

**GLHF ADVOCATES FOR PEOPLE WITH BLEEDING DISORDERS
WASHINGTON DAYS OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS KEY
ISSUES IN THE COMMUNITY**



638 North 18th Street, Suite 108, Milwaukee, WI 53233-2121
(414) 257-0200 www.glhf.org Fax (414) 257-1225

"I realized that families with bleeding disorders need a voice. I was able to be that voice," said Tracie, who was advocating for individuals and families with a bleeding disorder.



GLHF joined more than 300 people at Washington Days this past year. The issues addressed included maintaining funding for Hemophilia Treatment Centers (HTCs), increasing the availability of Medicare funds to cover the cost of hemophilia drugs at skilled nursing facilities and moving hemophilia medications from Tier IV to Tier III insurance coverage.

According to Danielle Leitner Baxter, Executive Director, Washington Days gives people an opportunity to make their voices heard, network with other families from around the country and learn the key issues impacting the community. "GLHF has a strong history of providing advocacy regarding public policy on behalf of, and in partnership with, our clients."

Clients traveled to Washington Days with GLHF. They shared what it's like to live with hemophilia every day. "I realized that families with bleeding disorders need a voice. I was able to be that voice," said Tracie, who was advocating for individuals and families that are living with a bleeding disorder. "It was really empowering talking to representatives and telling them our concerns and the needs in the bleeding disorders community. It was a wonderful experience."

***You don't outgrow hemophilia.
George is 84 and still lives with hemophilia.***

George traveled to Washington Days to shed light on the issue of Medicare funding for skilled nursing facilities. "The people who make the rules need to hear and meet with people affected by the rules," said George. Being



unable to find a skilled nursing facility that would accept him following a hip replacement led to the surgery having to be completely redone two weeks later, when over a liter of blood gathering in the wound ruined the new hip. He was unable to find the services critical for optimal recovery. "Being a legislator is not easy. You work in a vacuum," said George. "Anything you can do to eliminate the vacuum is beneficial for the legislators. It was eye-opening for them. It was something they never considered."

GLHF will continue to advocate for individuals and families by monitoring the changing environment of health care. We are also committed to teaching families how to advocate for themselves as they navigate health care, schools, insurance and other challenges.

***Tracie and her son, Zach, traveled to Washington Days
to encourage legislators to maintain funding for HTCs.***