

# New Associate Board Member Personally Drawn to BRF Mission



Graham Bayly

When you approach Graham Bayly's desk, you know this is a man who likes things organized. In talking with him, you come to understand that keeping a daily schedule and his environment organized is key to his success.

Bayly was diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) when he was eight years old. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, ADHD is a condition of the brain that makes it difficult for children to control their behavior. It is one of the most common chronic conditions of childhood. ADHD includes three groups of behavior symptoms: inattention, hyperactivity, and impulsivity. Not all children with ADHD have all the symptoms. For Bayly, inattention was his only symptom.

While Bayly respects those who choose to take medications to help deal with their ADHD symptoms, he and his brother both made the decision to stop taking medication beyond college. They found other tools to be more effective in handling the loss of focus and organization that often complicate the lives of those living with ADHD.

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If Bayly isn't looking at you when you're speaking at a meeting, don't be fooled. He might just have the next brilliant idea to move your thought forward. "People sometimes think I've checked out, but I'm completely tuned in," said Bayly. "People think it must be hard, but ADHD is a huge asset for me. My mind never stops churning, so it helps me stay ahead in a very competitive business."

Bayly is now a senior vice president with Willis North America. He works with private

equity firms throughout the United States on the risk management, insurance and employee benefit programs for their acquisitions. He and his wife, Brook, have two children and live in Chicago.

Bayly joined the BRF Associate Board last year at the suggestion of fellow Board member,

childhood friend, and brother-in-law Matthew Claeys.

"I was drawn to the BRF's mission as it is focused on helping people with neurological problems," said Bayly. "I am particularly interested in advances being made in the care of autistic children, sports-related brain injuries, and, of course, ADHD."