



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **INGLIS ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF 2014 AWARDS FOR CONTINUING EXCELLENCE INCLUDING CASH PRIZES**

*Since 2005 Inglis has awarded more than \$500,000 to 40 plus  
organizations devoted to serving people with disabilities in this region*

**Philadelphia, PA (April 28, 2014)** – The **Inglis Board of Directors** announced the winners of the **2014 Inglis Awards for Continuing Excellence**. The Awards program honors the outstanding performance of not-for-profit organizations in the Greater Delaware Valley that enhance the quality of life for people with physical disabilities, and by doing so, support the Inglis mission of enabling people with disabilities – and those who care for them – to achieve their goals and live life to the fullest.

**Four organizations will each receive a \$12,500 award: Acquired Brain Injury Network of Pennsylvania, Acting Without Boundaries, Magee Rehabilitation Peer Mentor Program, and Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation.**

**The award winners will be honored at a ceremony at Inglis House, Philadelphia, PA, on May 6, 2014.** “In addition to providing these awards to help the people and the people that these organizations serve, the awards and recognition really allow these organizations to network with each other, partner with us, and to build a community that can really impact our constituents” says **Won Shin, member of the Inglis Board of Directors** and chair of the 10-member awards committee.

“For a program like ours that is completely funded by donors and grants, if we didn’t have folks like you giving out these kinds of awards, we would not have a program,” says **Barbara Dively, Executive Director of the Acquired Brain Injury Network of Pennsylvania**. “To get recognition like this not only from the patients and families but from places in the community, foundations like Inglis, is just fabulous. We are so excited!” said **Nancy Rosenberg, PsyD, Director of the Magee Rehabilitation Peer Mentor Program**.

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Since the awards began in 2005, Inglis has **awarded more than \$500,000** to 40 organizations devoted to serving people with disabilities in this region. “The single most important part of the ACE awards is that it allows organizations who are serving consumers with a similar mission to Inglis to come together and to stretch our resources,” said **Inglis President & CEO, Gavin Kerr**. “This allows us to help each of those consumers pursue the goals that matter to them, and to find new ways to make the most of their lives,” Kerr said. Inglis maintains an information network of all previous winners to continue to share best practices and ongoing communication.

“The fact that ACE is bringing these incredible groups together, to first of all learn about each other but also to honor each other is phenomenal,” says **Acting Without Boundaries Board Member, Michael Rouse**. “From the synergies and the relationships to the new ideas and concepts I think the opportunity is tremendous and I think only great things will come as a result of it,” Rouse said. As **Susan Tachau, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation** said, “It’s so unique to have unrestricted money; this award allows you to dream.”

### **2014 ACE RECIPIENTS**

#### **Acquired Brain Injury Network of Pennsylvania**

Founded in 2005 as a brain injury support group, the Acquired Brain Injury Network (ABIN) of Pennsylvania has matured to become a sustainable organization that provides hands-on support to persons and families affected by brain injury. Services also include education, information, awareness and advocacy about brain injury. ABIN’s extensive website provides educational materials and a searchable database of support groups and other resources. The organization’s InfoLine, staffed by volunteers, has assisted nearly 2,000 callers since it was established in 2007. A 2009 ACE Award helped ABIN to evolve, and resulted in a web survey, a new PeerConnect Partners Program, office space and the organization’s first part-time employee.

[www.abin-pa.org](http://www.abin-pa.org)

#### **Acting Without Boundaries**

Acting Without Boundaries (AWB) offers children and youth who live with disabilities the opportunity to act and sing in stage productions at no cost. AWB holds four-hour workshop rehearsals each month, and participants also go on cultural outings to venues such as the Kimmel Center and Please Touch Museum. In addition, they may participate in a summer workshop and *AWB Melodies*, whose performers sing in nursing homes, schools and other facilities. A third component, *Kids are Kids*, promotes disability awareness in schools, camps and other youth organizations.

[www.actingwithoutboundaries.org](http://www.actingwithoutboundaries.org)

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### **Magee Rehabilitation Peer Mentor Program**

The Magee Rehabilitation Peer Mentor Program supports individuals and families affected by spinal cord injury, brain injury, amputations and stroke, in the hospital, rehabilitation facility and community. Over the past year, the program has matched 180 patients with mentors. There are also peer groups, facilitated by specially trained peer mentors, and an e-community serving 410 patients. The Program's most recent initiatives include mentoring in the areas of addictions, wound prevention and ostomy care. Program staff also train area health professions students on the impact of disability and the benefits of strong social supports for those reintegrating back into the community. [www.mageerehab.com](http://www.mageerehab.com)

### **Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation**

The Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation provides financing opportunities to people with disabilities and older Pennsylvanians so they can purchase the assistive technology devices and services needed for greater independence and quality of life. Since its founding in 1998, PATF has extended over \$31 million to more than 2,000 Pennsylvanians. They have used these resources to purchase assisted technology including adapted vehicles, home modifications, computers with specialized hardware and software, wheelchairs, ramps hearing aids and more. [www.patf.us](http://www.patf.us)

**INGLIS** ([www.inglis.org](http://www.inglis.org)) enables people with disabilities - and those who care for them - to achieve their goals and live life to the fullest. Serving more than 1000 people daily, **INGLIS** includes a specialty nursing care facility providing long-term, residential care for 297 adults with physical disabilities including multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, spinal cord injury and stroke, among others. Residents receive rehabilitative medical and nursing care; physical, occupational and speech therapies; and social enrichment programs. In addition, **INGLIS** offers services to more than 800 people living independently in the community including accessible housing, care management (helping people navigate the health care system), adult day care programming and community employment. **INGLIS** is the largest provider of affordable accessible housing in the Greater Philadelphia region with 208 housing units currently with plans for 50 more by 2015. **INGLIS** developed, assembles and markets a patented hands-free water bottle for wheelchair users called **Drink-Aide**®. All **INGLIS'** services and programs are designed to enable people with physical disabilities to enjoy life with the greatest amount of independence and mobility.

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