

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Headway of WNY, Inc. is a membership organization that was originally founded in 1985 by survivors of brain injury and their families who advocated for more local services as alternatives to institutional care. Membership was one of the main vehicles that created the foundation of the agency.

By 1995, this original group of members and supporters had become active in advocating for governmental policy changes and as a result, Headway was one of the agencies that was pivotal in starting the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Medicaid Waiver program, followed by the Nursing Home Transition and Diversion Waiver in 2009. These Medicaid Waiver programs are funded by the New York State Department of Health.

Although Headway of WNY, Inc. is the Regional Resource Development Center, established to administer the two above noted Waiver programs, it is also a support and advocacy agency for persons with brain injury and other cognitive conditions, including seniors. Memberships, annual donations and special event fundraising, provide the basis of activity for the side of Headway that is not supported under New York State Health Department Waiver programs.

In 2012, Headway became affiliated with People Inc. and over the years, the Membership program has evolved, raising a small percentage of the overall mix of fundraising initiatives that Headway utilizes on an annual basis (including special events and annual donations). Membership includes a variety of benefits and most importantly offers the community an opportunity to raise awareness for Headway's mission. Some members serve on Headway's Advisory Council, which meets on a quarterly basis and provides ideas, outside of the agency's perspective, and support on strategic planning. Members are a community of people who share common values and concerns about individuals and family members, support systems in Western New York, and education about TBI and other cognitive conditions. Members help sustain the mission and vision of the agency and are often active participants and/or volunteers at special events and fundraising activities.

Membership funds help provide outreach and support in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to: support groups, newsletters, mailings, e-newsletter and updates, website and social media updates, educational presentations, advocacy and assistance in identification of supports, as needed.

If you are not yet a member of Headway or have become a lapsed member and would like to re-join us, please do! Our website has a section designated specifically to membership, including a link to the online giving portal maintained by People Inc. and a link to the current brochure: headwayofwny.org/how_to_help/membership.

Thank you to all our members for continued service and dedication to our mission, we look forward to seeing you in-person again at future events. Until then, please stay connected by visiting our website and Facebook page. We also encourage members to share updates, stories or articles of interest for possible publication in future issues of this newsletter.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LEVELS, ANNUAL DUES AND ASSOCIATED BENEFITS

Student or Senior \$15	Individual \$20	Family \$45	Professional \$100	Corporate \$250
Semi-annual newsletter, monthly agency e-news, volunteer opportunities	All Student or Senior benefits and reduced rate or fee waived for select special events	All Individual benefits, signature canvas tote bag, notice of free or reduced rate arts and cultural opportunities in WNY	All Family benefits, opportunity to provide an annual educational presentation, recognition on website and newsletter ad	All Professional benefits, link on website, and special recognition at all events

Membership levels were slightly revised in 2018 when an additional, more cost-effective option for seniors and students was added. Additionally, the 2020 updated membership brochure design coincided with the creation of the online membership and donation buttons. The online options were established in conjunction with People Inc., giving members and donors the ability to make electronic financial transactions.

FEROLETO LAW

INJURY ATTORNEYS

clients first.

438 Main Street, Suite 910
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 854-0700

www.yourbuffalolawyer.com

HEADWAY OF WNY:
THANK YOU
FOR THE SUPPORT &
ADVOCACY YOU PROVIDE.

JOHN FEROLETO
CARRIE A. ZIMBARDI
JOEL FEROLETO
JILL WNEK

WINSHIP VOCATIONAL & TRANSITION SERVICES, LLC

Transition, Rehabilitation, and Career
Counseling Services

40 Gardenville Pkwy
Suite 104
West Seneca, NY 14224

(716) 668-3710

awinship@winshipassociates.com

mwinship@winshipassociates.com



**Dr. Dick O'Connor &
Dr. Alyssa Fortuna**

Neuro-Developmental Optometrists

980 West Maple Court, Suite 200
Elma, NY 14059

P: (716) 398-4300

E: info@VisionTherapyWNY.com

visiontherapywny.com



The Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic at Buffalo State offers individually tailored assessment and treatment for persons with brain injuries due to trauma or stroke, weekly aphasia support group meetings, and an intensive aphasia therapy summer program.

Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic

1300 Elmwood Avenue • Caudell Hall 149
Buffalo, NY 14222 • (716) 878-3530

speech.buffalostate.edu/speech-language-hearing-clinic



BUFFALO STATE
The State University of New York

SCHEDULE AN EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PRESENTATION

Headway of WNY, Inc. offers specially tailored educational presentations for organizations, schools and community centers throughout Western New York. Headway of WNY assists survivors and families address life altering situations related to traumatic brain injury and other cognitive disabilities. For more information or to schedule a presentation, email support@headwayofwny.org or call 716.408.3100.