

How VBF is making a difference for families world-wide

VBF is dedicated to serving individuals and families living with all types of vascular birthmarks. VBF serves in raising awareness, providing family support services, and promoting educational services for the public-at-large as well as the medical community. VBF has networked thousands of patients into treatment, and strives to help patients receive the correct diagnosis for their condition.



VBF's Honorary Chairs Frank and Barbara Catalanotto

Patients and families are our top priority. Not only does VBF network to ensure patients receive proper care, but we also provide the much needed family and patient support. VBF has programs for

parents, and for both children and adults living with vascular birthmarks. We have online discussion groups, as well as "Glen's Gang" newsletter and pen pal group for kids with birthmarks and their siblings.

VBF also provides free publications for informational and educational purposes. Our VBF Facts pamphlet explains the various birthmark types, as well as the diagnostic tools and treatments recommended for them.

The VBF Insurance Appeal brochure is an invaluable tool when applying or appealing to insurance companies for coverage or the treatment of vascular birthmarks.

Unique to VBF is the "Ask the Experts" program. From our website, parents and patients are able to directly email over 30 doctors and other medical experts with their questions.

Our goal is to provide these services for families worldwide. Also, with our international medical missions program, we are taking a medical team to countries outside the USA to educate and train doctors in the diagnosis and treatment of vascular birthmarks. We are also helping to establish an on-going clinic to provide support within these countries.

About Our Founder



VBF President and Founder, Dr. Linda Rozell-Shannon with daughter Christine

Dr. Linda Rozell-Shannon founded the VBF in 1994, shortly after the birth of her daughter Christine. While searching for treatment for her daughter's lip hemangioma. Dr. Linda found that there were very few options available and that the medical community offered little in the way of diagnosis and treatment. Her search led her to the right surgeon who removed her daughter's hemangioma. This also led to Dr. Linda co-authoring a book for parents about vascular birthmarks. Dr. Linda has dedicated her life to ensuring that all babies born with a vascular birthmark receive prompt and accurate treatment.



VBF International Day of Awareness

Join our annual VBF International Day of Awareness on May 15. Organize an event and have fun while raising hope, funds and awareness for vascular birthmarks.

Visit our VBF International Day of Awareness campaign headquarters online at: <http://birthmark.org/awareness/>

Participants can register an event, order event materials, purchase VBF merchandise, tell their story of how VBF and vascular birthmarks have impacted their lives, read stories

from families and patients, locate an event in their area - all online!

Past events include a bake sale, garage sale, jeans day at work, EBay auction - the possibilities are endless.

For Day of Awareness information contact Basia Joyce, VBF Executive Assistant
Email: basiajim99@nycap.rr.com
Phone: 518-495-3938,
Or visit the VBF website for details.

VBF's Official Mascot Buddy Booby Join the Buddy Booby Read-Along



Mother and son, Donna and Evan Ducker, co-authored the first book for children about living with a birthmark, Buddy Booby's Birthmark. The book tells the story of Buddy, a red-footed booby bird born with a vascular birthmark. Buddy's story illustrates the affects of being different – highlighting the need for social acceptance of those who are viewed as different. Buddy is now the Official VBF Mascot. Visit the Buddy Booby website for details on how to register your school or organization for the Buddy Booby's Birthmark Read-Along for Tolerance and Awareness at:

www.buddyboobysbirthmark.com

Annual Conferences

Attend a VBF International Conference. VBF hosts a conference every year during the Fall season. The conference alternates each year between Irvine, California in the odd years, and NYC during the even years. To learn more, visit the VBF website at www.birthmark.org

The Support of
Our Families Makes
VBF Special

The families that support the VBF are a unique group. They represent individuals who share a common bond, even though the vascular birthmark condition may vary greatly. Our families include adults and children alike, affected by a variety of vascular birthmarks and associated syndromes. From hemangiomas to port wine stains, from Sturge-Weber Syndrome to KTS or PHACES, each family's story is woven into the fabric that blankets the VBF. Each story is different, but bound by the hope that "we are making a difference" for generations to come.



VBF Founder presented with VBF Family Quilt at 2004 conference. l to r - Hank Bartenbach, VBF President and Founder Linda Rozell-Shannon,, Geoff Ritchie, and quilt-maker Pat Carson

**Support VBF
Join Our Family**

VBF Mission Statement

The VBF is an international charitable organization that networks families affected by a vascular birthmark, tumor, or syndrome to the appropriate medical professionals for evaluation and/or treatment and provides informational resources as well as sponsors physician education, mobilizes medical missions trips, and supports research and programs that promote acceptance for individuals with birthmarks.

SUPPORT VBF - DONATE TODAY

VBF is a fully approved not-for-profit. Your donations are tax deductible. Federal Tax ID #16-1515227

Fill out this form and send with your donation to:

VBF
P.O. Box 106
Latham, NY 12110

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Country: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Credit Card No. _____

Type: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature _____

Donate Now Online - Website: <http://birthmark.org>

VBF IS WORKING FOR YOU

- Networked over 75,000 patients into treatment since 1994
- Helped to establish clinics all over the world
- Website and Discussion Group
- International Missions Trips
- Doctor list & referral information
- "Ask the Experts" online
- Annual Conferences
- Family/Patient Support
- International Chapters
- Physician Education



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Website: www.birthmark.org



**The
Vascular
Birthmarks
Foundation**



**Courage
and
Confidence**



***We are making
a difference!***