

THE BCDI BEACON

THE BLOOD EXPERTS NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026 EDITION

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*Get to know BCDI's
Advanced Practice Providers*

*Dr. Roberts in Paris for
ISTH Congress*

*Family Day 2026
Sneak Peak*



DRIVING OUR MISSION FORWARD

A look at our Third Annual Golf Outing and the community that made it possible.



A MESSAGE FROM **DR. TARANTINO**

BCDI Chief Executive Officer
BCDI Chief Medical Officer

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As we look toward the close of another busy summer at BCDI, I am constantly reminded of how much can be accomplished when a dedicated team and committed community work together toward a common mission. This edition of the BCDI Beacon Newsletter highlights many of the people, programs, events, and partnerships that continue to strengthen our ability to serve patients and their families affected by bleeding, blood clotting, and other blood disorders.

One of the most exciting areas of growth is within our staff, with 10 new team members joining BCDI since the beginning of 2026. With the addition of three Advanced Practice Providers in the last 12 months, BCDI has nine APPs now supporting our comprehensive care model, as we continue to expand the expertise and resources available to our patients. The growth is not limited there, as there have been BCDI breakthroughs in research, advocacy, and education throughout the summer.

I am excited to highlight the work that our team continues to do beyond the walls of our clinic. From our dedicated clinical staff leading the Platelet Disorder Support Association's annual meeting, to Dr. Roberts representing BCDI on the international stage at the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis in Paris, to the continued collaboration with community organizations such as the Deveraux Hubbard II Foundation to raise crucial awareness about blood clots.

Our community support continues to be inspiring. The success of the 3rd Annual BCDI Golf Outing, the generosity of the BCDI Blood DROP Society, and our upcoming Family Day and Food Truck Frenzy events demonstrate what is possible when we work together. Thank you for being a crucial part of the BCDI family, as we continue to move our mission forward.



BCDI BLOOD DROP SOCIETY

DONORS RECOGNIZING OUR PURPOSE

Since its founding in November 2024, the BCDI Blood DROP Society has been an honored group of individuals, whose generous financial contributions support vital services, impacting the entire bleeding and clotting disorders community that BCDI serves.

In 2025 alone, 32 members of the BCDI Blood DROP Society helped raise over \$80,000, with all proceeds raised directly benefitting the BCDI Foundation. This generosity brings the BCDI Blood DROP Society's total contributions in its two-plus years of operation to over **\$140,000 raised!** This truly remarkable achievement has empowered the BCDI Foundation to continue improving and expanding the patient services to support the community. This includes the newest benefit of the BCDI Foundation - The Green Family Scholarship - which is now managed by the BCDI Foundation and awards up to \$1,500 each, for five recipients each year to support higher education.

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 annual giving of \$1,000 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/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 a prominent and spectacular addition to our facility. BCDI Blood DROP Society members will also receive name recognition in every edition of the BCDI Beacon quarterly newsletter, exclusive opportunities throughout the year to network with BCDI providers and staff, will receive exclusive BCDI Foundation merchandise and much more!

IN APPRECIATION

Lifetime Impact Members:

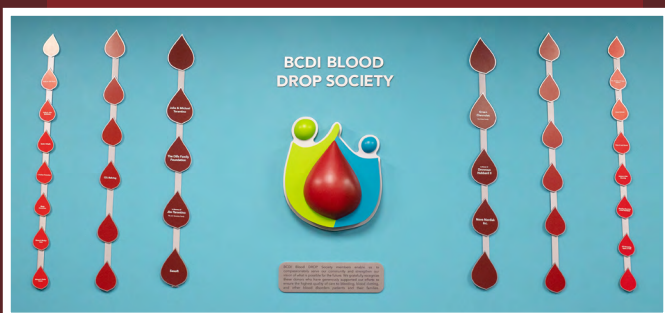
- Becky & John Burns
- CSL Behring
- In Honor of Deveraux Hubbard II
- The Dills Family Foundation
- Donald E Fike Foundation
- Green Chevrolet & The Green Family
- Holly & Alex Edwin
- In Memory of Jim Tarantino - The Jim Tarantino Family
- Julie & Dr. Michael Tarantino
- Laura & Dr. Jonathan Roberts
- 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.

