



Empowering People.

CINCINNATI AREA SPINA BIFIDA GROUP **MOVES IN NEW DIRECTION**

*Group ends national affiliation;
Changes name to Spina Bifida Coalition of Cincinnati*

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To increase its emphasis on providing services to people affected by Spina Bifida, the Spina Bifida Association of Cincinnati is becoming an independent organization serving 17 counties in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky.

The organization also has changed its name to the Spina Bifida Coalition of Cincinnati to make it clear that it is no longer affiliated with the national Spina Bifida Association.

After careful consideration, the Spina Bifida Coalition of Cincinnati decided to end its affiliation because its Board of Directors believes the mission of the national organization is no longer fully aligned with Coalition's mission. The Coalition's primary mission is to provide services to its clients. The national organization's primary mission seems to be raising money to fund Spina Bifida research.

“Our main focus will continue to be helping people born with Spina Bifida lead full, active lives in our region,” said Justin Bifro, Chair of the Spina Bifida Coalition of Cincinnati. “We acknowledge that research continues to be vital to lessen the impact of Spina Bifida on future generations. But we think our organization is best suited to enhancing the lives of those affected by Spina Bifida today.

“Our Board is convinced that this is the right decision for our clients because it will keep our focus on providing high-quality services and programs to them,” he said.

Programs and services of the Spina Bifida Coalition of Cincinnati will not be impacted. In fact, because the changes are mostly internal ones, the Coalition’s clients, donors and volunteers might not even notice any differences, other than the organization’s new name and logo.

Despite the end of the formal affiliation, the Spina Bifida Coalition of Cincinnati expects to maintain a positive relationship with the SBA. “We are sure there will be occasions when cooperation will benefit both organizations and our clients,” said Sonya Dreves, the Coalition’s Executive Director. The Spina Bifida Coalition of Cincinnati is encouraging its clients to continue to support the national organization.

More information about the new direction can be found on a new page of the Coalition’s website: www.sbcccincy.org/newdirection.

The goal of the Spina Bifida Coalition of Cincinnati is to enrich the lives of those affected by Spina Bifida through education, parental support, social networking, advocacy and public awareness. The Coalition serves southwestern Ohio, southeastern Indiana and northern Kentucky, including Adams, Boone, Brown, Butler, Campbell, Clermont, Clinton, Dearborn, Franklin, Hamilton, Highland, Jefferson, Kenton, Ohio, Ripley, Switzerland and Warren counties.

More information about the Coalition is available at www.sbcccincy.org or 513-923-1378.

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Available upon request:

- Headshots of Justin Bifro and Sonya Dreves
- New logo

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