It’s amazing to see how Brain Tumor Network has developed into a major resource for brain tumor patients. In 2014, we started with just a concept and hired one nurse navigator to start the program. Soon, we will have a staff of 20 dedicated professionals. Over the last two years we’ve developed new systems and tools that allow our staff to locate the proper resources for patients much faster. This means we can serve many more patients. To support that, we’re getting the word out more broadly with a comprehensive marketing campaign.

Already we are the largest brain tumor patient support organization of its kind in the United States. We are approaching 2,000 patients served, almost a third of which are referred to us from medical service providers. Now we’re ramping up more, including our expansion to handle pediatric brain tumor patients and their families.

Recently, it got more personal for me. One of my close relatives was just diagnosed with an unusual form of brain tumor. When I got the phone call telling me of the tumor diagnosis, it was obvious what to do to get help. I walked down the hall and gave the information about my relative to BTN. The BTN team quickly got on the case, and my relative was presented with options that would have been difficult for the average person to find. When I was confronted with the same situation with my wife Susan 26 years ago, it took me weeks to sort through information to find a treatment path. And then, I was still unsure if I had made the right choice. That experience gave me the inspiration for BTN. It’s a thrill to see my dream turned into a reality.
If I ever get a chance to do something about this disease, I’m going to do it.

- Rick Sontag
TOP NAVIGATION SERVICES

DISEASE AND TREATMENT OPTIONS EDUCATION
Simplified answers to help patients understand their diagnosis, research and education regarding possible treatment options, personalized guidance and support

PERSONALIZED CLINICAL TRIAL SEARCH AND ENROLLMENT ASSISTANCE
Proprietary clinical trial search engine, personalized clinical trial search, assistance with enrollment process and transfer of necessary medical records

SECOND OPINIONS AND TREATMENT CENTER IDENTIFICATION
Connecting patients with top specialists and brain tumor experts, assistance in locating Brain Tumor Centers of Excellence, both locally and nationwide

SOCIAL WORK SUPPORT SERVICES
Financial and resource assistance, questions about healthcare coverage, advance care planning, in-home care needs, emotional support and connection
The **vision** of Brain Tumor Network is to empower and deliver hope to those impacted by a primary brain tumor.
The **mission** of Brain Tumor Network is to provide free, individualized navigation to help patients and loved ones manage a primary brain tumor diagnosis, overcome treatment obstacles, and facilitate access to quality healthcare.
When Ashley was 28, she began experiencing headaches, slurred speech, and balance issues. Her parents rushed her to the emergency room where she was diagnosed with oligoastrocytoma, a malignant brain tumor.

The next few days were a blur – surgeries, specialists, and many questions but few answers. A friend connected Ashley to Brain Tumor Network, where she and her mother/caregiver, Debbie, found the guidance they needed and also joined BTN’s support group for patients and caregivers.

Five years later, Ashley is thriving. She successfully completed treatment, recently got married, and is looking forward to raising a family and continuing her career in education. Ashley and Debbie continue to attend support group meetings and have become mentors and advocates for other families battling brain tumors.

“We continue to attend Brain Tumor Network’s Support Group because we want to be there for others - because they’ve helped so much.”
- Debbie, Caregiver
Guiding Patients. Empowering Care.