

# 11TH ANNUAL NEBRASKA BRAIN INJURY CONFERENCE

MARCH 23 & 24, 2017

YOUNES CONFERENCE CENTER  
416 TALMADGE RD.  
KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

PRESENTED BY:



SPONSORED BY:



**Immanuel Rehabilitation Institute**

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7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

**Registration** *Coffee in Exhibit Room Diamond 6, 7, 8*

9:00 a.m.

Welcome and housekeeping

Diamond 9 & 10

**Keynote: No Stone Unturned: Challenges, Best Practices and Optimism** - Joel Goldstein, BA, MA; Father, Author and Advocate

Objectives: Identify ways to optimize cross-disciplinary collaboration, community involvement, recognize how medical, rehabilitation and educational systems can and must work together and strategies to deploy that allow families to manage and cope with the consequences of brain injury.

10:10 a.m.

**Break with food in Exhibit Area**

10:25 a.m.

**Plenary Session: What We Know, What We Think We Know and What We Don't**

Diamond 9 & 10

**Know About mTBI & Concussions** - Art Maerlender, PhD, ABPP-CN Board, Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology; Director of Clinical Research and Director of Center for Brain, Biology and Behavior, UNL

Objectives: Interpret the scope of the latest research and what we know about mild Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI), discuss what researchers have learned about mTBIs and explain what areas researchers continue to investigate regarding MTBIs.

11:25 a.m.

**Stretch Break (No Snacks Provided)**

11:35 a.m.

**Plenary Session: Early Intervention Treatment of Traumatic Brain Injury** -

Diamond 9 & 10

Heather Talbott, RN, MSN, Trauma and Emergency Preparedness Manager, Bryan Medical Center

Objectives: Identify the epidemiology and nature of traumatic brain injury, the process and benefits of therapeutic hypothermia and risks and benefits of decompressive craniotomy.

12:35 p.m.

**BIA-NE Awards Luncheon**

Diamond 4 & 5

Peggy Reisher, MSW, Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska, Executive Director

2:00 p.m.

**Breakout Sessions Choose one**

Diamond 1

**What Is Important To Know When Working With Concussions?** - Dr. Kate Higgins, PsyD, Post-Doctoral Research Associate, UNL Department of Psychology in association with the Center for Brain, Biology and Behavior, UNL

*Professionals*

Objectives: Discuss the scope of topics and competencies of the direct work with concussions in schools and gain a comprehensive understanding on programs in schools for students with concussions and explain the Nebraska concussion training pilot project and proposed training curriculum for schools.

Diamond 9 & 10

**New Alternative Therapies for Brain Injury Survivors** - Joel Goldstein, BA, MA, Executive Director, Brain Alternative Rehabilitative Therapies Foundation (BART)

*Caregivers/BI*

*Survivors/Professionals*

Objectives: Illustrate how to investigate the safety and possible efficacy of alternative therapies, recognize which alternatives are safe, relatively effective and affordable, and be able to access resources for identifying locations where they can be found.

3:00 p.m.

**Break with food in Exhibit Area**

3:20 p.m.

**Breakout Sessions Choose one**

Diamond 1

**Sleep & Fatigue After Brain Injury** - Brooke Murtaugh, OTD, OTR/L, CBIST, Occupational Therapist, Brain Injury Program Manager, Madonna Rehabilitation Hospitals

*Caregivers/BI Survivors*

Objectives: State the nature, prevalence and causes of sleep disorders and fatigue issues following TBI and four non-pharmacological and pharmacological options for treatment.

Diamond 9

**Brain Injury Training and Screening in Nebraska Domestic Violence Shelters** -

*Professionals*

Dr. Kate Higgins, PsyD, Post-Doctoral Research Associate, UNL Department of Psychology

Objectives: Describe responses to the training of staff at Nebraska domestic violence shelters, present results of brain injury screenings and help professionals identify and screen domestic abuse cases for brain injury.

Diamond 10

**Balance After Brain Injury** - Michael Herrington, MPT, Physical Therapist, Immanuel Rehabilitation Institute

*Professionals*

Objectives: Discuss the relationship between brain injury, balance and fall risk and the physiology of normal and abnormal balance; recognize the benefits of balance assessment tools and strategies for treatment.

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## Thursday, MARCH 23

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4:20 p.m.

Stretch Break (*No Snacks Provided*)

4:30 p.m.

