Michael Tarantino** serves on the PDSA Board of Medical Advisors and played a key role in the success of PDSA's 2024 ITP Conference. Dr. Tarantino led a question-and-answer session about ITP in Adults and the Evolution of ITP treatment and guidelines, as he shared the best practices when it comes to the use of steroids for individuals with an ITP diagnosis. Dr. Tarantino also led a keynote dinner program entitled **"Taking Charge of Your ITP Journey Together With Your Doctor,"** which placed an emphasis on the important conversations that patients need to have with their hematologist and how to empower patients to become their own advocate. BCDI Chief Operating Officer **Becky Burns** led a presentation entitled **"Financial Toxicity: Navigating Insurance with a Rare Disease."** In this interactive session, Burns provided key information to ITP patients and families about important insurance terms to know, highlighted challenges that prior authorizations and coverage denials pose, and helped define consequences of high patient cost-share, copay assistance and coinsurance. PDSA's ITP Conference also provided a teen education track, where BCDI Advanced Practice Provider Supervisor **Kristin Ansteatt** and BCDI Nurse Coordinator **Kelsey Kuhel** joined Dr. Tarantino in leading the teen sessions. Each year, the BCDI team creates a project that allows teens to share about their ITP diagnosis and discuss their journey with others. This year, a mascot and tagline were created for the teens group based off drawings about their experiences with ITP.



NBDF BDC SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2024

The expert staff from the Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Institute helped play a key role in education and advocacy at the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation's 2024 Bleeding Disorders Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, from September 12 – 14. BCDI Associate Medical/Research Director **Dr. Jonathan Roberts** took part in the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council's (MASAC) meeting. MASAC is composed of physicians, scientists, and other medical professionals with a wide range of expertise on bleeding disorders, blood safety and infectious disease, representatives from government agencies, and people with bleeding disorders. MASAC establishes standard treatment guidelines often referred to by international experts, medical schools, emergency room personnel and many others. As a part of the physical therapy education track, BCDI registered dietitian **Beth Helmold** provided crucial information to medical professionals in a session entitled **"Meeting the Varying Nutritional Needs of Persons with Bleeding Disorders."** In this interactive session, Beth encouraged the prioritization of good nutrition as a key component of maintaining good overall health for individuals with a bleeding disorder. Beth provided vital information on how to fuel our bodies with proper nutrients, how to evaluate unique and personal needs, and how to set daily goals and how they can be achieved.



MESH OCTOBER 10, 2024

BCDI Associate Medical/Research Director **Dr. Jonathan Roberts** was a presenting guest at the Montgomery Educational Symposium on Hemostasis (MESH) in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin on October 10, 2024. MESH was a one-day symposium that highlighted the most recent advances in von Willebrand factor research and von Willebrand disease. Dr. Roberts was a member of a panel discussion entitled **"Convergence of Basic Science, Research and Service."**



BDAI COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS NOVEMBER 9, 2024

BCDI was honored to provide important education and resources at the Bleeding Disorders Alliance IL Community Connections event in Chicago on Saturday, November 9. During educational sessions, BCDI Associate Medical/Research Director **Dr. Jonathan Roberts** presented a talk entitled **"Understanding the Current Needs & Research in Hemophilia."** Our BCDI team also hosted an educational booth showcasing the services BCDI provides to the bleeding and clotting disorders community across the entire state of Illinois.

BCDI BY THE NUMBERS IN 2024

2025 is our

15TH YEAR

Serving Patients



4 PHYSICIANS, **6** APPS



We Provide Services to over **8,000** Patients

509 different patients treated at **112** comprehensive clinics



across **Illinois**

Patients from

23 DIFFERENT STATES



are treated at BCDI



BCDI providers were featured in

19 Publications

on Google Scholar in 2024

17

active research studies



BCDI was awarded **16**

different **RESEARCH GRANTS**

in 2024



BCDI's 13th Annual
TRIVIA NIGHT
brought in over



\$138,000

More than **\$110,000**
awarded to **BCDI patients** for
continuing education through the



**GREEN FAMILY
SCHOLARSHIP**



since 2011

23 members

of the BCDI

BLOOD DROP SOCIETY

raised over **\$70,000**

in 2024



1,296

pharmacy deliveries in 2024



77,000 miles

put on our courier
vehicles in 2024



4

advocacy days in
Washington D.C.

