2020 Progress Update

We are a 501c3 charity working to improve the quality of life of more than 900 children, adults, and families living with spina bifida throughout Illinois.

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Program Strategy

• Build family resilience through outreach, education, and advocacy
  Programs include statewide support groups, workshops, and info & referral.

• Provide scholarships, equipment grants, and emergency financial help

• Promote skills development and independence
  ISBA is proud to be in association with the YMCA of Metro Chicago in providing Camp Independence experiences for children, teens, and adults.

Updates & Accomplishments

• *New* - ISBA’s vocational rehabilitation counselor can help with job plans.

• ISBA will be providing $35,000 in direct assistance to families this year.

• The Community-Clinic Connection program has worked on more than 500 cases with individuals and families since 2017. Through clinic outreach, events, and individualized coaching, we help people work toward goals, access resources and social networks, and achieve greater independence.

• Four annual GoBabyGo workshops have provided custom electric ride-on cars to 53 children to empower greater mobility & independence.

• ISBA serves more than 900 families statewide through collaborations with pediatric & adult spina bifida clinics at Shriners Hospitals for Children - Chicago, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago, the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, Loyola Medicine, and OSF HealthCare in Peoria.

• ISBA’s Professional Advisory Council has announced its fifth annual Research Awards for excellence in clinical research.

--Sincerely, Matt Larsen, Executive Director