

THE SURVIVOR

SPRING/SUMMER 2018

www.BRSG.org • BRSG@BRSG.org • 314.939.1550 • 6220 S. Lindbergh Blvd., Suite 203 St. Louis, MO 63123

APPLY AS A CAMPER OR COUNSELOR FOR MCBC TODAY

2018 THEME - PARTY IN THE USA!

Zip lining, kayaking, canoeing, water tubing, archery, and a 100-foot water slide into a beautiful lake are just some of the adventures our campers encounter each year at Midwest Children's Burn Camp (MCBC).

This year's camp adventure is scheduled for Monday, August 6 to Sunday, August 12, 2018 with visitor's day scheduled for Friday, August 10. Our theme this year is Party in the USA!

Midwest Children's Burn Camp is open to children ages 6 to 17 who have been hospitalized for severe burns or smoke inhalation. This unique camp experience helps campers discover that who they are on the inside is much more valuable than the scars they see on the outside. Campers attend at no charge thanks to generous community support. Campers are accepted from all over Missouri and neighboring states. Free transportation to camp is provided from St. Louis, Columbia, Springfield and Kansas City. For campers who come back year after year, we welcome you and look forward to seeing you again. For children who are burn survivors considering coming to camp for the first time, we would love to have you and cannot wait to meet you. You can apply to be a camper, or find out more about our camp, via our website at www.brsg.org or please call our office at 314-939-1550 and ask for Emily.

Our camp would not be the wonderful experience it is each year without the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. Last year, over 40 volunteers dedicated their time and talent to make our camp a success. Each year we are blessed to have a large group of individuals volunteer year after year to serve as counselors and volunteer in some capacity. For those who volunteer each year, welcome back, it will be great to see you again. For those who are reading this and have never volunteered but would like to, please contact our office so we can get you ready to become a counselor.

Volunteer orientation for camp is scheduled for June 23 and 24. This training is essential and required for all individuals who are interested in becoming a counselor for camp. For more information on becoming a camp counselor, please visit our website at www.brsg.org or contact Emily at emily@brsg.org or 314-939-1550.

Find out more about Visitor's Day at Camp on the inside of this newsletter.

> WE'LL SEE YOU AT CAMP!



BURNS
RECOVERED

BRYAN'S BITS

By Bryan Sanger, Board President,
Burns Recovered, Midwest Children's Burn Camp



BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

OFFICERS :

Bryan Sanger, Esq., President
Sheri Sherman, Vice President
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Kanisha Anthony
Faith Berger
Gregg Favre
Jeff Litt, MD
Jeff Sadtler
Brad Shelton
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Renee Silver, LCSW
Bethany Westlake

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR :

Lynn Huelsmann, MPA, CFRE

PEER SUPPORT & EDUCATION DIRECTOR :

Mark Esker, MSW

CAMP OPERATIONS & OFFICE DIRECTOR :

Emily Stichling

CAMP DIRECTOR :

Larry Conley

Many Hands Make Light Work

Many of us probably heard the saying many hands make light work when our parents were encouraging us to clean up our rooms. We have probably caught ourselves repeating this phrase to our own children! No matter how old, the phrase still rings true. So much of life is handled more easily with additional human capital.

For 22 years, Midwest Children's Burn Camp (MCBC) our largest and longest running program has been volunteer driven. Our camp director, Larry Conley, has dedicated 15 years of his life to further our mission and over 40 volunteers, year in and year out, have donated one week of their time and talent to ensure our youth burn survivors have the times of their lives at our week long residential summer camp.

Volunteers also play a critical part in our work with newly injured burn survivors. Burn Survivor peer support volunteers meet individually with burn patients and their family members in the burn unit at Mercy Hospital in St. Louis and University Hospital in Columbia. Individualized peer support provides burn patients with practical solutions to adjust and cope with their injuries, emotional support, as well as easing the transition from the hospital to home and eventually back to work or school.

Our Board of Directors saw a dramatic increase in volunteers last year. Five new directors joined the Board in 2017 and this year we have already added a new director, Matt Erker, our new board treasurer. You can learn more about all of them and their dedication to our mission in a separate story in this newsletter.

