

THE BCDI BEACON

THE BLOOD EXPERTS NEWSLETTER

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FLORA, FAUNA & PHILANTHROPY

A FUN FILLED NIGHT AT BCDI TRIVIA "THE GREAT OUTDOORS"

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Beacon Outreach: BCDI Advocacy Update, **Page 3**
- Beacon Buzz: BCDI Food Truck Frenzy Recap, **Page 4**
- Beacon Support: Preparing for Emergencies, **Page 5**
- Beacon Bottom Line: BCDI Trivia Night Recap, **Pages 6 & 7**
- Beacon Spotlight: The Trupiano & Stevenson Family, **Page 8**
- Beacon Buzz: BCDI Blood DROP Society, **Page 9**
- Beacon Bulletin: BCDI Golf Outing & BCDI Family Day, **Page 10**
- Beacon Briefs: Weaver's Fundraiser, **Page 11**

A MESSAGE FROM **DR. TARANTINO**

BCDI Chief Executive Officer
BCDI Chief Medical Officer



As we reflect on the beginning of 2025 at BCDI, I am excited to share the strides we've made in advancing our mission to provide comprehensive care and support individuals with bleeding, blood clotting and other blood disorders. Through April 2025, the BCDI care team has hosted 39 comprehensive care clinics throughout Illinois this year, showcasing our unwavering commitment to excellence and ensuring that our patients receive the highest quality of care tailored to their unique needs.

BCDI's outreach and advocacy has made significant progress this year, hosting several community events aimed at raising awareness, education and crucial funding. These events foster greater understanding about the conditions we treat at BCDI but also help strengthen our bonds within the community we serve. In this newsletter, you will read about advocacy trips and our 14th annual BCDI Trivia Night that play a huge role in our commitment to our patients. Thanks to the generosity of our incredible community, BCDI Trivia Night 2025 fundraising efforts raised a record-high with over \$150,000 to further the mission of BCDI- making a positive impact on the lives of thousands of BCDI patients across the Midwest. BCDI has also made significant progress in our research initiatives, collaborating with leading institutions to explore innovative treatments and therapies. The BCDI research department has 19 active studies ongoing, bringing us closer to breakthroughs that may transform long-term patient care.

Looking ahead, BCDI remains steadfast in our dedication to our patients and their families. We are excited about the upcoming programs and initiatives that are detailed in this newsletter for the next several months. This includes details about the 2nd annual BCDI Golf Outing fundraiser, BCDI Family Day 2025 and information about the BCDI Blood DROP Society. Thank you for your continued support and trust in BCDI, as we strive to fulfill our motto of being The Blood Experts!



FOUNDATION
Supporting the Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Community



BEACON OUTREACH

BCDI ADVOCACY UPDATE

BCDI is committed to leading the charge for the bleeding and clotting disorders community and ensuring that all patients receive high quality treatment and have access to vital medications. In March 2025, the BCDI advocacy team made two trips to help raise awareness about crucial topics that affect our community.

On Thursday, March 6, 2025, BCDI Chief Operating Officer **Becky Burns**, Director of Foundation & Education **Jamie Cunningham**, and Director of Outreach & Communications **Matt McClain** went to Washington D.C. to speak with members of Congress on Capitol Hill.

The BCDI team joined with constituents of the Illinois bleeding disorders community to educate members of the House of Representatives and the Senate about various access to care issues and to raise awareness about the importance of Hemophilia Treatment Centers, like BCDI. We'd like to thank the offices of **Representative Darin LaHood**, **Representative Mary Miller**, **Senator Dick Durbin**, **Representative Eric Sorensen**, **Representative Robin Kelly** and **Representative Jan Schakowsky** for taking the time to meet with us!



BCDI is not only aware of national issues affecting our community, but is focused on Illinois legislation throughout the state. On March 20, 2025, Burns and McClain led a team of Illinois advocates to the Illinois capitol in Springfield, which included BCDI patient advisory board member Nicole Spangler. In total, BCDI met with five congressional offices to discuss changes within the Illinois medical community and to raise awareness about issues that are directly affecting individuals with bleeding, blood clotting or other blood disorders. We'd like to thank **Senator Dave Koehler**, **Representative Ryan Spain**, **Senator Li Arellano, Jr**, **Representative Bill Hauter** and **the office of Senator Sally Turner** for the opportunity to speak with them!

Are you interested in learning how you can help make a difference? Would you be willing to share your story with members of Congress? We want your help! BCDI is planning advocacy trips for summer and fall 2025.

Please contact **Matt McClain** at mattmm@ilbcdi.org if interested!



