

THE BCDI BEACON

THE BLOOD EXPERTS NEWSLETTER

WWW.ILBDCI.ORG

MAY 2026



GIVING IN GLAM

A STAR STUDDED TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER

PLUS BCDI'S NEW DOCTOR, OUTREACH CLINIC, AND MORE!



A MESSAGE FROM **DR. TARANTINO**

BCDI Chief Executive Officer
BCDI Chief Medical Officer

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As summer approaches I'm filled with gratitude for the progress that BCDI and our community continues to cultivate together. This newsletter captures more than just events and accomplishments, but it tells the story of a mission-driven organization that would be nothing without our dedicated staff and our incredible patient community.

This spring was marked by outreach, community and celebration. From the overwhelming success of our **15th annual Trivia Night**, and the return of **Food Truck Frenzy**, to educational programs and advocacy across the state and in Washington D.C., the BCDI team once again demonstrated the power of coming together with a shared purpose. These events not only raise critical awareness and support for our mission of providing the highest quality of care for individuals with bleeding, blood clotting and other blood disorders, but also strengthen the connections that make our community so special.

BCDI also has some major milestones to highlight in this edition of The BCDI Beacon Newsletter. This May, BCDI opened a **brand-new Comprehensive Care Outreach Clinic** in Downers Grove, Illinois. Expanding access to the northern Illinois area represents a significant step forward to our commitment to ensure that every patient in the state of Illinois has access to expert care close to home. On top of that, BCDI is excited to announce the addition of **Dr. Joanne McManaman** to our clinical care team. Dr. McManaman's decades of service and leadership will further enhance the exceptional care we provide to hospitalized patients throughout central Illinois.

To our patients, supporters and partners, we thank you for continuing to believe in BCDI's mission. Your passion allows us to continue expanding our services and to help our community live longer, fuller, and healthier lives. I'm looking forward to what lies in store for BCDI the rest of 2026 and for the future!



FOUNDATION
Supporting the Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Community



BEACON BUZZ

BCDI FOOD TRUCK FRENZY RECAP



On Friday, May 8, 2026, BCDI brought back the highly anticipated Food Truck Frenzy event to our parking lot at 427 W. Northmoor Road in Peoria! With over 600 guests in attendance despite spring storms, BCDI invited the community to sample eight different central Illinois food trucks! This is the third Food Truck Frenzy that BCDI has hosted since May 2025, and in total more than **2,200 guests** have visited BCDI over the three events!

We would like to thank all the vendors who participated and made this event a resounding success: **Cousins Maine Lobster, All Shook Up Lemonade, That Bald Guy BBQ, The Lumpia House + Truck, Triple Dipple's Cheesecake, Frank's Italian Beef, Twisted Pasta, and Boosted Peoria!**

This was a terrific opportunity to host the central Illinois community at the BCDI parking lot to raise awareness about BCDI's services. The BCDI team hosted a welcome table that included a free raffle, including BCDI Foundation merchandise. Plus, the gracious vendors at Food Truck Frenzy helped raise crucial funds to be donated to the BCDI Foundation, helping enhance support and resources available for BCDI to improve the lives of individuals affected by bleeding, clotting or other blood disorders throughout Illinois.

The next BCDI Food Truck Frenzy event will be hosted this fall at BCDI in Peoria! We will be bringing back some of your favorite food trucks from the previous events plus adding some new and exciting vendors, so be sure to mark your calendars!

Do you know a food truck or vendor that would be interested in being involved in our next event? Contact BCDI Events Manager, **Rosie Wixom**, via telephone at **309-692-5337** or send an email to **rosie@ilbcdi.org!**



BCDI IN THE COMMUNITY

MARCH 2, 2026

BCDI Advanced Practice Provider **Angie Brown** led an educational presentation alongside the **Deveraux Hubbard II Foundation** during their **Blood Clot Survivor Dinner** in Peoria. This event discussed the crucial signs and symptoms of a blood clot and helped inform the public how BCDI plays an active role in treating and managing individuals with thrombophilia. Over 40 attendees gathered to raise awareness about blood clots and share powerful blood clot survivor stories.



