



Stroke Survivors EMPOWERING Each Other

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND DONORS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital, Vista Health, Vivistim, AbbVie YourCause, Kirkland & Ellis, LLP, Facebook/Network for Good, Advocate Aurora Health

YEAR IN REVIEW

STROKE SURVIVORS EMPOWERING EACH OTHER
2022 - 2023

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

David Bowman (President), John Hunt (Treasurer), Christine Somberg (Secretary), Jim Geminer, Christina Miller, Charu Nagar, MD, Angie Keister, PhD, Forrest Harris, and Mark Egelston

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On January 9, 2016, I became a relentless advocate. It was on that cold and dreary January day that my mother had her stroke. She was just 56 years old. It left her paralyzed, unable to speak and with a host of other deficits. It left me heartbroken, but with an unyielding passion to advocate. To challenge the ever frequent "no". As I reflect on the past year, my first as SSEEO's President, I am amazed and inspired by what we have accomplished. From finalizing our pilot and taking our Stroke Survivor 2 Survivor (SS2S) support program national to developing an innovative program that helps bridge the gap in therapy services for stroke survivors while providing valuable fieldwork for occupational therapy students. SSEEO is making strides in executing its mission of providing support, advocacy, education and resources to stroke survivors and their families. I am so thankful for our volunteers, board members, rock star employee Christine, and the many donors and sponsors of SSEEO who make this all possible. Stroke impacts hundreds of thousands of people every year. It's one of the leading causes of serious long-term disability. Dealing with the aftermath of stroke can be a tough, dark and lonely process. There is no easy button, but what I have come to realize is that a tangible positive impact on the quality of life of stroke survivors and their families can result when organizations like SSEEO are around to lend a helping hand. BEFAST!

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION



NCC students - Naperville, IL

Over 100 participants joined the quarterly stroke learning group (topics included; adaptive sports, research to improve stroke technology, strategies for staying healthy after a stroke and new FDA-approved device) FDA device presentation led to a new sponsorship and SSEEO volunteer receiving approval for the implant.

Students 4 Stroke Therapy (S4ST) - A unique volunteer opportunity with occupational therapy students. Virtual tele-health program which helps bridge the gap in therapy services for stroke survivors while providing valuable fieldwork for occupational therapy students. (research study conducted to explore the impact the program had on stroke survivors)

92 healthcare professionals (neuro-rehab conference)

42 Master Of Occupational Therapy students

48 participants at the May stroke awareness lunch and learn

"It has been great working with my volunteers and hearing about their individual journeys in their stroke recovery. The SS2S program helps to bring the care our medical center provides full circle; from prevention, acute care, and the realities of life after a stroke. I care about areas we can focus better on to provide the best possible care to our patients and celebrate areas that have resulted in positive patient outcomes."

• Bryna, Stroke Coordinator

99 NEW MEMBERS & REQUESTS FOR RESOURCES

60 stroke survivors

15 caregivers

26 healthcare professionals

"Thanks so much - I think your organization does amazing work!"

- Stephanie, Speech Language Pathologist
Evergreen Park, IL

7 NEW WEBSITE RESOURCES

- Games for stroke recovery
- Spanish BEFAST infographic
- Caregivers guide
- Independent living guide
- Rehabilitation living products
- Adaptive equipment and service
- Disability services & support



SS2S volunteers - West Allis, WI

SSEEO'S Stroke Survivor 2 Survivor (SS2S) post-stroke telephone peer support expanded program pilot completed with hospital participation from WI, CO, NH and more. Next - nationwide accessibility!