BEACON BUZZ

BCDI FOOD TRUCK FRENZY RECAP

On Friday, May 9, 2025, BCDI hosted the inaugural **Food Truck Frenzy** event at the BCDI parking lot at 427 W. Northmoor Road in Peoria with over **700 guests** in attendance! Alongside perfect 70-degrees and sunny weather, BCDI opened our parking lot to six fantastic food trucks and welcomed the community to enjoy delicious fare from all over central Illinois. We thank Cousins Maine Lobster, Mini's On The Go, The Wolves Den Pizzeria, Black Sheep Coffee, All Shook Up Lemonade and Mac Daddy Spuds for helping make this event a delicious success!

A portion of all sales from the BCDI Food Truck Frenzy event is being donated to the BCDI Foundation, to help enhance support and resources available for BCDI to improve the lives of individuals affected by bleeding, clotting or other blood disorders.



Our BCDI nursing, pharmacy and physical therapy departments ran educational tables for attendees to learn more about the services BCDI provides to our patients, raising crucial awareness for the community. Attendees were also able to enter a free raffle to win two reclining patio chairs, a 3-gallon RTIC cooler and some BCDI merchandise. We thank everyone for your gracious support, and the BCDI team is already looking forward to future community events!



THANK YOU

FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT



BEACON SUPPORT

PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES

If you or a loved one have a bleeding, blood clotting or other blood disorder, it's vital to be prepared for unexpected situations that may disrupt your comfort zone or everyday routine. Right here in Illinois, **April through June is considered severe weather season** with the threat of tornadoes or thunderstorms at the forefront. Natural disasters can happen with little-to-no notice, so it is crucial to be ready! With that being said:

Do you have your disaster preparation kit ready for you and your family?

Families with rare medical conditions should be prepared for emergencies and include both basic needs and medical needs in their planning. BCDI's staff is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for 365 days of the year in case you are in need, and the BCDI pharmacy has protocols in place to help with emergencies especially if your supply or access to your medication is effected.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

It is vitally important that you always have enough of the medications and supplies you need on hand. **Factor needs to be kept at specific temperatures**, so be sure to keep your medications cold with coolers and ice packs should your power go out or you need to travel during a crisis. It may be beneficial to **keep multiple ice packs in your freezer** in case of a quick need. Take your entire factor supply and related supplies with you!

Wear your medical alert jewelry. All BCDI patients have the opportunity to receive a piece of jewelry with their medical diagnosis clearly stated so that if you were to get in a medical emergency, first responders and healthcare workers would know how to help treat you. BCDI provides necklaces or bracelets to patients free of charge, so please call us if you are in need.

Create an emergency kit to have on hand at home for when you need to make a split-second decision if you need to leave. This can include, but is not limited to:

- a small first aid kit
- food & water
- phone charger
- portable radio
- flashlight
- extra batteries
- personal toiletries
- copies of important documents
- a complete change of clothes

Keep important phone numbers (insurance, family members, HTC, local doctors) with your kit.

These small steps can make a HUGE difference in an emergency, so be sure to plan ahead! Preparedness may feel like a lot of work, but it can make a world of difference in a stressful situation.

BEACON BOTTOM LINE

BCDI TRIVIA NIGHT RECAP

On April 11, 2025, we welcomed our community to the Peoria Civic Center Ballroom for the 14th annual BCDI Trivia Night! With over 300 attendees, BCDI Trivia Night proved to be one of the most successful fundraisers in BCDI history, with **over \$150,000 raised** to benefit the BCDI Foundation!

The theme for BCDI Trivia Night 2025 was “The Great Outdoors” and our community did not disappoint with our annual costume contest! Attendees were encouraged to wear outfits that represented how they enjoy spending free time outside. First place in our team costume contest went to “7th Inning Guess” who dressed up as baseball players and baseball related items, while the individual costume contest winner was Angie Stevenson with her “Lady Fire” outfit!

For the first time in many years, BCDI Trivia Night hosted a silent auction, which brought new buzz to the event! Alongside our premium raffle baskets, pre-party games such as archery, ax throwing and Pop-A-Shot, and our signature Beer & Wine Pull and BCDI gift card pull, there was a tremendous cocktail hour.

All attendees were treated to a plated dinner before the main program began, where Dr. Tarantino announced the recipients of the 2025 Jim Tarantino BCDI Hero Award: **Representative Bill Hauter** and **Senator Dave Koehler**. Representative Hauter and Senator Koehler have played a huge role in helping move legislation forward in the state of Illinois to improve bleeding disorders patients’ access to care and medication. We thank them for their hard work and support!

During the Trivia Night program, BCDI raised awareness for the Green Family Scholarship Fund, showcased the Trupiano & Stevenson family and their history with treatment at BCDI, and helped raise awareness and crucial funds for BCDI’s mission of providing the highest quality of care to our patients.



