



Dear :

I am writing to you regarding an opportunity to take part in the Vascular Birthmarks Foundation International Day of Awareness on May 15th. This is a national campaign that will raise awareness and funds for tens of thousands of children and adults affected by vascular birthmarks. These birthmarks include hemangiomas, port wine stains, venous malformation, and their related syndromes like Sturge-Weber and Klippel-Trenaunay.

Each year, 40,000 children are born in the United States with a vascular birthmark that requires the opinion of a medical specialist. Of these 40,000 children, nearly 70% will require some form of medical intervention. Very little accurate and comprehensive information existed before 1995. In addition, the protocol for identification, classification and treatment of vascular birthmarks had not been updated in medical schools in more than 75 years.

In 1995, Linda Shannon founded VBF out of frustration over the lack of information for families affected by a vascular birthmark. Since that time, VBF has networked tens of thousands of children into medical treatment by providing the most current information on treatment options to families affected by these lesions and by providing a list of international physicians trained in the accurate diagnosis and treatment of these lesions. Our Foundation also sponsors relevant research and promotes physician education; however there is more work to do. In order to continue with our important mission, more funding is needed.

On May 15, VBF is launching its VBF Annual Awareness Day. We would like you to participate by wearing a sticker in exchange for a donation. This can be done at an office, school, and church, social or civic club. Businesses may wish to make a donation or offer to donate a percentage of sales on this day. You may consider using your fundraisers already in place. We would encourage local, state and national government to proclaim this day as well.

I will contact you regarding how you can participate in the VBF Day of Awareness.

For more information on VBF, go to www.birthmark.org and for awareness information visit the VBF International Day of Awareness website at www.birthmark.org/awareness . I look forward to speaking to you and thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

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