914 NEW PATIENTS

scheduled from direct
referrals



9

new staff
members joined
BCDI in 2024

2024 BCDI TRIVIA NIGHT RECAP

24 KARAT GOLD

The bleeding and clotting disorders community gathered for an enthralling evening on April 19th for BCDI Trivia Night 2024 at the Peoria Civic Center Ballroom. Nearly **300 attendees** joined the BCDI staff for a night of fun games, trivia contests and fundraising at the 13th annual BCDI Trivia Night event- themed 24 Karat Gold! Together, we raised over **\$138,000!** This money allows BCDI to improve and expand patient programs. Attendees had the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets to six premiere raffle baskets, compete in fun games with a chance to win their very own golf putting game or a Pop-A-Shot game, plus participate in our famous Beer and Wine Pull and Gift Card Pull- this year themed The BCDI Boutique! At 7p.m., all guests were invited to enter the main event space and dinner was served. Shortly after, BCDI's Trivia Night program began with Dr. Michael Tarantino addressing the crowd.



The BCDI Hero Award is the highest distinction bestowed upon individuals in the bleeding and clotting disorders community who go above and beyond in making a positive impact. During Trivia Night 2024, BCDI announced that this prestigious distinction has been renamed the Jim Tarantino BCDI Hero Award to honor the legacy of Jim Tarantino, a long-time supporter and friend of BCDI. BCDI presented the 2024 Jim Tarantino BCDI Hero Award to Caroline Kruse, the President and CEO of the Platelet Disorder Support Association. Caroline is a global leader and trailblazer in empowering individuals with ITP. Advocacy and education towards individuals with bleeding and clotting disorders is key to BCDI's mission, and impactful stories were told at Trivia Night 2024. The Nolte family was gracious enough to share their story; 14-year-old Mariah Nolte has Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP) and has been a patient at BCDI since 2020. Dr. Jonathan Roberts also spoke to Trivia Night guests about the importance and impact of the Green Family Scholarship, which provides funding to bleeding and clotting disorders patients across Illinois to receive support in continuing education. On behalf of everyone at BCDI, we sincerely thank all the attendees, volunteers and sponsors of Trivia Night 2024 - you helped make this one of the best Trivia Night's yet!

BIG NEWS!!

Registration is OPEN for BCDI Trivia Night 2025, and you're invited! Join our BCDI community on Friday, April 11th at the Peoria Civic Center Ballroom for an evening filled with our signature trivia contest, fun games and prizes, raffles and live auctions, and much more!

BCDI Trivia Night is themed "The Great Outdoors" and we would love for you to join us showcasing your favorite activities to do outside! Whether it's camping, fishing, playing sports, leisure activities or anything between, Trivia Night 2025 will place an emphasis on spending quality time outdoors.

At the forefront of BCDI Trivia Night is fundraising for a terrific cause, as all proceeds raised will benefit the BCDI Foundation. **All contributions help BCDI support our patients through initiatives such as The Green Family Scholarship, research, continuing education for our patients and staff, emergency financial assistance and other initiatives to improve the lives of our patients and their families.** Your support and presence will make a huge difference and help us meet our fundraising goal of raising over \$150,000 at Trivia Night!

We invite all trivia experts, novices and fun-seekers to join us this year for one of our best trivia competitions yet! This is a team-based competition, with tables of 10 individuals playing on the same team to see which table can score the most correct answers throughout the night! You can sign up individually, as part of a small group and we will place you with others, or you can register for a full table of ten participants to create your own dream-team trivia squad! Plus, all guests are welcome to enjoy our pre-event happy hour with raffles, play games to win unique prizes, compete in our costume contest, will be served a plated dinner meal, access to BCDI staff members and a full program that highlights what makes BCDI special!



