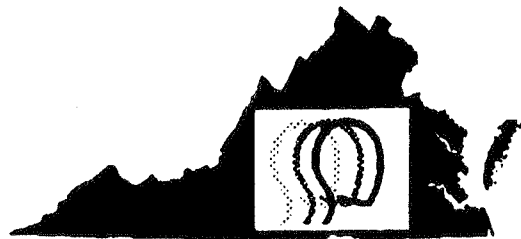


HEADWAY

Brain Injury Association of VA

An Affiliate of The Brain Injury Association of America, Inc.



Winter 2004

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BIAV Introduces Our New Board President... Irv Cantor

The Brain Injury Association of Virginia would like to welcome our new board president, Irv Cantor. Irv has been a member of the BIAV board since 2002 and has a long history of assisting those who have been affected by brain injury. He is a founding director with Cantor Arkema, P.C. and also serves as the chairman of the personal injury section. His areas of practice include complex litigation, civil trial practice, medical negligence and traumatic brain injury. He received his bachelor's degree in psychology and his law degree from the University of Virginia and served as a law clerk to the Virginia Supreme Court before starting his own firm in 1979. Irv is a member of many professional organizations including the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, the American Board of Trial Advocates, the Brain Injury Association of America and the Brain Injury Association of Virginia. He has served as president and legislative chairman of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association and is currently on the Board of Governors. He also serves on the editorial board of Aspen Publishers for their Brain Injury Rehabilitation Patient Education Manual. He has authored several publications and presented on a variety of topics regarding legal issues and brain injury.



Irv gave a presentation at BIAV's annual meeting during our conference on November 13th. Following is a summary of his presentation.

"It is a true honor to serve as President of BIAV, and I am excited to work with all of you to expand the services and programs for persons who have sustained brain injuries. As a trial lawyer, there is nothing more challenging or rewarding than representing someone who has sustained a traumatic brain injury. I have had the privilege, over the past 25 years, of representing over 250 clients who have sustained TBI's, most of whom still stay in touch with me. Brain injury is, and has always been, a real passion of



mine.

BIAV is one of the strongest state brain injury associations in the country, with an outstanding staff, a committed membership, and a motivated Board of Directors. We can work together to make BIAV even stronger by spreading the word about the silent epidemic of brain injury, the overwhelming need for brain injury services and programs, and BIAV, itself, and by committing our time and money to the effort.

I encourage all of you to sign up to join the Legislative Advocacy Action Group, which will enable BIAV to keep you up to date about our advocacy efforts and let you know how you can help. We need all of you to have your voice heard by the members of the Virginia General Assembly.

One major goal of BIAV is to have a brain injury Medicaid waiver established in Virginia. We will be calling on you to help us with this project by contacting your delegates and senators and asking them for their support.”

BIAV 4th Annual Conference Report

BIAV held its 4th annual conference, Opening Doors: New Answers for a New Era, on November 13, 2004. The conference was a great success with over 120 professionals, survivors, and caregivers attending.

Thank You!

BIAV would like to thank all of the speakers who presented at the conference: Paul Aravich, Donna Broshek, Ann Deaton, Austin Errico, Jason Freeman, Harvey Jacobs, Jeff Kreutzer, Mike Martelli, Laura Taylor, and Nathan Zasler. We would also like to thank Delegate John O'Bannon for giving the keynote address.

BIAV would also like to thank all of the exhibitors who attended the event as well as our sponsors for this year's conference. Our sponsors were:

Cumberland Hospital for Children and Adolescents

HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Virginia

Inova Health Rehabilitation Center at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital

Tree of Life

Thanks to everyone who attended and helped make this event a success. We hope to see you next year!

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