



## WORLD BURN CONGRESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in attending The Phoenix Society's World Burn Congress (WBC). The 2008 conference is scheduled for October 1 - 4, 2008, at the Raleigh Convention Center in Raleigh, North Carolina. More information about WBC 2008 can be found by visiting the Northeast Indiana Burn Council's website and clicking on the link to the World Burn Congress ([www.neinbc.org/worldburncongress.html](http://www.neinbc.org/worldburncongress.html)). WBC 2008 will include workshops, support groups and general sessions addressing key issues in burn recovery. We have also included some testimonials from past attendees at the end of this application.

Thanks to generous support from the community, the Northeast Indiana Burn Council will again offer limited scholarships and assistance to help burn survivors in our area attend the WBC.

Please take a moment and review the attached guidelines and selection criteria for the WBC Assistance Program. It is the goal of the Burn Council to partner with you to help make the WBC experience possible. Please note funding is designed to help you attend the conference and is not intended to cover the entire financial cost.

Enclosed you will find an application for assistance that you will **need to complete and return by August 22, 2008**. If you need assistance with this application, please call 260-423-2221 or email us at [wbc@neinbc.org](mailto:wbc@neinbc.org). You may send, fax or email the application to the Burn Council, or you may drop it off at the Burn Outpatient Clinic at St. Joseph Hospital.

We will notify you by phone or email when your application is received. Upon review of all applications staff will notify you as soon as possible regarding the status of your application.

Sincerely,

Jonathan F. Dize, CFRM  
Executive Director  
Northeast Indiana Burn Council



## ATTENDEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GUIDELINES

- ✕ Application deadline is August 22, 2008.
- ✕ The WBC Assistance Program Committee does not take race, national origin, gender, disability, or religion into consideration when reviewing the applications.
- ✕ The WBC Assistance Program is designed to help you attend the conference and is not intended to cover the entire financial cost. The attendee is expected to contribute some financial portion of the event.
- ✕ All participants must be at least 18 years of age or, if a minor, attending with parent or legal guardian.
- ✕ Applicant awards are selected by the WBC Assistance Program Committee, comprised of selected Burn Council board members and Regional Burn Center at St. Joseph Hospital staff.
- ✕ Scholarship range: \$225 to \$500 per person and will depend upon the total number of applications received by August 22, 2008.
- ✕ Applicants are encouraged to request support for conference registration fees. Scholarships may also be awarded for hotel and travel expenses, based upon available funds. These expenses will be coordinated and paid by the Northeast Indiana Burn Council directly to the appropriate entity.
- ✕ We do not provide funding or reimbursement for miscellaneous expenses including any additional meals, tips, fares, first class travel accommodations or any type of travel upgrades, hotel room upgrades, ancillary travel or hotel room charges and incidental expenses.

## CRITERIA FOR ASSISTANCE SELECTION

While every application to attend the WBC is reviewed for its unique circumstances, the Committee will keep in consideration the following criteria:

- ✘ Therapeutic Need: first and foremost, to receive assistance to attend WBC, there must be a verifiable benefit to the survivor(s) and their family members.
- ✘ Previous Support: while assistance will be based upon merit, preference will be given to first-time WBC attendees.
- ✘ Financial Need: additional support may be considered based upon financial need.
- ✘ "Giving Back": the NEINBC is a not-for-profit, community-supported organization and is not affiliated with the Regional Burn Center at St. Joseph Hospital. Those families receiving assistance to attend WBC must be willing to help support the organization, including any of the following:
  1. volunteering through the SOAR program
  2. volunteering at Burn Council fundraising events
  3. serving on the board or on committees
  4. monetary and in-kind (non-monetary) donations

## PAST ATTENDEE TESTIMONIALS

*We feel so fortunate to have spent time with and got to know better those people who have survived a burn injury. The special presentations and break-out sessions were also very informative; open mic was very enlightening. Thanks to everyone for making our trip so enjoyable.*

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*We had a great time too.... We met some new friends and were able to see many from last year.*

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*Thank you so much for the opportunity to attend the WBC. We truly enjoyed and benefited from talking with the other burn survivors (especially those from IN). It was nice to catch up with them out of the hospital. Listening to the open mic stories really sealed my decision and reason on why I am working towards my ASN (I have a BS in Elementary Ed.) Again, thank you!*

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*Thank you so much for helping me to go to the World Burn Conference. I had an amazing experience. My first couple days at the conference was very overwhelming, and I just wanted to come back right away. I had never seen another burn survivor in my life before even though I am myself a burn survivor for 20 years now. I was shocked to see so many burn survivors in that conference. First couple days I did not even had a courage to talk to them.*

*Fortunately, my therapist was in that conference too, and he helped me a lot during those first couple of days. By the end of the second day I finally had courage to talk to some people around, and ask about their experiences. I was still very emotional, and could not stop crying.... During the conference I was taken back to my childhood when I got burned, and felt all the pain that I have never dealt with. I grew up in an area where I was the only burn survivor, and my family didn't know how to deal with it. So, for 20 years I had never talked to anyone about my scars even though I did have a lot of issues because of them but I never knew anything else but just to keep to myself my feelings about that accident...*

*By the end of the conference after attending a lot of helpful sessions I finally began to realize that I what happened 20 years ago is just a part of my accident, and that it does not make me any less than 'normal' people since I never considered myself 'normal.' It was very unusual for me to feel like a complete person again. Growing up all I could see were my scars but here I was at a place where I could look at me for who I am. I just can't describe all the feelings I went through during that conference. It was awesome!!! I came back home with a HUGE relief, and a totally different opinion about myself. So, I can tell for your that attending World Burn Conference was definitely a life changing experience, and I recommend all the burn survivors, and their family members to attend that conference.*



Please describe your volunteer efforts at your local burn center, The Northeast Indiana Burn Council, The Phoenix Society, or to the burn community in general: \_\_\_\_\_

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Below is an estimation of expenses for one attendee at WBC 2008. Please indicate your intended contribution and the approximate amount of financial assistance you are requesting from The Northeast Indiana Burn Council.

Date: October 1 - 4, 2008

Location: Raleigh, NC

Registration: \$225 (includes most daytime meals)

My Contribution: \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel: \$650 (4 days)

Travel: \$500 (airfare to NC)

Amount Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I have read and understand the Attendee Assistance Program Guidelines and that the information provided above is accurate.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Return to:*  
Northeast Indiana Burn Council  
Attn: WBC Application Committee  
PO BOX 11414  
Fort Wayne, IN 46858-1414