AGENDA

- 5:00pm – 6:00pm:** VIP Pre-Party
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm:** Registration is open for all attendees. Cocktail Hour in the pre-function area of Civic Center Ballroom, including raffles, silent auctions, games and prizes!
- 7:00pm – 7:45pm:** Dinner is served
- 7:45pm – 8:30pm:** Trivia Night 2025 program
- 8:30pm – 10:00pm:** Trivia competition!

We also have sponsorship opportunities available for partner companies and organizations! If you are interested in learning more about "The Great Outdoors" Trivia Night event, please contact **Jamie Cunningham** at **309-692-5337 (ext. 188)** or by email at **jamie@ilbcdi.org**. You can also visit our Trivia Night website by scanning the QR code or visiting: **ilbcdi.org/get-involved/events/**

Are you a BCDI patient?

Please contact Jamie Cunningham to find out how you can attend Trivia Night for **FREE!**

2024 FAMILY DAY RECAP

The day kicked off with a warm welcome from Dr. Tarantino, followed by a delicious lunch from Brian Barron BBQ and Hy-Vee Grill, making sure everyone was well-fed and ready for the day's events.

Our expert BCDI staff led specialized educational sessions, offering valuable insights for both parents and teens. These sessions were facilitated by Dr. Tarantino, Dr. Roberts, Becky Burns, and Beth Helmold. While the adults and teens were immersed in learning, the younger attendees enjoyed carnival games and activities designed for all ages. Fun on the Run provided an array of carnival attractions, while Barnyard Discoveries brought an educational petting zoo featuring adorable farm animals.

Guests also indulged their sweet tooth with treats from Kona Ice of Peoria and Kamaela's Kreamery. The carnival spirit was alive with face painting, a balloon artist, and exciting games organized by our dedicated BCDI team. One of the event's highlights was the dunk tank starring Dr. Tarantino and Dr. Roberts. Patients and staff eagerly participated, resulting in plenty of laughter and splashes!



2024 GOLF OUTING RECAP



BCDI was pleased to host over 100 attendees for the inaugural BCDI Golf Outing at Mt. Hawley Country Club on August 29, 2024. The only things hotter than the 90-degree weather were the scores on the golf course and the fundraising efforts by our incredible community!

Thanks to the efforts of our incredible community, our sponsors, volunteers and the golfers at the 2024 BCDI Golf Outing, over \$15,000 was raised for the BCDI Foundation. All proceeds will help improve BCDI patient program services, including the Green Family Scholarship Fund, which has provided over \$110,000 to BCDI patients since 2011 to further their education.

Congratulations to the team of Ted Ralph, Tate Ralph, Jeff Smith and Kevin Whalen who won the inaugural BCDI Golf Outing with a score of – 15 and a round of 56! While the golf competition was exceptional, all attendees had the opportunity to play on course games and network with the BCDI staff.