BEACON OUTREACH

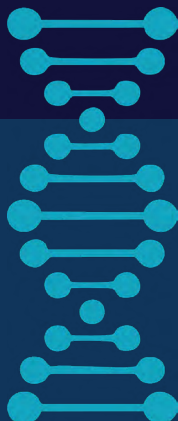
RESEARCH IN ACTION

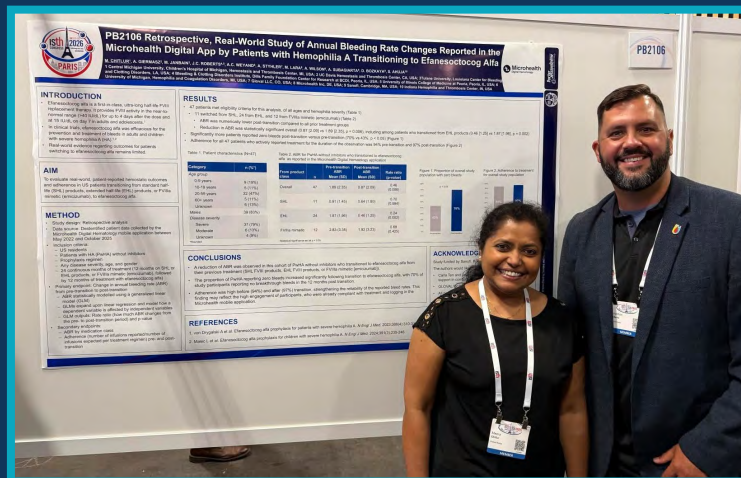
DR. ROBERTS ON THE WORLD SHOWCASE AT ISTH CONGRESS IN PARIS



BCDI Associate Medical/Research Director **Dr. Jonathan Roberts** showcased his expertise as a worldwide leader in bleeding disorders on the global level at the **International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) 2026 Congress**, in **Paris, France**, from July 11 – July 15.

To a group of over **500 attendees**, Dr. Roberts led education during a presentation entitled **"Shaping the Future of Hemophilia A by Redefining Clinical Outcomes."** Dr. Roberts helped the ISTH Congress attendees explore the concept of normalized blood clotting in Hemophilia A, addressed gaps in joint healthcare, and provided insight on evolving goals that optimize long-term patient outcomes.





Dr. Roberts also participated in a study presented at the ISTH Congress, **"Retrospective, Real World Study of Annual Bleeding Rate Changes Reported in the Microhealth Digital App by Patients with Hemophilia A Transitioning to Efanesoctocog Alfa."** In addition, Dr. Roberts also played a crucial role in a Von Willebrand Disease Presentation Theater at the ISTH 2026 Congress.

This remarkable week showcased the dedication and commitment that BCDI and the Dills Family Foundation for Research at BCDI have in advancing treatments for persons with bleeding disorders.



To review a full list of recent research publications by BCDI, scan the QR code.



MEET OUR NEW APPS



At the core of BCDI's comprehensive care model and our hemophilia treatment center, **Advanced Practice Providers (APPs)** play a crucial role in providing the highest quality of care to our patients. BCDI's APPs include **nurse practitioners** and **physician assistants** who have received additional specialized training to treat bleeding and clotting disorders.

As of August 2026, BCDI has a team of **nine outstanding APPs** who perform physical examinations, order lab tests, diagnose illness, and help establish a treatment plan that fits the needs of our patients. In the past year alone at BCDI, three outstanding providers have joined the APP team to provide more insight to our comprehensive care team.

Missy Quin

After nearly a decade of service as a nurse coordinator with the Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Institute, Missy Quin, FNP-BC, transitioned to BCDI's team of Advanced Practice Providers in July 2026. During her time at BCDI, Missy has been a key member of the clinical care team in several roles, including most recently as a Pharmacy Nurse Coordinator.