MARCH 5, 2026

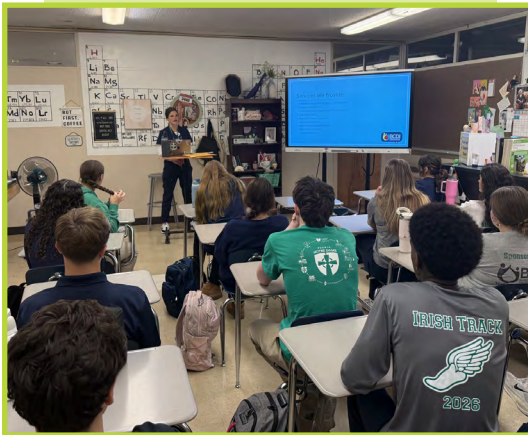
BCDI staff members **Dr. Michael Tarantino, Becky Burns, Misty Burke, Chris Monk, Sophie Tarantino, and Matt McClain** joined advocates from across the country in Washington, D.C. for **National Bleeding Disorders Foundation Washington Days** to educate lawmakers about the importance of protecting access to care issues in the bleeding disorders community.

In total, the Illinois group met with 10 different Congressional offices to discuss crucial access to care barriers. BCDI's team would like to thank **Representative Nikki Budzinski, Representative Mary Miller, and Representative Darin LaHood** for taking time out of their busy schedules to personally meet with our group, as well as office staff from **Senator Tammy Duckworth and Representative Eric Sorensen**.



APRIL 9, 2026

BCDI's outreach team of Human Resources & Events Assistant **Callie Paulson** and Director of Outreach & Communications **Matt McClain** spent the day at the University of Illinois' 31st Annual **McKinley Health Center Special Populations Health Fair!** The BCDI team spoke with current healthcare-related students at the U of I, met community members throughout the Champaign-Urbana area, and discussed the crucial services that BCDI provides across Illinois.



APRIL 17, 2026

BCDI Education Coordinator **Brittany Reinken** visited **Peoria Notre Dame High School** to speak with three science-based health career classes.

Brittany educated the students about BCDI's mission, the types of diagnoses treated, and the numerous **health careers** offered at the Institute. Presentations like these educate the next generation of healthcare workers and students to make decisions about what careers they choose to pursue!



MAY 4, 2026

BCDI hosted the **Deveraux Hubbard II Foundation** for the inaugural DH2 Foundation Ambassador Training event, aiming to raise awareness and educate the community about the signs and symptoms of blood clots, deep vein thrombosis, and pulmonary embolism. BCDI Advanced Practice Provider **Angie Brown** led an educational presentation to certify the attendees in the basic knowledge needed to represent the DH2 Foundation throughout the community regarding the importance of awareness towards blood clots. In total, nine attendees completed the training and became the first class of individuals to be certified as **DH2 Foundation Ambassadors!**



BCDI TRIVIA NIGHT 2026 RECAP

On April 24, 2026, BCDI welcomed our community to the Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette for the 15th annual Trivia Night! With over **300 attendees**, BCDI Trivia Night proved to be the most successful fundraiser in the Institute's history, with over **\$200,000** raised to benefit the BCDI Foundation!

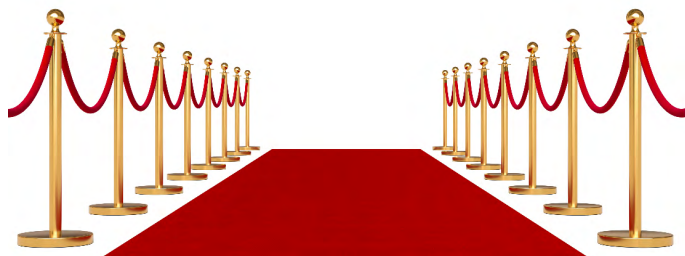
The theme for BCDI Trivia Night 2026 was **"Glam Factor"** and the paparazzi were out in full force to capture all our attendees' wonderful outfits as they walked the red-carpet, posed at our 360 photo-booth, and enjoyed the jam-packed pre-party that featured fun games, our signature bourbon & wine pull, plus premium raffles and silent auctions!





