

BURNS RECOVERED SUPPORT GROUP

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Burns Recovered Support Group is to assist burn survivors in their recovery, support medical facilities in the care of burns in Missouri and educate the public in burn awareness and prevention.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Burns Recovered Support Group, in keeping with our mission, continued to provide many services to burn survivors and the community at large in 2014.

- ❖ Peer support was provided more than 300 times to more than 1500 burn survivors and their families, both in-patient and out-patient.
- ❖ Monthly support group meetings continue at Mercy Hospital in St. Louis and University Hospital in Columbia.
- ❖ Missouri Children's Burn Camp provided a life-changing camping opportunity to 73 burn-injured children who came together for a week of "Friends, Fun & Memories". 19% of the children attended MCBC for the first time. Children were transported to the Lake of the Ozarks for their week-long adventure. This special experience could not happen without the volunteer counselors and the many other individuals who help make this opportunity a reality. There were 5 CIT's (counselor-in-training) in 2014. All the CIT's are previous campers and one of them will be eligible to be counselor in 2015. MCBC could not have happened without the staff of 43 volunteers who gave so much of their time and energy. 3 of the volunteer counselors in 2014 had been campers and participated in the CIT program in previous years and 9 of our counselors were participating in camp for the first time.
- ❖ Four (4) burn survivors were provided pressure garments.
- ❖ Changing Times was held on President's Day Weekend. Changing Times is a 4-day/3-night retreat for young adult burn survivors. The 3rd Changing Times had young adults from Missouri and Indiana in attendance. BRSG was excited to welcome our friends from Hoosier Burn Camp in Indiana who joined their program with ours. Everyone participated in psycho-social sessions, high & low rope course activities, yoga, informational discussions on finance and job interviewing skills, and fun evening activities.
- ❖ The Holiday Family Support program made the holiday season brighter for 38 people in the 14 burn survivor families adopted by BRSG. Gifts of clothing, food and other needed essentials were given to these families in financial need.
- ❖ The Youth Fire Prevention Team provided fire safety awareness/education to more than 30 children who demonstrated inappropriate interest in fire. This juvenile fire setter intervention program gives direction and help to children and their parents.
- ❖ Burn Prevention Education was given to schools and retirement communities throughout the year.
- ❖ More than 300 people attended the annual Holiday Party, Bowling Party and Family Picnic that provide the opportunity of friendship and camaraderie for burn survivors and their family. Fun and laughter are important in the healing and recovery for those whose lives have been touched by a burn injury. Our special events are an important continuation of the peer support provided to burn survivors. In 2014, attendance at these events continued to grow in Kansas City as BRSG strives to provide programming to our campers and their families who live in this community.
- ❖ BRSG helped 5 young people attend college with the benefit of our Scholarship Fund
- ❖ Beauty Is..., a coffee-table style photo book with pictures and stories of 32 burn survivors has been purchased by 24 burn centers to help assist survivors and co-survivors better understand recovery.
- ❖ Additional financial information and information regarding the members of the BRSG Board of Directors are available on the BRSG web site – www.brsg.org.