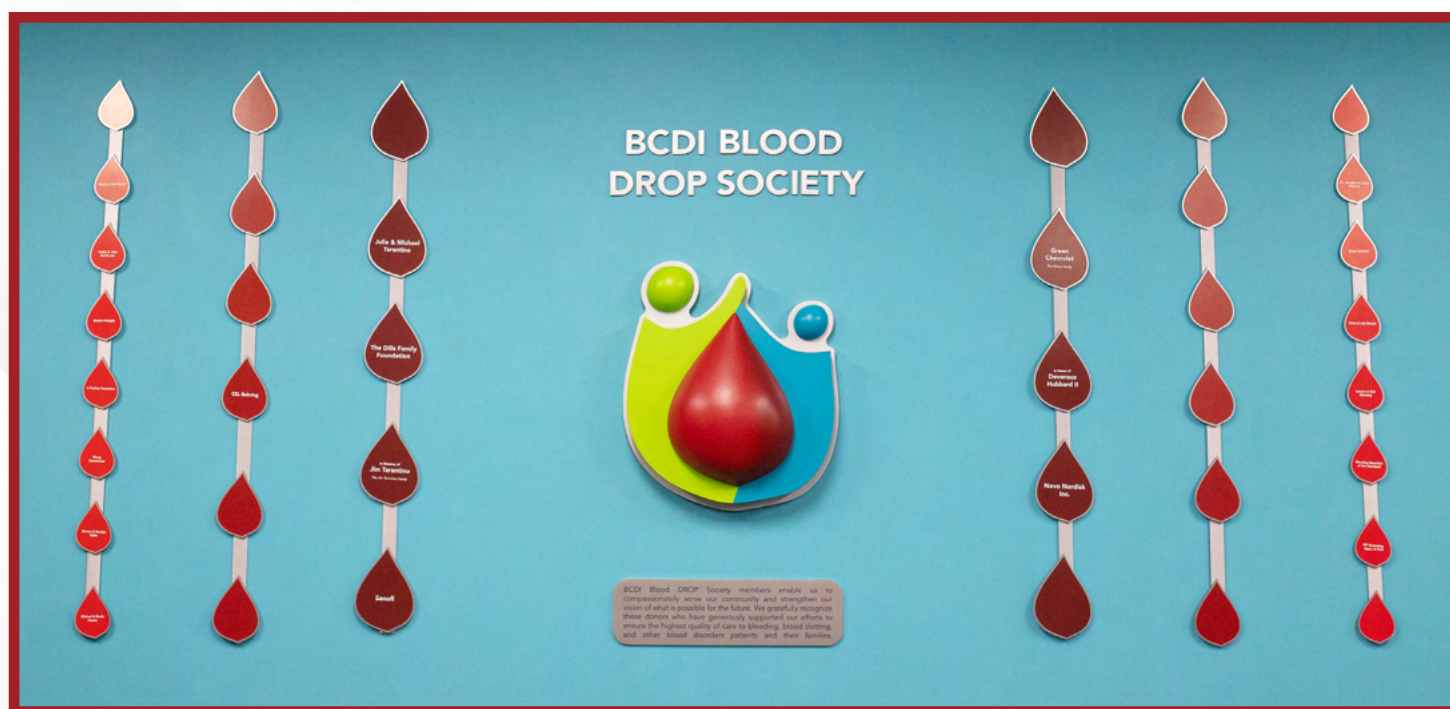


Games and activities on the course included a Golf Ball cannon, a floppy cup competition, a longest-drive marshmallow game, a bags/cornhole contest, a photo-op with a larger-than-life cardboard cutout of Dr. Tarantino, and a BCDI giveaway prize wheel! Plus, winners were awarded for the Longest Putt, Longest Drive, and Closest to the Pin throughout the round!

BLOOD DROP SOCIETY DONOR WALL UNVEILING

The newest addition to the state-of-the-art BCDI facility was unveiled in our patient lobby on November 8, 2024 - the BCDI Blood DROP Society donor appreciation wall! During an exclusive donor appreciation event, BCDI's leadership hosted members of the BCDI Blood DROP Society to unveil the new artwork and to thank our community for their contributions.

Founded in November 2023, the BCDI Blood DROP Society has 23 members who have helped raise over \$70,000 for the BCDI Foundation. This member-only event allowed us to show our appreciation for the incredible contributions that the Blood DROP Society members have made to help BCDI fulfill our mission of serving individuals with bleeding, blood clotting and other blood disorders.



THE BCDI BLOOD DROP SOCIETY

At BCDI, our number one priority is to provide optimal outcomes for our patients and their families. BCDI relies on the philanthropy of our community to help us fulfill our goal of providing the highest level of care, treatment and education. Since it was founded in November 2023, the BCDI Blood DROP Society has helped drive a positive impact throughout our community.