Despite the many existing volunteers who help us fulfill our mission, we are always looking for more. We need more burn survivors to step forward and assist us by serving as a beacon of hope for newly burn injured individuals through our peer support program. These volunteers are the foot soldiers of our program and a critical piece of a burn survivors' recovery. If you would like to learn more about volunteering as a peer supporter call our office and ask to speak with Mark.

Despite the fact that we have a dedicated group of volunteers for camp, we always need more. Life happens to all of us, including our volunteers, and there are some years that some of our most dedicated volunteers cannot commit for another weeklong camp experience. Although these situations are challenging, we are always interested in welcoming new faces into the fold. This new energy enriches the camp experience for all of us. If you are over the age of 21 and interested in serving as a role model in a youth burn survivor's life, contact our office and ask for Emily.

Although our board has grown exponentially in the last 12 months, we need individuals interested in serving on three of our four committees. If you have a background in fundraising, marketing, public relations or finance, then you may be interested in serving on our finance, nominating, or fundraising committees. These committees meet quarterly and are a great way to volunteer your time and professional expertise without overcommitting yourself.

For those of you who are reading this, who have committed your time and talent to our mission, we thank you. We could not fulfill our mission without you. For those of you who might be interested in joining us, thank you as well. We look forward to your call or email and eager to add you to the Burns Recovered family. Have a great spring and summer!

BURNS RECOVERED SURVIVOR & CO-SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE

by the numbers for 2017

Peer support staff and volunteers provided a total of **1,098 visit/impressions**. This number includes visits and does not include a unique number. Patients and significant others could be counted multiple times.

Patient Impressions
in Hospital

538



560

Number of Significant
Other Impressions

Total Hours Spent at the Hospital by Burns
Recovered Staff and Peer Support Volunteers



397.5
hours



**SUPPORT
GROUP
ATTENDANCE**

96

for an average of 8 per
meeting (39 unique individu-
als - includes staff, profes-
sionals, volunteers, burn
survivors, and co-survivors)



**NUMBER OF
COMMUNITY
PRESENTATIONS**

161



**NUMBER OF
INDIVIDUALS IN
ATTENDANCE AT
COMMUNITY
PRESENTATIONS**

3,989

YOUTH FIRE SETTERS PREVENTION PROGRAM

This program was designed to work with children who display a risk for fire-setting and/or fire play. Referrals can come from the court, a juvenile office, police officers, fire departments, school counselors, a parent, or anyone concerned about a child's interest in fire setting.



Total 15 children, 20 sessions

Total Attendees 56, includes children, parents and professionals

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS TO YOUTH BURN SURVIVORS



7 Individuals from three states received scholarships

Illinois, Missouri, and Kansas

Total Dollars Awarded in 2017: \$4,000

MIDWEST CHILDREN'S BURN CAMP REPORT

2017

CAMPERS

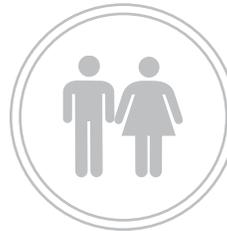
ATTENDED CAMP IN 2017

51



HOW WERE THEY BURNED?

- 26 > Fire/Flame
(Lighter/campfire/house fire/etc.)
- 16 > Scald
- 4 > Fireworks
- 3 > Abuse
- 2 > Unknown



22 > Female
29 > Male

WHERE ARE THE CAMPERS FROM?

- 26 > St. Louis & surrounding areas
- 15 > Kansas City & surrounding areas
- 4 > Lake of the Ozarks
- 2 > Columbia
- 1 > Springfield
- 1 > Cape Girardeau
- 1 > Manhattan, Kansas
- 1 > Red Oak, Iowa



ETHNIC/RACIAL GROUPS SERVED

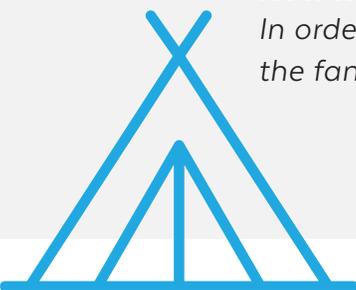
- 31 > White
- 16 > African American
- 2 > Asian
- 2 > Native American

How many campers we're eligible for the Summer Food Service Program?