Missy recently graduated from Chamberlain University in 2026, and is now board-certified as a family nurse practitioner. Missy also holds degrees from Methodist College of Nursing (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) and from Eastern Illinois University (Bachelor of Science in Business). Prior to joining BCDI in 2016, Missy spent four years working as a registered nurse at UnityPoint Methodist. Missy is committed to building lasting relationships with her patients and their families, stating that has been one of the most rewarding aspects of her journey.



Teresa Finegan

Teresa Finegan, FNP-BC is a board-certified family nurse practitioner at the Bleeding and Clotting Disorders Institute (BCDI). She was born and raised in Palatine, IL. In 2014, she graduated from Illinois State University (ISU) with a Bachelor's degree in nursing and minors in music and Spanish. As a registered nurse, Teresa worked in a variety of settings including skilled rehabilitation, outpatient pediatrics, school nursing, and home health.

She received her Master of Science in Nursing from Illinois State University in May 2023 and shortly thereafter became a board-certified family nurse practitioner. Teresa began her career as a nurse practitioner in primary care, then transitioned to Internal Medicine/ Pediatrics Primary Care before joining BCDI in September 2025. Teresa also completed her Doctor of Nursing Practice from ISU in May 2024. Teresa is passionate about encouraging and empowering others to live active and healthy lifestyles.

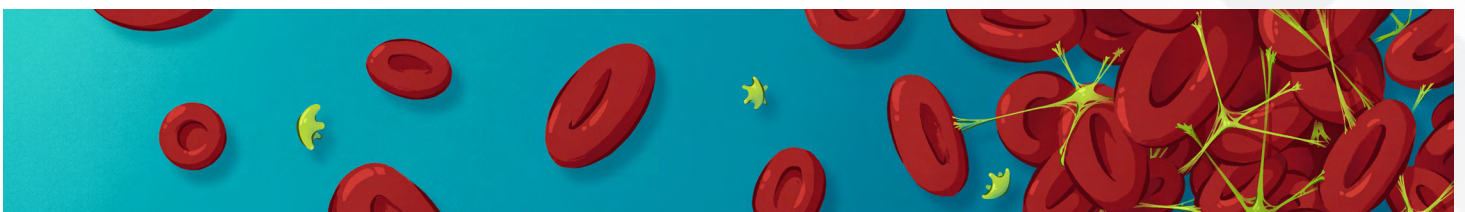
Erica Svendsen

Erica Svendsen, FNP-BC is a board-certified family nurse practitioner recently joined the team at BCDI. She was born and raised in Pekin, IL. In 2017, she graduated from OSF College of Nursing with a Bachelors in Nursing. She worked inpatient on the med-surg unit before working in outpatient primary care for six years.



She received her Master's of Science in Nursing from Chamberlain University in May 2023 and became a board-certified family nurse practitioner in June 2023. She began her career as a nurse practitioner in outpatient primary care before joining BCDI this July.

BCDI's growing team is an example of our commitment to the bleeding and clotting disorders community and our mission of providing optimal outcomes. To meet our entire team of Advanced Practice Providers, scan the QR code below!



BEACON CONNECTIONS

PDSA 2026 ITP CONFERENCE RECAP

BCDI played a major role in the annual meeting of the Platelet Disorder Support Association (PDSA) in **Salt Lake City, Utah** last month. APP Supervisor Kristin Anstatt APRN, and Kelsey Kuhel, RN again ran a brilliant Teen Workshop that had the group compose heartfelt songs (with the help of AI) about their chronic ITP journey. Kristin and Kelsey have been leading the Teen Workshop session for several years and have had an important impact on the lives of many adolescents and young adults with ITP.

At the same meeting, Dr. Tarantino, a PDSA Medical Advisory Board member for over 20 years, was invited to give the Keynote address to a group of more than 250 on **"Living with ITP: the Importance of Effective Communication with your Healthcare Team"**. The presentation included informative and entertaining videos of how to effectively communicate at the clinic visit. Dr. Tarantino has been a member and past Chair of the Medical Advisory Board of PDSA for over 20 years.