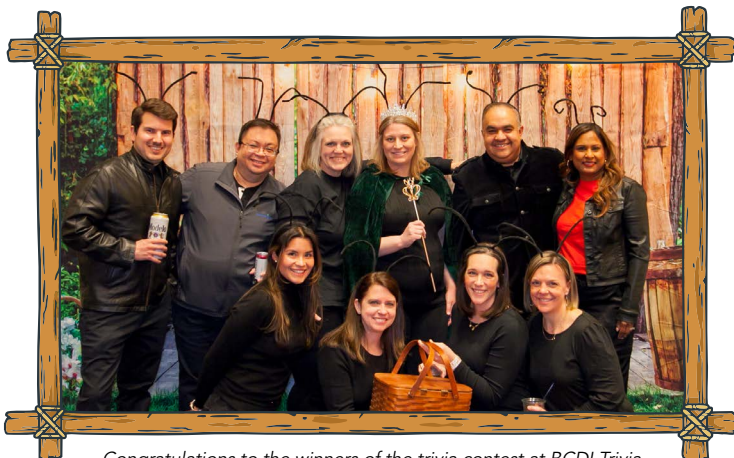
After the program, it was time for the Main Event: the trivia competition! For a third year in a row, the trivia game ended in a tie and a tie breaker question was needed when "The Entecians" and "ANTenatal Consults" tied! Thanks to Dr. Aaron Delgado answering the tie-breaker question exactly right, "The Entecians" ended up taking home the first-place prize!



Congratulations Samantha Johns & Adie Bushue, two of the five recipients of the 2025 BCDI Green Family Scholarship.



Thank you Representative Bill Hauter and Senator Dave Koehler, the 2025 Jim Tarantino BCDI Hero Award honorees.



Congratulations to the winners of the trivia contest at BCDI Trivia Night 2025, "The Entecians!"



We'd like to take a moment to thank our entire community for your overwhelming support at BCDI Trivia Night 2025!

Thanks to our attendees, sponsors and gracious donors, you helped exceed our fundraising goal for Trivia Night 2025! All proceeds from the event go directly back to BCDI services outside of our clinic walls, including scholarship programs, continuing education, support of BCDI research, emergency financial assistance any many other initiatives that impact the lives of those we serve.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

BCDI Trivia Night 2026 is set for April 17, 2026! Location, theme and details are forthcoming, so stay tuned!

BEACON SPOTLIGHT

THE TRUPIANO & STEVENSON FAMILY

The Trupiano and Stevenson family have lived with hemophilia for generations, navigating its challenges with resilience and support. Mike Stevenson's journey began with a childhood filled with painful treatments, many of which carried severe risks. At the age of 36, Mike faced a life-threatening battle with hepatitis D, ultimately requiring a liver transplant. BCDI CEO/CMO Dr. Michael Tarantino played a pivotal role in saving his life by connecting him with a willing transplant center.

"Dr. T saved my life and without him, I wouldn't be here," Mike Stevenson said.

Mike's sister, Katie Trupiano, discovered she was a carrier of hemophilia during her first pregnancy. Katie and her husband, Joe Trupiano, now have two sons- Joey and Will- born with severe hemophilia A. Unlike past generations, Joey and Will have benefited from advancements in hemophilia treatment through centers like BCDI, allowing them to lead normal lives. BCDI has been instrumental in their journey, providing medical care, education, and advocacy. From ensuring school accommodations, providing comprehensive care, to helping them manage their medication as they transition into adulthood, BCDI's approach has provided confidence and independence.



"I feel like BCDI is family to us," Katie Trupiano said. "They're such an integral part of our lives, as a resource, as a support system, just the advocacy for patients in general, I cannot recommend this center enough. They're world class."

The Trupiano and Stevenson family's story is a testament to the progress in hemophilia treatment, made possible through medical advancements and the unwavering support of BCDI. Their journey highlights not only the struggles they've faced but also the strength, hope, and gratitude that define their experience.

"I'm so lucky and I am so privileged to have care from BCDI, that as many people as possible with hemophilia should be receiving this quality of care," Joey Trupiano said. "If there's anyone out there that isn't receiving this quality of care, that's another reason that we should be supporting organizations like the BCDI because the more that they can expand and provide these services to people who are in need of them, the more that you we're going to live in a world where hemophilia is sort of an afterthought, instead of a life affecting thing."