All attendees were treated to a plated dinner while the main program began, where Dr. Tarantino announced the recipient of the 2026 Jim Tarantino BCDI Hero Award: **The Green Family**. BCDI is privileged to bestow the Green's with this honor for their extraordinary commitment, compassion, and lasting impact on our community thanks to their philanthropy, advocacy and service to BCDI and the BCDI Foundation.

During the Trivia Night program, BCDI also raised awareness for the Green Family Scholarship Fund, showcased Drake Green's journey of living with hemophilia, and helped raise crucial funds for BCDI's mission of providing the highest quality of care to our patients.





To wrap up our program, BCDI showcased some of the incredible costumes from the event with our **annual costume contest**, but with a twist! Six attendees were selected to participate in a star-studded fashion show and walked the runway to show off their costumes. By popular vote from the event attendees, **Jami McClain** won the costume contest with her portrayal of **Cruella de Vil from 101 Dalmatians!**



And then it was time for the Main Event: the trivia competition! After four rounds of tightly contested competition and forty trivia questions, the team of **"GeneTherapy4TheWin"** came away with the trivia game championship! Congratulations to the four-person team of Mark Morgan, Teresa Di Capua, Melanie Bond, and John Thorson and for the short-handed victory!



We'd like to take a moment to show appreciation to our entire community for your overwhelming support at BCDI Trivia Night 2026! Thanks to our attendees, sponsors, and gracious donors, you helped exceed our fundraising goal for Trivia Night 2026. All proceeds from the event go directly back to BCDI services outside of our clinic walls, including scholarship programs, continuing education, support of research, emergency financial assistance among many other initiatives that impact the lives of those we serve.

The BCDI Foundation team is already hard at work planning for Trivia Night 2027 - be sure to stay tuned for details regarding the event date, venue and theme in the upcoming months!



WELCOME DR. MCMANAMAN TO BCDI!



The Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Institute is excited to announce the addition of **Dr. Joanne McManaman**, a highly decorated hematologist with more than three decades of experience in healthcare, who will serve as a hospitalist.

In her role as a hematology hospitalist, Dr. McManaman will collaborate closely with central Illinois hospitals to ensure patients with bleeding, blood clotting, or other blood disorders receive expert, coordinated care during hospitalizations, procedure, and acute medical situations.

Dr. McManaman brings a distinguished background in hematology, including **21 years of service in the United States Navy**, where she led and supported programs in hemophilia, sickle cell disease, and complex bone marrow disorders. Throughout her career, Dr. McManaman has been recognized for her ability to manage challenging cases and provide guidance on advanced treatment approaches.

"I'm honored to join such a specialized and respected program such as BCDI," Dr. McManaman said. "I look forward to serving as a resource for both patients and providers across central Illinois, and to helping ensure continuity of care between the treatment center and the hospital setting."



“

I've known Dr. McManaman for over 20 years and when I first met her, she was already an **exemplary clinician and scientist** well respected around the country well known for her work in hematology and oncology," BCDI CEO/CMO Dr. Michael Tarantino said. "She is a **great addition to our team at BCDI** and her experience while in the Navy and in private practice adds another dimension to our depth of practice and expertise for hospitalized patients. Although she will focus on caring for our hospitalized patients, Dr. McManaman has already presented some great ideas to enhance what we do at BCDI.

