



"In each loss there is a gain as in every gain there is a loss and with each ending comes a new beginning"

Dear Friend,

We at New Beginnings Community Center for traumatic brain injury have some exciting news, WE ARE NOW UP AND RUNNING. New Beginnings is an outpatient facility in Medford, New York designed to provide a healthy, stimulating and safe environment for community members with traumatic brain injury, physical disabilities, cognitive disabilities, and dementia. We are also committed to supporting the Veteran community and are certified to accept Tri-Care, the insurance of Veterans and government employees. The goal of our facility is to make available state-of-the-art rehabilitation opportunities as well as a structured and social based day program. These opportunities include cognitive remediation, classes in an educational based setting, speech therapy, physical therapy, and occupational therapy. There are no other resources like this on Long Island.

This November, New Beginnings will be hosting our 3rd Annual Veteran's Day Gala. The Gala will be Thursday, November 10, 2011 at 7pm at Leonard's of Great Neck. (555 Northern Boulevard, Great Neck, NY 11021). We are thrilled to announce that this year's Gala honorees are Jim and Carol Dunne.

Jim and Carol's world changed forever after Jim sustained a devastating brain injury from a car accident in 2004. Jim and Carol's story is not unlike those of many other brain injury survivors. Traumatic Brain Injury, is a silent epidemic, the injuries are typically the result of auto accidents, falls, acts of violence, sports injuries and are one of the most significant injuries of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. In the US alone there are over 5.3 million survivors living with brain injury and the lifelong impairments of the individual's physical, cognitive, and physiological functioning. Brain Injury can happen to anyone. New Beginnings honoree, Jim Dunne is a veteran, a retired LIRR Conductor, acting Commander of the American Legion, father, grandfather, husband, and of course friend to all. The past six years, Jim has made amazing strides and his recovery has been ongoing thanks to support of his family, friends, and especially his NEW BEGINNINGS TEAM.

New Beginnings is also proud to honor Jim's wife, Carol Dunne. Carol became involved with New Beginnings at our very first support group; she has been committed ever since and eventually became the New Beginnings Director of Fundraising. We are so pleased to honor her with the 2011 Angel of Hope Award because of her endless dedication, commitment, and support to New Beginnings.

We are asking for your support of New Beginnings and our 2011 honorees at this year's Gala. It's a 1970's themed event with raffles, auctions, disco dancers and much more. We are also very pleased to announce that the very well known That 70's Band will be performing. This is an event you do not want to miss!

Tickets for this event are \$175, with discounts for tables of ten or more. If you can't attend this year's Gala, you can still show your support by purchasing an ad in the Gala journal. The journal ads range in price from \$100 to \$1000 and sponsorship opportunities are also available. As always, all contributions are tax deductible. Please visit our website for more information and updates.

We hope to see you at this year's celebration honoring Jim and Carol Dunne.

Sincerely,

Allyson Scerri

Allyson Scerri
President / Founder