BEACON BUZZ

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 fulfil 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:

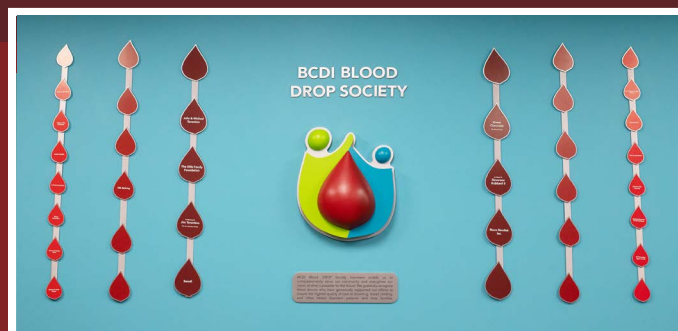
- In Honor of Deveraux Hubbard II
- The Dills Family Foundation
- Green Chevrolet & The Green Family
- In Memory of Jim Tarantino - The Jim Tarantino Family
- Julie & Dr. Michael Tarantino
- Novo Nordisk Inc.
- Sanofi

Annual Members:

- A Perfect Promotion
- Josh & Ashley Bellamy
- Becky & John Burns
- Bleeding Disorders of the Heartland
- Bremer Jewelry
- Brian & Lois Marsel
- Busey Bank
- Denise & Lance Piper
- Dr. Jonathan & Laura Roberts
- Erynn Dykstra
- Hema Biologics
- Illinois CancerCare
- John & Nancy Machens
- Justin & Wendy Ferrill
- Kollet & John Barkhouse
- Kristen & Bob Manning
- Michael & Sheila Hawes
- PIP Marketing, Signs, & Print

Champion Member:

- CSL Behring
- Alex & Holly Edwin



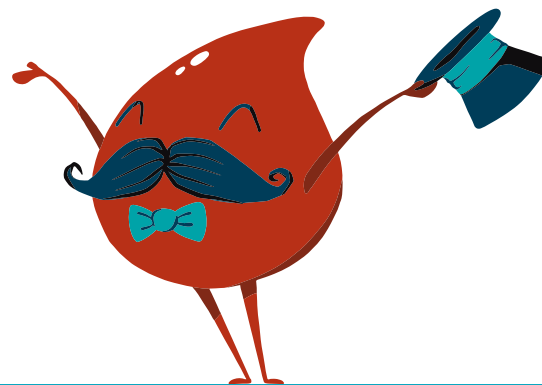
BEACON BULLETIN

BCDI GOLF OUTING FUNDRAISER

The BCDI 2nd Annual Golf Outing will be held **Monday, August 11 at Arrowhead Country Club in Edelstein, Illinois!** We are excited to host this charity event that will help raise crucial awareness and funds that will benefit the BCDI Foundation, including improvements to patient program services and the Green Family Scholarship Fund.

The 2025 BCDI Golf Outing is a best-ball event with teams of four. The pricing for a foursome is \$600, or you can sign up as an individual golfer for \$150 and be placed on a team! Lunch will be provided, as well as fun games and contests on the course, access to some specialty food trucks, raffle baskets, and a post-round happy hour are all included! Specific timeline information and a schedule for the event is forthcoming.

Registration is open now! You can visit ilbcdi.org and visit the events page to learn more or **scan the QR code** to be directed to our 2025 BCDI Golf Outing website!



BCDI FAMILY DAY

Education and advocacy are at the heart of BCDI's mission of providing integrated, family-oriented care to individuals and families with bleeding, blood clotting and other blood disorders. Because of that commitment, BCDI hosts a Family Day event every year to provide free education to our community!

BCDI Family Day 2025 will take place **Saturday, September 20 at the Bleeding and Clotting Disorders Institute campus at 427 W Northmoor Rd, Peoria, IL 61614**. More details regarding the schedule and agenda of the event are forthcoming, so stay tuned for more information!

Patients of BCDI and their family members can attend Family Day **free of charge** and are encouraged to sign up! Family Day guests will be treated to specialized education from the expert BCDI staff, including hematologists and members of the comprehensive care team. To those who cannot attend in person, education will be streamed online. Games and activities will be provided for guests of all ages, lunch will also be served, and childcare will be provided by the BCDI staff.

BEACON BRIEFS

WEAVER'S FUNDRAISER



If you live in central Illinois and are looking for some delicious food and a fun night out, we encourage you to check out **Weaver's Fresh Food & Drink** in Peoria on **Wednesday, May 28!** Weaver's will be generously donating 10% of their sales from **11am – 9pm** on May 28 to the BCDI Foundation! Whether it's lunch, happy hour or dinner, all sales count towards this fundraiser and dine-in or carry-out meals all apply! No flier is necessary, and you don't even need to mention BCDI- all sales will be contributed to the fundraiser.

Weaver's Fresh Food & Drink is famous for their made from scratch pizza, sandwiches, and chicken fingers, plus offers a full bar, lemon shake ups and a game room for kids! They also offer a convenient side door carryout counter, outdoor seating and nine TVs for sports enthusiasts.

For more information about Weaver's Fresh Food & Drink, including online ordering, menu and contact information, please visit their website: weaversfreshfoodanddrink.com or **scan the QR code**. Thank you to Weaver's for helping us raise crucial funds and raise awareness for the BCDI Foundation, and we hope to see you at Weaver's on May 28!



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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www.ilbcdi.org/about-us/newsletter