Members of this honored group have provided over \$70,000 of financial support to benefit vital services that affect the bleeding and clotting disorders community throughout downstate Illinois. All contributions to the BCDI Blood DROP Society support the BCDI Foundation. DROP is an acronym that has a major impact on the mission of this new fundraising group:

Donors Recognizing Our Purpose.

To join the BCDI Blood DROP Society, individuals, groups or organizations must raise or donate a minimum of \$1,000 within a calendar year. There are three different levels of support to join the BCDI Blood DROP Society, with various financial categories ranging from a one-time giving of \$1,000, ranging up to lifetime memberships. To view the various levels of the BCDI Blood DROP Society, please scan the QR code or visit ilbcdi.org/get-involved/blood-drop-society.

As a BCDI Blood DROP Society member, you will receive name recognition for one calendar year on our new BCDI Donor Wall. This beautiful piece of art has been unveiled in our BCDI patient lobby and is sure to be an eye-catching and spectacular addition to our facility.



BCDI Blood DROP Society members will also receive name recognition in every addition of the BCDI Beacon quarterly newsletter, will have exclusive opportunities throughout the year to network with BCDI providers and staff, will receive exclusive BCDI Foundation merchandise and much more!

These generous gifts directly benefit the mission of BCDI and help improve and expand patient services to support our community physically, emotionally and psychosocially. If you are interested in learning more about the BCDI Blood DROP Society, please contact **Jamie Cunningham** at **309-692-5337 (extension 188)** or by email at **jamie@ilbcdi.org**.

IN APPRECIATION

Lifetime Impact Members:

- In Honor of Deveraux Hubbard II
- The Dills Family Foundation
- Green Chevrolet & The Green Family
- In Memory of Jim Tarantino - The Jim Tarantino Family
- Julie & Dr. Michael Tarantino
- Novo Nordisk Inc.
- Sanofi

Annual Members:

- A Perfect Promotion
- Becky & John Burns
- Bleeding Disorders of the Heartland
- Brian & Lois Marsel
- Denise & Lance Piper
- Dr. Jonathan & Laura Roberts
- Erynn Dykstra
- Illinois CancerCare
- John & Nancy Maches
- Kollet & John Barkhouse
- Kristen & Bob Manning
- Michael & Sheila Hawes
- PIP Marketing, Signs, & Print

Champion Member:

- CSL Behring

WELCOME WENDY FERRILL



Wendy Ferrill joined the Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Institute team in September 2024 as **Chief Financial Officer**. With a strong record of accomplishment in financial leadership, strategic planning and public policy, Wendy brings more than 20 years of experience to BCDI. As BCDI's CFO, Wendy is responsible for managing all financial operations and developing long-term strategic goals for the Institute.

"I'm excited to be joining BCDI as Chief Financial Officer at such a dynamic time," Ferrill said. "BCDI is a highly respected member of the healthcare landscape, and I look forward to working alongside the esteemed leadership team to drive financial growth and build on BCDI's strong foundation for long term success."

Wendy holds a bachelor's and master's degree in accounting from Bradley University and has cultivated an extensive career across both public and private sectors. In her roles prior to BCDI, Wendy was a leading expert in labor and insurance contract negotiations and specialized in federal and state level grants. Wendy has a passion for building relationships and is motivated to continue building connections internally and externally with BCDI.

“

We are thrilled to welcome Wendy to BCDI as our new Chief Financial Officer," said BCDI CEO/CMO Dr. Michael Tarantino. "Wendy brings a wealth of experience, strategic vision and financial expertise that will be instrumental in driving our growth and success. We look forward to her leadership as BCDI continues to live our mission of providing the highest quality of care to individuals with bleeding, blood clotting and other blood disorders.

”

Outside of her professional expertise, Wendy is an active advocacy and volunteer leader throughout central Illinois. Wendy previously served as the president of the Rotary Club of Morton, sat on the Board of Directors for the YWCA in Pekin and served as secretary for the We Care Board of Directors, putting her business and financial knowledge of community needs to work. In 2016, Wendy received recognition from Peoria Magazine when she was honored with a 40 Leaders Under Forty award.

