



Brachial Plexus Injury Awareness

SILVER RIBBON CAMPAIGN

The "***Silver Ribbon Campaign***" originated as a grassroots effort of members of the Our-Kids Mailing List to increase "awareness and support of children with disabilities." Our-Kids is devoted to raising special kids with special needs, and is a "family" of parents, caregivers and others who are working with children with physical and/or mental disabilities and delays. There are currently many groups and organizations participating in the Silver Ribbon Campaign, some of who add objects to the center of the ribbon to distinguish themselves, as we have done with the silver bell. For Awareness 2000, Shannon Green (committee member), contacted Our-Kids to discuss our involvement in the Silver Ribbon Campaign. She was told that the color silver was chosen for the ribbons "to represent the silver lining behind every cloud, and to show that our children are more than just their disabilities." With our own silver ribbon campaign, we also recognize the adults with brachial plexus injuries, by addressing their "kid at heart." To learn more about Our-Kids, visit: www.our-kids.org; and to view a website listing other organizations participating in the Silver Ribbon Campaign, visit: www.iso.net/~chigger/src/.

Awareness 2001 is pleased to offer two different types of silver ribbons to our community this year. We have also included resources for your benefit just in case you'd like to sew your own ribbons.

JEWELRY RIBBON PIN

In response to a general consensus that a more permanent, "jewelry-like" pin would be a good item to promote awareness, Shannon worked with a manufacturer to design and produce a small, silver-tone lapel pin with a bell attached. The pin is 1 1/8" in height and the bell is 1/4" in size. The pins are made of a die-struck pewter with nickel-plating to give a silver metallic look. A real bell is attached to a loop on the front with a small jump ring. Please see the Awareness Order Form for ordering and pricing information for individual, international and bulk sales.

HAND-SEWN SILVER RIBBON PINS

The Awareness Committee will also be using the regular hand-sewn ribbon pins which can be distributed to those who make a difference in our lives. We have a "sewing team" assembled to prepare and sew 600 ribbon pins! The ready-to-wear ribbons will be sold in packets of 20. Please see the Awareness Order Form or www.ubpn.org for ordering and pricing information.

SEWING YOUR OWN RIBBONS

Where to Purchase Raw Materials: Materials can be found at local craft stores (such as Michael's) or you can order the materials online. At Michael's the ½" ribbon is available in 10-yard spools; and the 14mm silver liberty bells come in packages of 34. If you choose to buy materials online, visit the following sites:

RIBBON:

www.americancraftersoutlet.com (or call 1-800-326-5223)

Order: ½", solid metallic silver ribbon, 33-yard spools (will make approximately 198 ribbons) at \$5.25 per spool

BELLS:

www.craftswholesale.com

Order: ½" Silver liberty bells, 8 per pack for \$.59
You will also need to purchase safety pins and silver or gray thread.

Instructions for Assembling Silver Ribbons and Bells:

1. Measure and cut the ribbon every 6 inches
2. Loop the ribbon
3. From the back to the front, pull the needle and thread through
4. Slide the bell down and loop the thread and needle back through to the backside of the ribbon
5. Put the clasp of a safety pin against the back of the ribbon
6. Go around with needle and thread and back through to the bell
7. Repeat threading through bell and safety pin 3-4 times