”

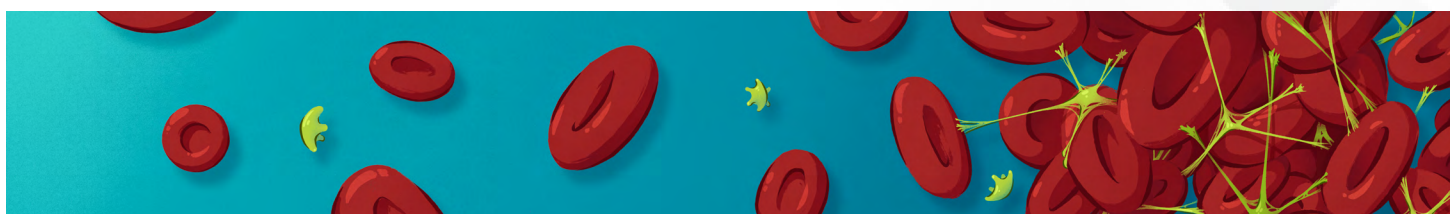
"I've always been drawn to the science and complexity of blood disorders," Dr. McManaman said. "This role allows me to support patients at critical moments in the hospital setting while working closely with care teams to ensure the best possible outcomes."

Dr. McManaman's career includes clinical and research roles at leading institutions such as the **Naval Medical Center Portsmouth**, the **Naval Medical Center San Diego**, and the **St. Jude Children's Research Hospital** affiliate clinic in Charlotte, North Carolina, plus a role as **Command Surgeon with the Joint Task Force Civil Support**. She has served as a principal investigator for national clinical trials and has extensive experience helping families navigate complex diagnoses and treatment plans.



"A diagnosis or hospitalization can be overwhelming," Dr. McManaman said. "My goal is to guide patients and their families through each step with clarity and reassurance, while also supporting the clinical team at BCDI who is caring for them."

In her free time, Dr. McManaman enjoys spending time with her family, staying active outdoors, and cooking. She frequently travels to visit her adult children and enjoys hiking and exploring new landscapes. Joanne's newest hobby is locating Dambo Trolls- unique pieces of reclaimed wood turned into major artwork around the world!



BEACON BULLETIN

BCDI RESEARCH IN ACTION

BCDI's team of expert physicians and research specialists spent March 19 – 21 in Portland, Oregon, at the **Thrombosis & Hemostasis Summit of North America (THSNA)** presenting cutting edge research findings across various bleeding and blood clotting disorders.

Presentations

BCDI Chief Executive & Medical Officer Dr. Michael Tarantino and BCDI Associate Medical & Research Director Dr. Jonathan Roberts led in-person presentations during THSNA 2026:

Dr. Tarantino

- Session Name: Redefining Guidance on Bleeding Disorders in Sports
- Presentation Title: Developing a Shared Decision Plan Prior to Training/Sports Activity

Dr. Roberts

- Session Name: Clinical Considerations: Aging with a Bleeding Disorder
- Presentation Title: Cardiovascular Considerations & Drug Interactions in the Care of Bleeding Disorders



Posters

The BCDI team also had poster/abstracts on show at THSNA 2026, led by Dr. Roberts and the research staff at BCDI. Posters presented include:

Emicizumab for Severe Von Willebrand Disease (VWD): The EMIVWD Study

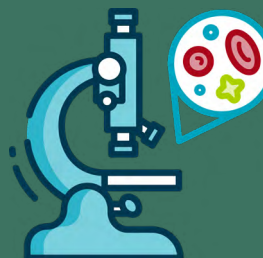
- Dr. Roberts is the Principal Investigator for this study, alongside Dr. Tarantino and BCDI Research Department members Dayna Lenski and Sara Malik.

Healthcare Resource Utilization in People With Hemophilia Treated Within Vs. External to U.S. Hemophilia Treatment Center Network Clinics: An Update from the CHESS US Study

- Dr. Roberts is one of eight researchers on this study.



For more information regarding the presentations and posters that the BCDI Research team unveiled at THSNA 2026, please scan the QR code to learn more!