"I like to have something to work on for the greater good," Ferrill said. "When I saw that everyone was living the mission at BCDI, that is what drew me here. I have been impressed by how the patients always come first before business decisions. That is kind of unheard of."

BEACON SPOTLIGHT

LARRY BLAND

Every quarter, BCDI aims to highlight members of the bleeding and clotting disorders community, including patients, families, BCDI staff members and community partners. Larry Bland is one of BCDI's pharmacy courier drivers and plays a crucial role in helping deliver medications to patients' homes- with deliveries made the same-day orders are requested, if necessary. In a recent interview with the BCDI team, Larry talked about his time at BCDI and provided a glimpse at this imperative service that BCDI provides as a part of our comprehensive care model.

Q: When did you join the BCDI team and can you provide a brief explanation of what services you provide as a BCDI courier?

A: I remember I was hired at BCDI on December 3, 2018, so a little over six years ago. Basically, the pharmacy team will give us deliveries that need to be made to our patients, and I drive and then hand those deliveries over straight at their front door. I've really enjoyed it. It's a fun, fun career, just a lot of driving. I've really prided myself on getting the deliveries done, because these people really need the medication very badly, so I'm always aware of that.

Q: BCDI covers a large area with our 10 outreach clinic locations throughout Illinois and provides services outside of the state. Can you tell us about some of the most memorable deliveries you've made over the years?

A: The most deliveries I've ever made in one day was eight. I remember one trip, a few years ago, where I had a couple of deliveries in the Galesburg area, then I came back to BCDI to pick up more deliveries. And those deliveries were in Champaign and Monticello. The furthest I've been for a delivery is Springfield, Missouri, which is about six hours away. That ended up being a 14-hour workday, but that was rewarding. BCDI does whatever we can to get the medication to our patients.

Q: What have your experiences been like with the people you are delivering medications to?

A: There are some people I got to know quite well. For the most part, I would make the deliveries and be on my way, but everyone was always so appreciative of us providing their medicine. I enjoy visiting with them, you know I couldn't sit and visit with them all day, but a few minutes to try to make their day better. And they made my day.



Q: As a courier, who do you work alongside the BCDI team?

A: I primarily work with the pharmacy team. That is a really good team back there with really talented people. I always have a good time and lots of laughs with them. We joke around, kid around a little bit. Nothing serious, but we have fun. I do talk with the other couriers on the team, but not that much because we sometimes have different shifts. Usually I come in, get my deliveries and take off. But we have a great group of couriers who always try their best.

Q: How often do the BCDI couriers make deliveries and how much time do you spend on the road throughout the year making deliveries?

A: We have a team of couriers who are always available for deliveries. Some of us will drive the BCDI courier van, while others drive their own cars. In a span of three years (2021 – 2023) I drove over 50,000 miles at work each year. So, it is a lot of time on the road, but it is a great job. If somebody is looking for a part-time job and they like driving, it's very rewarding. I really appreciate BCDI has treated me and for small things, like recognizing me at my anniversary and all sorts of stuff like that.

BCDI would like to take the opportunity to thank our incredible team of BCDI couriers for the tremendous service they provide to our patients and for their hard work throughout the year - in the rain, snow or sunshine! Please join us in showing appreciation to the BCDI courier team: Logan Tucker, Dave Branyan, Ken Beckler and Larry Bland!



RESEARCH AT BCDI

The Dills Family Foundation Center for Research at BCDI houses an internationally recognized research program focused on improving the lives of those living with hemophilia, von Willebrand disease, immune thrombocytopenic purpura and other related bleeding and blood clotting disorders through access to cutting-edge research. Through investigator initiated, translational, and industry sponsored single and multi-site studies, the expert team at BCDI and the Dills Family Foundation Center for Research has published over 100 original research articles in journals such as the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *The Lancet*, *Blood* and the *Journal of Thrombosis and Hemostasis* among others in the past decade.