In order to be eligible, the campers family must be using food stamps or the family is living below the Federal Poverty Level

32 > Eligible campers

19 > Ineligible campers





SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS *opens in April*

> Each year the Burns Recovered Board of Directors awards scholarships to burn survivors who have an affiliation with our organization and need financial assistance to pursue education after high school or who need to be retrained as a result of their burn injuries.

In order to apply for a scholarship, a burn survivor must be at least 17 years old and have a relationship with Burns Recovered by attending Midwest Children's Burn Camp (MCBC) and/or has participated with BRSO programs or services as an adult. You must have applied and been accepted to a two-year college, four year university, trade school, or other training program approved by the BRSO Board of Directors.

The Burns Recovered Board of Directors evaluates each application and selects the recipients based on need. Scholarship values are determined annually by the Board of Directors. If someone has received a scholarship in the past that does not exclude them from applying again this year. The application process opens on April 1 and concludes on May 15. Winners are notified by June 15. The scholarship funds are distributed in July or August.

A scholarship application form must be completed. Along with an applicant's application, two letters of recommendation from a teacher, counselor or youth advisor addressing the question of why the applicant is

deserving of and in need of a scholarship. Letters of recommendation from a parent, guardian, or grandparents will not be accepted. Also, the letters must come from two different individuals. Applicants must also include a one-page essay by the applicant describing their educational goals and their plan to achieve those goals. We also need a headshot appropriate for publication in a newsletter and on our website. Please note that if you are a previous scholarship recipient, you must provide proof of a minimum GPA of 2.0 for entire term the scholarship was awarded and proof of completion of a one-year term.

If awarded a scholarship, the student must maintain a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) for the entire term the scholarship is awarded, which is one year. The scholarship money can only be used for tuition and or school supplies (books, required material, or classroom fees). Disbursement will be made directly to the school/training facility on behalf of the successful applicant. Under no circumstances will funding be directly distributed to the applicant.

You can find out more information or download all the materials you need to apply by visiting our website at www.brsog.org.

Good luck and we look forward to receiving your application!



BURNS RECOVERED NOW ACCEPTS STOCK GIFTS

Donating stock is a wonderful way to help Burns Recovered support burn survivors. Making a gift of securities is simple and offers a number of valuable financial benefits:

- > You can donate appreciated stocks.
- > The total value of the stock upon transfer is tax-deductible
- > There is no obligation to pay any capital gains taxes on the appreciation.
- > You may also make a charitable donation from a traditional or Roth IRA.

If you have questions, please contact Executive Director, Lynn Huelsmann at 314-939-1550.

Custodian of the Account:
DTC # for Charles Schwab:
Account Registration:

Account Number:

Charles Schwab & Company
0164 Code 40
BURNS RECOVERED SUPPORT GROUP
6220 SOUTH LINDBERGH BLVD
SUITE 203, ST. LOUIS, MO 63123
3967-7671

BURNS RECOVERED

Invites you & your family to a special night.



when: SUNDAY, APRIL 29

time: 6 P.M. - 8 P.M.

where: THE MAGIC HOUSE
516 S. Kirkwood Rd.
Saint Louis, MO 63122

resv: 314-939-1550 (prior to April 26)

The Magic House Museum has invited Burns Recovered to enjoy a fun-filled evening for our burn survivors' families. You will be able to touch an electronically charged ball and make your hair stand up on end; transform your silhouette into a kaleidoscope of color; lift yourself with a pulley; freeze your shadow on a wall; make a 3-dimensional image of yourself; and zoom down a 3-story slide. These are just some of the fun things you will be able to do at the magic house!

Come have fun with us!

BURNS RECOVERED WELCOMES FIVE NEW MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Burns Recovered is pleased to welcome five new members to the Board of Directors for three year terms.

Matt Erker



As board treasurer, Matt Erker will be responsible for leading the financial oversight of the organization in partnership with the entire Board of Directors. Matt began working at Moneta in May of 2016. He is a graduate of DePaul University with a degree in Business Management. He is also a certified public accountant (CPA) and a certified financial planner (CFP). Prior to Moneta, he worked in various public and private accounting and finance roles in Chicago. Matt enjoys competing in triathlons when he is not working.

