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 hemangioma to port wine stain, from Sturge-Weber syndrome to PHACES Association, 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.

The Support of Our Families Makes VBF Special

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, research, and programs that promote acceptance for living with a birthmark.

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
Please designate if you are donating to a VBF Chapter, Research Programs, or General Operating Fund.
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 25,000 patients into treatment since 1995
- Helped to establish 9 VB clinics
- Website and Discussion Group
- Annual Newsletters
- Doctor list & referral information
- “Ask the Experts” online
- Annual Conferences
- Family/Patient Support
- International Chapters
- Physician Education

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
P.O. Box 106
Latham, NY 12110
Phone: 877-823-4646
Email: HVBF@aol.com
Website: www.birthmark.org

Courage and Confidence
We are making a difference!
How VBF is making a difference for families worldwide

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.

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. In 2004 the Sturge-Weber Syndrome Community became the first VBF Chapter, and since that time, we have established eight chapters on nearly every continent. In addition, each Chapter has a website, and these are being updated to include critical information in the native language of each country represented.

About Our Founder

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, 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 Dr. Milton Waner, who has pioneered surgical treatment for hemangiomas, and he was able to successfully treat Christine. Since that time, Linda has dedicated her life to patients and families affected by vascular birthmarks.

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

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

For Day of Awareness information contact VBF Executive Director, Paige Salvador
Email: BASPASTS@cs.com
Phone: 856-234-2126,
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 the east coast during the even years. To learn more, visit the VBF website or call or write to the VBF for conference updates.