BEACON SPOTLIGHT



DRAKE GREEN

Every quarter, BCDI aims to highlight members of the bleeding and clotting disorders community, including patients, families, BCDI staff members and community partners. In a recent discussion with our BCDI team, Drake Green explains his personal experiences living with Hemophilia A and how BCDI has helped empower him to live a "normal" life.

Drake Green has received care from Dr. Tarantino since he was four years old and has been a BCDI patient since the Institute was founded in 2010. Drake, 31 years old, is a healthy and highly active individual living with Hemophilia A. But that was not always the case, as Dr. Tarantino and BCDI played a large role in his healthcare journey.

"From a young age, my life has been different than others," Drake said. "I was always looked at differently because friends, classmates, and teachers looked at me as delicate or fragile because of my condition. I would always get separated from groups before any sort of activity because I would need to take my shots, it was very isolating."

Through the guidance of the comprehensive care team and BCDI, Drake was educated during his childhood on the importance of self-advocacy and becoming an expert in his hemophilia condition.

"There are so many important roles that BCDI has played in my life," Drake said. "Whether it is insurance, the many specialists in the comprehensive care visits, the education on how to self-infuse, and the role that the pharmacy plays, they help with any need or question you have."

Drake is an active member of the bleeding and clotting disorders community as a board member of The BCDI Foundation and dedicates his free time to helping advance BCDI's impact across the Midwest.

"After all that Dr. Tarantino and BCDI have done for me, I choose to give back with my time because I know how critical their role is in helping others with blood conditions. I see the growing number of patients helped, educated, and the community supporting us and it motivates me to help other people with similar conditions and disorders as me so that they can live a better life."

Drake's journey is a testament to the progress in hemophilia treatment, made possible through the medical advancements and the unwavering support of BCDI. His journey highlights not only the struggles faced but also the strength, hope, and gratitude that defines his experience.

"I'd like to thank all of the BCDI and especially Dr. T for taking care of me for my entire life," Drake added. "They have taken on the difficult task of starting central Illinois' best and biggest center for bleeding and clotting disorders and have had an incredible impact on not only my life, but thousands of people throughout the region. I am truly grateful for everything they do!"



BEACON OUTREACH

DOWNERS GROVE CLINIC

The Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Institute is pleased to announce the opening of a new outreach clinic location in Downers Grove, Illinois, to expand access to specialized care for individuals with bleeding, blood clotting, and other blood disorders across the northeast corner of Illinois.

BCDI's newest outreach location is at **Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital** in the Physician Office Center (**3825 Highland Avenue- Suite 2D, Downers Grove, IL 60515**). This new clinic aims to extend BCDI's comprehensive care model closer to home for patients and families in the Downers Grove area. BCDI hosted its first outreach comprehensive care clinic at the Downers Grove location on **May 13, 2026!**

"This expansion represents a meaningful step forward in our mission to ensure that every individual has access to high-quality, specialized care, no matter where they live," said BCDI Chief Executive/Medical Officer Dr. Michael Tarantino. "By establishing a new presence in northern Illinois, BCDI is making it easier for patients to stay engaged in their care and maintain healthier, more active lives."

BCDI strives to provide integrated, family-oriented care, treatment and education to every corner of Illinois, and establishing an outreach location in Downers Grove brings BCDI closer to nearly 10 million people throughout the northeast region of Illinois.



"Recent studies suggest that 30% of individuals living with hemophilia in Illinois do not receive care from a hemophilia treatment center," Dr. Tarantino added. "The Downers Grove location gives individuals an opportunity to receive specialized care from a team of blood experts at BCDI. This is more than just a new location for BCDI, it's about building stronger connections within the community. We look forward to working alongside healthcare organizations and providing valuable resources for patients, families, and caregivers throughout the region."