SEPTEMBER IS ITP AWARENESS MONTH!

Throughout September, we invite the community to join BCDI to help us raise awareness for Immune Thrombocytopenia Purpura! BCDI will be holding weekly trivia contests on our Facebook page (facebook.com/ILBCDI) with winners being awarded BCDI apparel and swag. BCDI will also be publishing vital information regarding signs and symptoms and clinical recommendations. Dr. Tarantino will also be hosting a live question and answer session on Facebook regarding ITP! And on September 25, wear your purple clothing for Sport Purple for Platelets Day!



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to PDSA for organizing such an outstanding conference and for including the BCDI team as a part of the important educational program!

BEACON BULLETIN

BCDI FOOD TRUCK FRENZY PREVIEW

BCDI will again welcome the community to our next Food Truck Frenzy event here at the **BCDI campus in Peoria** on **Friday, August 28, 2026**, from 11:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

We are excited to bring back some of the top crowd-pleasing vendors from previous events, and we are looking forward to showcasing vendors that will be at our event for the first time! Confirmed vendors for the August 2026 BCDI Food Truck Frenzy event include: **That Guy BBQ, Boosted Energy Drinks, The Lumpia House, Rubi's Brick Oven Pizza, All Shook Up Lemonade, Cousins Maine Lobster, Twisted Pasta, and Triple Dipple's Cheesecakes!**

BCDI Food Truck Frenzy will be hosted at the Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Institute campus at **427 W. Northmoor Rd., Peoria, IL 61614**. On-site parking is available, but will be limited. Overflow parking is available across the street at Kellar Station, if necessary. Seating will be available for those who wish to "dine in". The BCDI Food Truck Frenzy will start at 11:00 a.m. and run through 6:30 p.m. Vendors may close prior to 6:30 pm based on their food availability (i.e., they may leave early if they sell out).



BCDI
BLEEDING & CLOTTING
DISORDERS INSTITUTE
**FOOD TRUCK
FRENZY**

FRI, AUGUST 28, 2026 • 11AM - 6:30PM
427 W NORTHMOOR RD. PEORIA, IL 61614

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
THE BCDI FOOD TRUCK FRENZY,**



PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT
WWW.ILBCCI.ORG/GET-INVOLVED/EVENTS

*Bring your friends, stop by for lunch,
stay all afternoon, or make a visit for
dinner- we'd love to see you here!*

BEACON HIGHLIGHTS

BCDI GOLF OUTING 2026 RECAP

The 3rd annual BCDI Golf Outing was held on **Monday, August 10, 2026**, at Arrowhead Country Club in Edelstein, Illinois, and was a resounding success! **148 golfers** and 37 foursomes participated in the 2026 BCDI Golf Outing, marking the third year in a row that the event has sold out.

On a beautifully warm summer day, the scores on the golf course were scorchingly hot! Congratulations to the winning foursome of **Drake Green, Christon Wright, Adam Kiel, and Mike Unruh** with an eye-opening score of 18 under par! While the golf competition was exceptional, all attendees had the opportunity to play some on-course games and network with the BCDI staff. Various on course games ensured even the most casual golfers could enjoy the event. Food and drinks were provided to all golfers, including lunch of chicken sandwiches from Chick-Fil-A and hot dogs from Frank's, coffee from Black Sheep Coffee, and lemonade from All Shook Up Lemonade stand.



Winning team Drake Green, Christon Wright, Adam Kiel, and Mike Unruh



2026-2027 Green Family Scholarship Recipient Lucia Pampalone gave opening remarks.





The final numbers are still being tallied for the 3rd annual BCDI Golf Outing, but we can confirm that the fundraising goal was met and surpassed, thanks to the wonderful support from our community! All proceeds raised will directly benefit The BCDI Foundation, which supports BCDI patients outside of our clinic walls, including educational scholarship programs, continuing education, support of BCDI research, emergency financial assistance and much more.



