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“RELATIONSHIPS AFTER TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY” VIDEO WINS TELLY AWARD

WASHINGTON, DC— A video illustrating the impact of traumatic brain injury (TBI) on a couple’s relationship has won a Bronze Telly Award for outstanding achievement in the category of internet/online video--education. “Relationships After Traumatic Brain Injury” was produced by the Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center in collaboration with the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Traumatic Brain Injury Model System.

The 12-minute video shows how traumatic brain injury affected Hugh and Rosemary Rawlins’ relationship after Hugh became injured, and how the couple worked through various issues to improve their relationship.

"Hugh and I are honored to have participated in this important project," said Rosemary Rawlins. "We wanted to share our story to advance the discussion of relationship challenges after traumatic brain injury, to offer hope, and to encourage struggling couples to consider counseling so they can once again enjoy a mutually satisfying relationship."

The “Relationships After Traumatic Brain Injury” video is part of a ‘hot topic module’ that consists of a suite of resources—including videos, factsheets, and slideshows—to support productive relationships between couples. The hot topic module is a product of the Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center, which is operated by the American Institutes for Research (AIR) in collaboration with WETA/BrainLine and George Mason University and funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR).

“Couples face unique challenges in their relationship after one partner experiences a traumatic brain injury” said [Jeffrey Kreutzer, Ph.D.](#), professor and eminent scholar in the VCU Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and principal investigator of the VCU Traumatic Brain Injury Model System. “We hope that this recognition will draw more attention to resources and options that exist to help them enjoy meaningful and productive relationships.”

Kreutzer will be available to answer questions online about TBI during a *Reddit* forum later this month. Visit <http://www.msktc.org/about/Kreutzer-AMA> to learn more.

The Telly Awards was founded in 1978 to honor film and video productions, groundbreaking web commercials, videos and films, and outstanding local, regional, and cable TV commercials and programs. To view the award-winning “Relationships After Traumatic Brain Injury” video,

visit <http://www.msktc.org/tbi/Hot-Topics/Relationships/Relationships-after-TBI>. To access the entire hot topic module, visit <http://www.msktc.org/tbi/Hot-Topics/Relationships>.

About the Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center

The Model Systems Knowledge Translation Center (MSKTC) is a national Center that supports the Model Systems programs in meeting the information needs of individuals with spinal cord injury (SCI), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and burn injury by summarizing research, identifying health information needs, and developing and disseminating information resources. The MSKTC is funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR). Model Systems are funded by NIDRR to conduct innovative and high-quality research, provide patient care, and offer services to improve the health and overall quality of life of individuals with SCI, TBI, and burn injury. For more information, visit www.MSKTC.org.

About VCU and the VCU Medical Center

Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) is a major, urban public research university with national and international rankings in sponsored research. Located in downtown Richmond, VCU enrolls more than 31,000 students in 222 degree and certificate programs in the arts, sciences and humanities. Sixty-six of the programs are unique in Virginia, many of them crossing the disciplines of VCU's 13 schools and one college. MCV Hospitals and the health sciences schools of Virginia Commonwealth University compose the VCU Medical Center, one of the nation's leading academic medical centers. For more, see www.vcu.edu.

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