With the addition of the Downers Grove location, BCDI now has eleven different comprehensive care outreach clinics throughout the state of Illinois: Arthur, Carbondale, Champaign, Decatur, Downers Grove, Macomb, Moline, Ottawa, Peoria, Rockford, and Springfield. During a typical comprehensive care visit, a patient sees a variety of expert caregivers including a hematologist, advanced practice provider, social worker, registered dietitian, physical therapist, phlebotomist, and more. This united approach helps patients learn how to live life to the fullest, regardless of their diagnosis, and leads to optimal long-term care of patients with bleeding and blood clotting disorders.



BEACON BRIEFS

BLOOD DROP SOCIETY

DONORS RECOGNIZING OUR PURPOSE

The BCDI Blood DROP Society is an honored group of individuals that support vital services, impacting the entire bleeding and clotting disorders community throughout downstate Illinois, thanks to generous financial contributions. To join the BCDI Blood DROP Society, individuals, groups or organizations must raise or donate a minimum of \$1,000 within a calendar year.

To view the various levels of the BCDI Blood DROP Society, please scan the QR code or visit ilbcdi.org/get-involved/blooddropsociety. 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 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!

BCDI ACROSS THE STATE

BCDI serves patients across the state of Illinois through our eleven 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.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arthur HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Building
525 N. Vine St. Arthur, IL 61911 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moline Pediatric Specialty Clinic 515 Valley View Drive Moline, IL 61265 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbondale SIU Center for Family Medicine
300 W Oak St. Carbondale, IL 62901 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ottawa Fox River Cancer Center
1200 Starfire Dr. Ottawa, IL 61350 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Champaign OSF Medical Group – Primary Care
1405 W Park St., Suite 306 Urbana, IL 61820 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peoria Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Institute
427 W Northmoor Dr. Peoria, IL 61614
<i>Women's Service Clinics, Thrombophilia Clinics, and Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP) Clinics are located at the Peoria location.</i> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decatur Crossing Healthcare 320 E. Central Ave.
Decatur, IL 62521 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rockford OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center
5666 E. State St.
Rockford, IL 61108 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downers Grove Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital - Physician Office Center
3825 Highland Avenue - Suite 2D
Downers Grove, IL 60515). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Springfield Office of Dr. Gregory Brandt
400 N 9th St – 3rd Floor
Springfield, IL 62701 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macomb Medical Arts Building
Visiting Physician Office
527 E. Grant St. Macomb, IL 61455 | |



IN APPRECIATION

Lifetime Impact Members:

- Becky & John Burns
- CSL Behring
- In Honor of Devereaux Hubbard II
- The Dills Family Foundation
- Green Chevrolet & The Green Family
- Holly & Alex Edwin
- In Memory of Jim Tarantino - The Jim Tarantino Family
- Julie & Dr. Michael Tarantino
- Laura & Dr. Jonathan Roberts
- Liberty Village
- Michael & Shelia Hawes & Family
- Novo Nordisk Inc.
- Sanofi

Champion Members:

- Anonymous Donor
- Bremer Jewelry



Annual Members:

- A Perfect Promotion
- Ava Tarantino
- Bleeding Disorders of the Heartland
- Brian & Lois Marsel
- Busey Bank
- Dr. Gregory Gerstner
- Hema Biologics
- Illinois CancerCare
- John & Nancy Machens
- Kollet & John Barkhouse
- Kristen & Bob Manning
- Lyndsey & Daniel Plantamura
- Mary Cyganiak & Family
- Octapharma
- Peoria Heights Community Bank
- PIP Marketing, Signs, & Print
- Dr. Patrick & Lisa McShane
- Dill Wealth Management Group
- Janis & Bob Mignacca
- Justin & Julie May
- Joanne F. McManaman, MD

Are you interested in joining the BCDI Blood DROP Society? Please contact **Jamie Cunningham** at **309-692-5337 (ext. 188)** or by email at jamie@ilbcdi.org for more information.





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GET IN TOUCH



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Monday - Friday



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