

PRESS RELEASE

Join us to Celebrate the World Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus on 25 October!

Brussels | October 2024

The 25th October 2024 marks the World Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Day (WSBHD). We established this day in 2011 to raise awareness and understanding about Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (SBH). It also serves as a means to advocate and promote the rights of persons with these conditions.

This year's theme '**Bridging Gaps Together**' is chosen to fight stigma, discrimination, inequalities, and other barriers that people with SBH still face. With stigma, discrimination, and a lack of awareness creating additional barriers to the full participation in life's opportunities, bridging the gaps on various areas of life is of paramount importance for the SBH community. During this year's **WSBHD on October 25**, we will bring further awareness as to how we, as a global community, can achieve that.

The WSBHD coincides with our **30th International Conference on SBH** that will take place on **24-26 October 2024 in Malaysia**. Therefore, the conference's theme is 'Bridging the healthcare and prevention gaps – A multidisciplinary team approach with the community at heart'.

Get involved!

We invite the global community to join the campaign to promote the WSBHD and raise awareness about the rights of people with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus!

- Download our [WSBHD24 Toolkit](#) and join our campaign on social media (hashtags: #WSBHD24 #BridgingGapsTogether);
- Participate in the [WSBHD24 Conference Webinar](#) to learn more about SBH and how the global community works towards 'Bridging Gaps Together';
- Support local SBH communities. Check the SBH organisations in your region here: www.ifglobal.org/members.

Who we are

The International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (IF) is the international organisation representing people with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (SBH) and their families worldwide. IF has country members in Africa, Americas, Asia-Pacific, and Europe with unique and expert knowledge on SBH. The mission of IF is to improve the quality of life of people with SBH and their families, and to reduce the prevalence of Neural Tube Defects (NTDs) through improving maternal health literacy, raising awareness, political advocacy, research, community building, and human rights education.

You can find more information about:

- Our work: www.ifglobal.org;
- Our global SBH community: www.ifglobal.org/members;
- The World Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Day:
www.worldspinabifidahydrocephalusday.com;
- Our 30th International Conference on Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus in Malaysia:
www.sbhconference2024.com.

Contact

For further information, please contact us at: info@ifglobal.org.