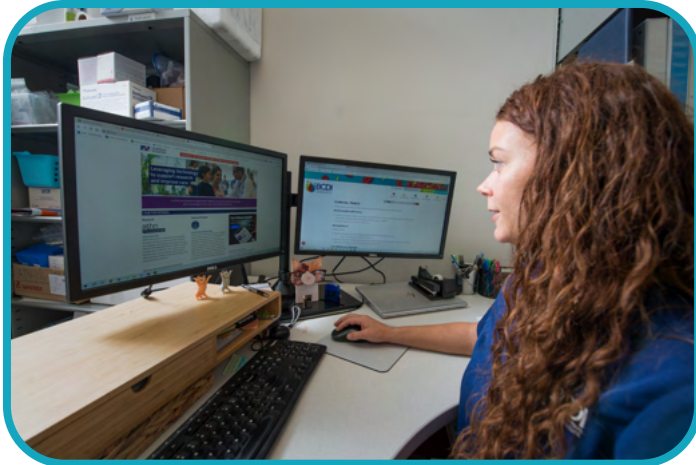
2024 Research Spotlight

- **19** articles in peer reviewed journals
- **16** research grants resulting in **7** original articles published in top research journals and abstracts submitted to national or international conferences
- **69** patients, including **31** children received free genetic testing



Denise and Patrick Dills at the unveiling of The Dills Family Foundation Center for Research at BCDI in 2021

Organized into three core centers, the Dills Family Foundation Center for Research puts patient reported outcomes at the apex of our research program. We currently have **18 open studies** within these core centers of Hemophilia, Von Willebrand Disease/Rare Bleeding & Clotting Disorders, and Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura. By organizing our studies into research cores, we ensure that all projects are consistent with the mission of BCDI and focused on what matters most to our patients. Current studies focus on expanding access to free genetic testing, providing free inhibitor testing, and determining efficacy of new drugs with promise to improve quality of life for those we serve and reduce treatment burden. These studies are composed of patients throughout the BCDI service area as well as multi-center studies encompassing patients throughout the country.



The BCDI research team is composed of our physician scientists who lead the various studies as well as a dedicated staff of three research associates supporting their work and the patients enrolled in studies. This past year saw the addition of Principal Research Associate **Sarah Kreitzer, PhD, MBA** and Senior Research coordinator **Amanda Mullery**. Sarah and Amanda join Research Associate **Nikki Barclay** in assuring that all research projects running through the Dills Family Foundation Center for Research live up to the high standards BCDI is known for.

Under the supervision of **Dr. Jonathan Roberts**, this enthusiastic team works with BCDI clinicians to identify new studies, ensure study participants are supported throughout the study process, and compile data that will drive positive outcomes for those we serve.

Do you want to know more about the Dills Family Foundation for Research at BCDI or how you can get involved? Follow the QR code or visit:

ilbcdi.org/our-services/research



2025 EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH

1

Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month

During March, BCDI invites you to join the conversation in raising awareness about bleeding disorders and advocate on behalf of bleeding disorders patients! BCDI will be shining the spotlight regarding bleeding disorders, providing education, and helping spread awareness about these conditions that is held dear to BCDI's mission.

MARCH

5-7

NBDF Washington Days

BCDI advocacy leaders will join members of the National Bleeding Disorders Foundation on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. to raise awareness about issues within the bleeding and clotting disorders community. We'd love for you to join us to share your stories about access to care issues! If interested, please contact **Matt McClain** at mattmm@ilbcdi.org.

APRIL

11

14th Annual BCDI Trivia Night

Join us for a night of competitive trivia, fabulous raffles, auctions and prizes, and fundraising for the BCDI Foundation! This year's theme for Trivia Night is **"The Great Outdoors"** and we invite all attendees to dress up in their favorite outfits that remind them of spending time outside.