Thank you to our Executive Sponsor, **CSL Behring**, for their generous support! We'd also like to acknowledge **Green Chevrolet** for their Hole In One Sponsorship, Eagle level Sponsorships from **Hema Biologics**, **Novo Nordisk**, **First Security Bank**, and **Busey Bank**, and the Putting Green Sponsorship provided by **Heart Technologies**. We had an incredible group of supporters at the Birdie Sponsorship level, including: **Genentech**, **Illinois CancerCare**, **A Perfect Promotion**, **Kepple Healthcare Consulting**, **Bremer Jewelry**, and **Bishop Brothers Inc!**

It's not too early to begin thinking about the 4th annual BCDI Golf Outing, which is tentatively planned for the summer of 2027! Be on the lookout for the official announcement and save the date for the 2027 BCDI Golf Outing on BCDI's website and social media pages.



BEACON BUZZ

BCDI FAMILY DAY PREVIEW

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 2026 will take place **Sunday, October 25** at **Wildlife Prairie Park** located at 3826 N. Taylor Road, Hanna City, IL 61536. **Registration is now open, and is REQUIRED to attend. This event is exclusive to BCDI comprehensive care clinic patients and their family members.**

- **WHAT:** BCDI Family Day 2026!
- **WHO:** For all BCDI patients and their close family members (everyone attends for FREE, but pre-registration is REQUIRED).
- **WHERE:** Wildlife Prairie Park- 3826 N. Taylor Road, Hanna City, IL 61536.
- **WHEN:** Event registration begins at 10:45 a.m. Family Day programming with education, games and lunch will be provided, and the event concludes at 4 p.m.
- **WHY:** To provide crucial education to bleeding and clotting disorder patients and their families, and to strengthen the relationships within our community.

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. Family Day 2026 embraces a fall-fun theme, as Wildlife Prairie Park will be decorated in their famous Wildlife "Scary" Park decor- but fret not, there will be spooky fun for all ages! Lunch will also be served, and childcare will be provided for children by the BCDI staff.



A schedule of events will be updated below in the upcoming weeks. All kids will have the opportunity to take a trip on Wildlife Prairie Park's train, encounter one detailed animal experience, and exciting activities around the park. Information regarding educational sessions will be announced shortly.

Wildlife Prairie Park is a **1,800-acre zoological and conservation park** located just west of Peoria, boasting over 180 different animals calling the park home. You can enjoy sprawling animal trails, hands-on-experiences, wildlife activities like off-road tours, fishing, laser tag, kayaking, disc golf, and more- all during your visit for BCDI Family Day! Check out everything the park has to offer by visiting: <https://wildlifeprairiepark.org/>

All registered BCDI Family Day guests are required to attend our programming from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and then will have free access to the rest of Wildlife Prairie Park until it closes at 7pm.