Gregg Favre



A fourth generation public servant, Gregg Favre is the Deputy Director and Chief of Operations of the Missouri Department of Public Safety. Prior to assuming command of the state's largest cabinet department, Gregg worked as a member of the St. Louis Fire Department, ultimately serving as Captain on the Fire Chief's command staff. Gregg completed his graduate education at United States Naval Postgraduate School and The George Washington University School of Medicine, graduating from both with honors. He is a former Harvard fellow, completing a post-graduate research project for the Kennedy School of Government and the School of Public Health.

Jeff Litt



Jeff Litt, MD, serves as the Burn and Wound Program Director at University Hospital in Columbia Missouri. Jeff attended medical school at Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, completed his residency at York Hospital and his fellowship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He has received several awards for his work in the medical field, including honors from the Phoenix Society and the ABA World Burn Congress. In his free time, Jeff enjoys photography and beekeeping.

Jeff Sadtler



Jeff Sadtler serves as the Chief of the West County EMS and Fire Protection District and is responsible for leading the District's more than 60 personnel. Prior to being promoted to Chief, Jeff has served as Paramedic/Firefighter/Rescue Technician, Deputy Chief and Assistant Chief for West County. Jeff is a graduate of the University of Missouri in Columbia with a Bachelor's Degree in Biology. In his spare time, he enjoys coaching baseball and hockey.

Brad Shelton



Brad Shelton began his fire service career with Metro West Fire Protection District in 1997 as a volunteer firefighter. His career path includes working as a firefighter and paramedic, rising to a lieutenant and eventually captain. In 2015 he was promoted to the rank of Battalion Chief, Chief Medical Officer and in 2017 he was elevated to one of three Deputy Chief's for Metro West Fire Protection District. Brad is a graduate of Murray State University and holds a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and an Associate's degree in Fire Science. Brad is married with three children, and resides in Wildwood, Missouri.

VISITOR'S DAY AT CAMP

SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

We invite you to join us for Midwest Children's Burn Camp Visitors' Day, scheduled for Friday, August 10 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at our host facility, Camp Sabra in beautiful Lake of the Ozarks in Rocky Mount, Missouri.

Visitor's Day is an opportunity for family members of campers, donors, volunteers, board members and supporters of Burns Recovered to enjoy the MCBC camp experience.

Twenty-two years ago, during our very first year of camp, MCBC hosted 17 campers. This year, we anticipate 80 campers between the ages of 6 and 17 will join us for a week of camp activities and learning that who they are on the inside is far more important than the scars we see on the outside. We would love to share the excitement of our camp with you! Please help us celebrate by joining us for a tour of camp, lunch with our



campers, a meet and greet with camp staff and volunteers, and some wonderful fun far away from the hustle and bustle of your daily life.

If you would like to join us, RSVP to Lynn Huelsmann, executive director by Monday, July 1. You can RSVP via email at lynn@brsg.org or call 314-939-1550. Once your RSVP is received, we will provide additional information on driving directions to the camp as well as your itinerary and attire for the day.

We hope to see you at camp!



MAKING CAMP A SUCCESS IS JUST A CLICK AWAY

What do digital cameras, red white and blue, and glitter tattoos all have in common? They are just some of the items included on our camp wish list this year to ensure a wonderful camp experience for all!

Our theme this year is Party in the USA and you cannot have a party without decorations, glow sticks, and glitter tattoos! And speaking of party, since many of our kids do not have the financial means to celebrate their birthdays at home, we celebrate our campers' birthdays each year at camp including party hats and a birthday lunch.

We have made it easy for you to get involved, visit this Amazon link <https://amzn.to/2GDv7ia> and pick from the list of needed items. Regardless of what or how many you choose, all the items will help enhance our camp experience!

Thanks in advance for helping to make a child's camp experience awesome!

