2022 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

- Support individuals and families 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

- Through executive functioning coaching, ISBA helps people with spina bifida achieve success with academic and independent living goals.
- Expectant parents and medical providers can now get local care and support info through a 15-state “Diagnosis Day” project, coordinated by ISBA.
- ISBA vocational rehabilitation has helped 10 adults get jobs since 2020.
- The Community-Clinic Connection program has worked on more than 1075 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.
- Annual GoBabyGo workshops have provided custom electric ride-on cars to 65 children to empower greater mobility & independence.
- ISBA has partnerships with Shriners Hospitals for Children - Chicago, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago, Loyola Medicine, Illinois Eye Institute, University of Chicago Medicine, and OSF HealthCare in Peoria.

--Sincerely, Matt Larsen, Executive Director