Greetings!

**GIVE BIG for WASHAA on May 3**

This is the first year for WASHAA to participate in the campaign, **GiveBIG**, The Seattle Foundation’s 6th annual online, one-day community giving event.

On May 3, the Seattle Foundation will match a portion of every gift made to WASHAA through their website. In addition, an anonymous donor has offered WASHAA a matching challenge grant! Our anonymous donor will match up to $2,500 dollar for dollar. These matching dollars are in addition to the stretch funds from the Seattle Foundation and GiveBIG sponsor.

How to GiveBIG for WASHAA on Tuesday, May 3:
Visit our profile page [http://tinyurl.com/WASHAA-GIVE-BIG](http://tinyurl.com/WASHAA-GIVE-BIG) and donate through the Seattle Foundation to GiveBIG for WASHAA.

**New this year - You can schedule your GiveBIG donation now to be processed on May 3.**

Your donation helps WASHAA develop and maintain our programs and organization. We are currently all volunteer-run but hope to raise money for part-time staff. Help us expand health advocacy for everyone in our state!

Robin Shapiro
Chair, WASHAA Board

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**Is A Volunteer Health Advocate in Your Future?**

**Volunteer Training Launches At Two Sites**

West Seattle Senior Center and the Phinney Neighborhood Village (PNV) are partnering with WASHAA on the Volunteer Health Advocate program, which launched last week at both sites. Volunteers from each organization participated in a six-hour training to learn more about how to do this role for community members. Training included real - life examples of how volunteer health advocates can be helping members of the community with tasks like preparing for a medical visit and keeping a personal health record.

If your organization is interested in the training and program, please contact Robin Shapiro at robin.shapiro@washaa.org.

This curriculum has been in development for 18 months and began with a group of volunteers who wanted to bring the concept of volunteer health advocacy to our
communities. We gratefully acknowledge and thank those early visionaries:

- Selena Bolotin, Qualis Health
- Rebecca Crichton, Northwest Center for Creative Aging
- Carol Higgins, Qualis Health
- Judy Kinney, North East Seattle Together (NEST)
- Amanda Klein, KleinDoerr Consultants
- Denise Klein, KleinDoerr Consultants
- LeighBeth Merrick, Seattle Housing Assistance Group (SHAG)

We also would like to thank people who have served on our Steering Committee overseeing the development of the curriculum and training program:

- Selena Bolotin, Qualis Health
- Rebecca Crichton, Northwest Center for Creative Aging
- Kathleen Cromp, Wallingford Community Senior Center
- Gina Culbert
- Jina Curtis, PNA Village
- Beth Droppert, WASHAA
- Dori Gillam, Senior Services
- Florence Harvey, Care Brigade
- Carol Higgins, Qualis Health
- Rocky Jorgensen, Senior Services
- Robin Low, Snohomish County Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program
- Leigh Beth Merrick, Senior Housing Assistance Group (SHAG)
- Robin Shapiro, WASHAA
- Claudine Wallace, Sound Generations
- Nicole Warren, Senior Services of Snohomish

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**Advocate Opportunity**

The Decision Health Annual Patient Advocate Conference is seeking advocates to serve on a committee to review and score abstracts for potential presentations at the conference. Abstracts are due by May 18, so the committee will begin work shortly after that deadline. Please contact Connie Sunderhaus RN-BC, CCM at c.sunderhaus@cxconsulting.net and let her know your interest and availability to participate on this committee.

If you are interested in submitting an abstract for possible presentation, the deadline is May 18th. Click [here](#) for more information.

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**Don't Miss This WASHAA Partner Member Event**
WASHAA Partner Member *The Chris Elliott Fund / End Brain Cancer* hosts its 5th Annual Brains Matter Education, Awareness, Auction & Celebration Luncheon.

The luncheon brings together friends, staff, supporters, sponsors and partners for a special time of celebration. It celebrates brain tumor patients who have stories of survivorship. With a focus on gratitude for the accomplishments the organization has been able to make throughout the year with the help of many. Special awards will be presented for those who have made a difference in the fight to end brain cancer in the previous year.

Reserve your seat today [here](#).

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**Are You Committed to Supporting Health Advocacy? We can’t do it without you!**

WASHAA needs your help! We are looking for members, volunteers, donors and partners!

Members join WASHAA Here: [http://www.washaa.org/become-a-member.html](http://www.washaa.org/become-a-member.html)


Donate to support Health Advocacy in our state: [Visit our website and click “Donate” in the top right corner](#)

Want to partner with WASHAA on programs, contact: [robin.shapiro@washaa.org](mailto:robin.shapiro@washaa.org)

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**WASHAA 4TH ANNUAL MEETING | NOV. 18, 2016 IN SEATTLE, WA**

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Washington State Health Advocacy Association

[**E-mail us**](#) | [Visit Our Website](#)