**Register now to attend
BCDI Family Day at
Wildlife Prairie Park!**

BEACON BRIEFS

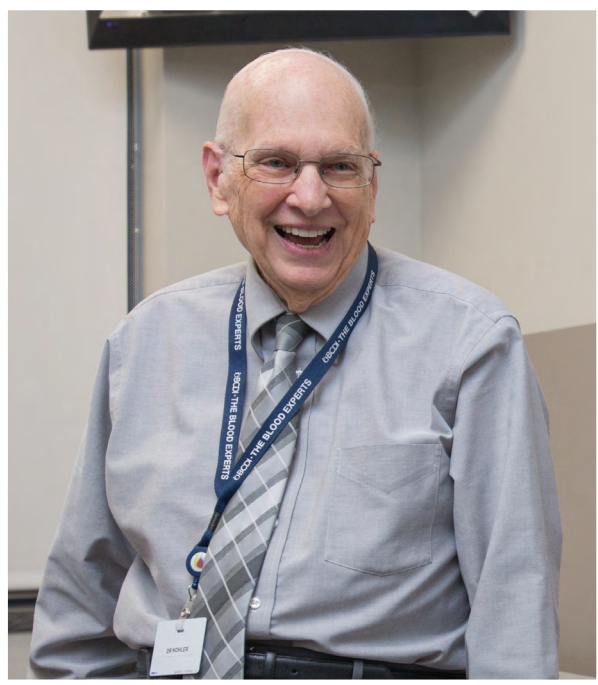
RUN, WALK, OR TROT 2 STOP BLOOD CLOTS

On Saturday, **August 8**, the **Deveraux Hubbard II Foundation's** 12th annual Run, Walk, or Trot 2 Stop Blood Clots event was hosted in the BCDI parking lot and at the neighboring Donovan Park. **Over 200 participants attended** as the community gathered to help raise awareness of blood clots and blood clotting disorders.

BCDI hosted a booth at the Run, Walk or Trot 2 Stop Blood Clots event, handing out educational fliers about the signs and symptoms of deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolisms, and the dangers of blood clots. BCDI is honored to be a partner of the DH2 Foundation and to once again be a sponsor of this community event that helps encourage the public to spend less time sitting and more time moving to decrease the risk of blood clots.



REMEMBERING DR. WILLIAM KOHLER



The BCDI community was saddened by the loss of our longtime colleague and dentist, **Dr. William Kohler**, who recently passed away at the age of 91 years. Dr. Kohler served the bleeding disorders community in central Illinois **for over 20 years** before retiring in 2025 and played a crucial role in providing dental recommendations to thousands of individuals over his prominent career.

Throughout the community, Dr. Kohler helped many practices- not just at BCDI- he always filled in when needed. Dr. Kohler was a pillar in the community for dentistry and helped develop early programs to prevent dental decay in children. Please join the BCDI team in saying goodbye to a truly wonderful dentist, colleague, and friend, and in sending our condolences to the Kohler family during this difficult time



“

“Dr. Kohler was the definition of gregarious,” BCDI CEO/CMO Dr. Tarantino shared. “He was truly kind and was always full of practical, common sense advice to patients. Dr. Kohler was a vital, core member of the BCDI comprehensive care team for many, many years, and he will be sorely missed.”

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BCDI ADVOCACY TRIPS

Real change starts with real stories. Throughout the year, BCDI educates lawmakers about bleeding disorders and the barriers patients and families face. While facts and data are important, nothing is more powerful than hearing directly from the people affected by decisions surrounding access to specialized care, affordable treatment and patient protections.

With a number of eyes on the programs that support the HTC model in D.C., now is an especially important time to make our voices heard. By sharing your experiences, you can help educate lawmakers and candidates about the challenges facing the bleeding disorders community and the importance of policies that protect access to comprehensive, high-quality care.

This **September**, BCDI will travel to Washington, D.C., and we invite interested patients and family members to join us. No advocacy experience is needed. The BCDI Foundation provides an advocacy grant for those interested in making an impact- covering the cost of airfare and lodging. Your story can help build understanding and inspire meaningful change. Contact **Matt McClain** at mattmm@ilbcdi.org for more information.



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.

• Arthur HSHS St. Mary's Hospital Building 525 N. Vine St. Arthur, IL 61911	• Moline Pediatric Specialty Clinic 515 Valley View Drive Moline, IL 61265
• Carbondale SIU Center for Family Medicine 300 W Oak St. Carbondale, IL 62901	• Ottawa Fox River Cancer Center 1200 Starfire Dr. Ottawa, IL 61350
• Champaign OSF Medical Group – Primary Care 1405 W Park St., Suite 306 Urbana, IL 61820	• 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>
• Decatur Crossing Healthcare 320 E. Central Ave. Decatur, IL 62521	
• Downers Grove Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital - Physician Office Center 3825 Highland Avenue - Suite 2D Downers Grove, IL 60515	• Rockford OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center 5666 E. State St. Rockford, IL 61108
• Macomb Medical Arts Building Visiting Physician Office 527 E. Grant St. Macomb, IL 61455	• Springfield Office of Dr. Gregory Brandt 400 N 9th St – 3rd Floor Springfield, IL 62701





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Monday - Friday



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