2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr 5 < Peer Support Group St. Louis < 6 pm < Mercy Hospital, 5th Floor, Burn Unit

April 8 < Tip a Firefighter event at the Old Spaghetti Factory in St. Louis from 11:30 am to 9:30 pm. A portion of the proceeds benefit Midwest Children's Burn Camp

Apr 10 < Peer Support Group Columbia < 4 pm < University Hospital, Waiting Room of Burn Center

Apr 12 < BRSB Board Meeting

Apr 29 < BRSB Day at the Magic House

May 8 < Peer Support Group Columbia < 4 pm < University Hospital, Waiting Room of Burn Center

May 10 < Peer Support Group St. Louis < 6 pm < Mercy Hospital, 5th Floor, Burn Unit (May and June Support Groups in St. Louis are moved due to scheduling conflict. We will resume having the support group on the first Thursday of each month, beginning in July 2018)

May 31 < BRSB Day at the Ballpark, Cardinals vs. Pittsburgh Pirates. Burn Survivors and their families are welcome but you must have a ticket. Contact the office for more info.

June 12 < Peer Support Group Columbia < 4 pm < University Hospital, Waiting Room of Burn Center

June 14 < Peer Support Group St. Louis < 6 pm < Mercy Hospital, 5th Floor, Burn Unit (May and June Support Groups in St. Louis are moved due to scheduling conflict. We will resume having the support group on the first Thursday of each month, beginning in July 2018)

June 14 < BRSB Board Meeting

June 23 & 24 < MCBC Volunteer orientation in Columbia, Missouri

July 5 < Peer Support Group St. Louis < 6 pm < Mercy Hospital, 5th Floor, Burn Unit

July 10 < Peer Support Group Columbia < 4 pm < University Hospital, Waiting Room of Burn Center

Aug 2 < Peer Support Group St. Louis < 6 pm < Mercy Hospital, 5th Floor, Burn Unit

Aug 10 < Visitor's Day at Midwest Children's Burn Camp

Aug 6 - 12 < 22nd Annual Midwest Children's Burn Camp (MCBC)

Aug 14 < Peer Support Group Columbia < 4 pm < University Hospital Waiting Room of Burn Center

Aug 23 < BRSB Board Meeting

Sept 6 < Peer Support Group St. Louis < 6 pm < Mercy Hospital, 5th Floor, Burn Unit

Sept 11 < Peer Support Group Columbia < 4 pm < University Hospital, Waiting Room of Burn Center

Sept 12 < More than a Fashion Show at Neiman Marcus

Oct 4 < Peer Support Group St. Louis < 6 pm < Mercy Hospital, 5th Floor, Burn Unit

Oct 9 < Peer Support Group Columbia < 4 pm < University Hospital, Waiting Room of Burn Center

Nov 1 < Peer Support Group St. Louis < 6 pm < Mercy Hospital, 5th Floor, Burn Unit

Nov (date TBD) < Trivia Night at Crestwood Community Center

Nov 13 < Peer Support Group Columbia < 4 pm < University Hospital, Waiting Room of Burn Center

Dec 1 < BRSB Holiday Party

Dec 6 < Peer Support Group St. Louis < 6 pm < Mercy Hospital, 5th Floor, Burn Unit

Dec 11 < Peer Support Group Columbia < 4 pm < University Hospital, Waiting Room of Burn Center

Dec 13 < BRSB Board Meeting



BE A HERO

FOR A YOUTH BURN SURVIVOR



HELP SEND THEM TO **SUMMER CAMP!**

- \$25.00** ▶ Purchases 3 meals at MCBC
- \$100.00** ▶ Provides supplies for 3 campers at MCBC
- \$500.00** ▶ Purchases 1 pressure garment for a camper at MCBC
- \$2,000.00** ▶ Sends 1 child to Midwest Children's Burn Camp

Make your gift using the enclosed envelope or visit www.brsq.org



SAVE THE DATE!

**MORE THAN A FASHION SHOW
AT NEIMAN MARCUS IS BACK!**

Mark your calendars for the evening of Wednesday, September 12 when Burns Recovered and Neiman Marcus partner to present More Than a Fashion Show benefitting Midwest Children's Burn Camp. Guests will enjoy fabulous food and cocktails and preview fantastic fall fashions. This event sells out every year so watch your mailbox for your invite, check your inbox for your evite, or call our office at 314-939-1550 to book your tickets today. Tickets will be available for purchase online via www.brsq.org beginning May 1. We hope to see you there!