APRIL

17

World Hemophilia Day

BCDI will help raise awareness for World Hemophilia Day - a rare condition in which blood cannot clot properly because it lacks adequate blood-clotting proteins. Together, our community aims to work towards a world where everyone - with hemophilia A or B, von Willebrand disease or any other bleeding disorders - has access to diagnosis, treatment and comprehensive care.

MAY

9

Food Truck Vendor Fair

BCDI will be hosting food trucks from across central Illinois for a fun-filled evening of culinary delights on Friday, May 9 in the BCDI parking lot. Save the date! More information regarding specific vendors, a timeline of events and how you can attend will be available soon.

AUGUST

11

2nd Annual BCDI Golf Outing

Calling all golfers! The 2025 BCDI Golf Outing will be held August 11 at Arrowhead Country Club in Edelstein, IL, just 13 miles north of our BCDI campus in Peoria! Registration and sponsorship opportunities will be available soon, so stay tuned for more details!

SEPTEMBER

20

BCDI Family Day

All BCDI patients and their close family members are invited to join the BCDI staff for a day of educational sessions geared towards individuals living with bleeding and clotting disorders. There will be fun activities for attendees of all ages, food and beverages will be provided and members of our comprehensive care team will provide insight on the latest developments regarding patient care at BCDI.

OCTOBER

5-7

Hemophilia Alliance Hill Day

Community members are invited to join the BCDI staff and the Hemophilia Alliance on a trip to Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. to help raise awareness about access to care issues regarding bleeding and clotting disorders. If you are a BCDI patient and are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact **Matt McClain** at mattmm@ilbcdi.org.

NOVEMBER

TBA

BCDI Blood DROP Society Member Event

Members of the BCDI Blood DROP Society are invited to a personal tour of the BCDI facility and a happy hour with drinks and appetizers! To join the BCDI Blood DROP Society, individuals must donate or raise \$1,000 for the BCDI Foundation. This annual member-appreciation event allows BCDI to show appreciation to the donors who help make a huge impact of better the lives of individuals living with bleeding and clotting disorders throughout Illinois.

Get Involved!

To learn more information about all upcoming BCDI events, scan the QR code or visit:

ilbcdi.org/get-involved/events/



BCDI ACROSS THE STATE

BCDI has over 8,000 patients across the state of Illinois through our ten different comprehensive care locations. During a comprehensive care visit, a patient sees a variety of expert caregivers. From hematologists to social workers, a nutritionist and everything in between – patients learn to live life to the fullest, regardless of their diagnosis. This united approach leads to a timely diagnosis, comprehensive treatment plans and optimal long-term care of patients with bleeding and clotting disorders.

- **Arthur** HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Building
525 N. Vine St. Arthur, IL 61911
- **Carbondale** SIU Center for Family Medicine
300 W Oak St. Carbondale, IL 62901
- **Champaign** OSF Medical Group – Primary Care
1405 W Park St., Suite 306 Urbana, IL 61820
- **Decatur** Crossing Healthcare 320 E. Central Ave.
Decatur, IL 62521
- **Macomb** Medical Arts Building Visiting Physician Office
527 E. Grant St. Macomb, IL 61455
- **Moline** Pediatric Specialty Clinic 515 Valley View
Drive Moline, IL 61265
- **Ottawa** Fox River Cancer Center
1200 Starfire Dr. Ottawa, IL 61350
- **Peoria** Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Institute
427 W Northmoor Dr. Peoria, IL 61614
*Women's Service Clinics, Thrombophilia Clinics,
and Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP)
Clinics are located at the Peoria location.*
- **Rockford** OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center
5666 E. State St.
Rockford, IL 61108
- **Springfield** Office of Dr. Gregory Brandt
400 N 9th St – 3rd Floor
Springfield, IL 62701





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GET IN TOUCH



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Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday



Email: info@ilbcdi.org



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www.ilbcdi.org/about-us/newsletter

