# “My Gnomies”

This year’s Cere-Bration Walk & Roll will be the fifth for Emily Daddona and her team of “Gnomies”.

“I just love having everyone get together and celebrate us all,” Emily said. “Celebrate the staff, volunteers, and of course the ones, like myself who have experienced brain injury.”

Grab some family and friends and register for this year’s Cere-Bration Walk & Roll event, 10 a.m., Sunday, September 27 at the Buzzards Bay Recreation Area along the Cape Cod Canal: https://biama.org/cerebration/. This family-friendly fundraiser connects and supports the brain injury community and promotes brain injury awareness. Participants are invited to walk, roll, or even run the “out-and-back” 1-mile paved route along the canal.

Event t-shirts, water, and snacks will be provided. This is a rain or shine event. Cere-Bration registration fees are $10 for survivors, $25 for individuals. Online registration for Cere-Bration will close at 5 p.m. on September 24. However, walk-ins are welcome.

Emily was left with a traumatic brain injury after being struck by a drunk driver in January 2022. At the encouragement of her occupational therapist, Emily – who is an active participant in one of BIA-MA’s many support groups - registered for her first Cere-Bration event. Her team “My Gnomies” - a growing group of family and friends - has since become a familiar one at the event.

“I love gnomes and everyone on my team has a special place in my heart. Family and friends, they are all my homies,” Emily says. “That’s where the name came from, ‘My Gnomies.’

The one Cere-Bration memory that stands out is the year when soaking rains and winds –hit the Cape-area in 2023. “Ponchos were given to us all,” she recalled. “I love the rain so that’s what made it my favorite year.”

Anyone considering attending Cere-Bration should register, Emily said. “The Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts does so much to help support us all. Come join! Form a team and be proud of what you’ve accomplished.”