**Breakout Sessions: Choose one**

Diamond 1

*Caregivers/BI Survivors*

**The Impact of Caregiving** - Nancy Weber, M.A., CBIS, TBI Case Manager/Clinical Evaluator, Neurologic Rehabilitation Institute at Brookhaven Hospital

Objectives: Discuss the risks to caregivers' health and satisfaction and identify opportunities to improve caregiver support & assistance.

Diamond 9

*Professionals*

**Brain Injury, Post Rehab Panel: Surviving in the Community** - Moderator: Cathy Wyatt, Community Outreach Director/Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska

**Panel:** Robert Lankford, brain injury survivor; Zak Peters, brain injury survivor; Deb Nourse, Zak's mother; Scott Moyer, caregiver.

Objectives: Explain the health professionals' role in helping a patient prepare for the world outside of the hospital or rehab; demonstrate how to bridge the gap between medical care/rehabilitation and a community-based continuity of care by learning how various families used services and resources.

Diamond10

*Professionals*

**Exercise for Assessing and Treating Concussions—Is That a Good Idea?** -

Lori Terryberry-Spohr, Ph.D., ABPP, Director of Rehabilitation Programs, Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital

Objectives: State the latest developments in utilizing exercise monitoring for concussion evaluation and treatment; explain how treadmill assessment can facilitate differential diagnosis of concussions from other conditions.

5:30 p.m.

**Conclusion** (*For CEUs-turn in Day 1 Evaluations and receive certificate at Registration Desk*)

6:30 - 8 p.m.

**Evening Reception at the Archway** - See flyer in packet

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## Friday, MARCH 24

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7:00 - 8:00 a.m.

**Registration** *Coffee in Exhibit Room Diamond 6, 7, 8*

8:00 a.m.

**Breakout Sessions: Choose one**

Diamond 1

*Caregivers/BI Survivors*

**De-escalating and Managing a Bad Situation** - Jon B. Kayne, Ph.D., Professor of Clinical Counseling and Psychology, and State Clinical Director for the NE CISM Program

Objectives: Recognize the signs that a situation is escalating into a crisis, discuss the skills necessary to manage escalation, and to initiate de-escalation, and initiate the necessary follow up.

Diamond 9

*Professionals*

**Living Through the Unthinkable Every Day: The Differing Perspectives of Mother & Father** - Brandon & Tiffany Verzal, Parents of a child with Brain Injury and TBI Advocates

Objectives: Illustrate how the perspective of two caregivers vary greatly despite going through the same trauma together and identify the best methods to address sensitive topics regarding brain injury and the challenges to caregivers.

Diamond10

*Professionals*

**Medical Ethical Issues for Professionals Working with Patients with Brain Injury** - John C. Wyvill, JD, Adjunct Faculty, Bryan College of Health Sciences and Executive Director, Nebraska Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Objectives: Examine common medical ethical issues that may arise in traumatic brain cases and advance directives and wishes of the patient.

9:00 a.m.

Stretch Break (*No Snacks Provided*)

9:10 a.m.

**Breakout Sessions: Choose one** (*Two options on last page*)

Diamond 1

*Caregivers/BI Survivors*

**Writing and Journaling for Change and Brain Injury Healing** - Sharon Robino-West, MA, CPSWS, Community Employment Coordinator, Veterans Administration; Author/Writing Instructor

Objectives: Demonstrate how writing is a useful tool for those with brain injuries and caregivers in healing, change, and growth; recognize the benefits of storytelling in functioning and recovery as an occupational therapy; reinforce basic skills and abilities that lead to success through journaling/writing.

9:10 a.m.  
Diamond 9  
*Professionals*

**Breakout Sessions: Choose one**

**Behavior Modifications in Brain Injury** - Jeffry B. Snell, Ph.D., Clinical Neuropsychologist, Director, Psychology and Neuropsychology Services, QLI

Objectives: Recognize common behavioral challenges in individuals who have sustained brain injury, identify brain structures commonly associated with specific behavioral presentations and distinguish behavioral strategies that are indicated based on the nature and type of behavioral changes observed.

Diamond10  
*Professionals*

**Resource Facilitation: Connecting the Dots** - Cathy Wyatt, Community Outreach Director/ Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska

Objectives: Define resource facilitation in Nebraska for brain injury survivors and family members and its impact in the lives of brain injury survivors and recognize when it is appropriate for professionals to refer a brain injury survivor to a resource facilitator.

10:10 - 10:45 a.m.

**Break with food in Exhibit Area** (*Check out of hotels*)

10:45 a.m.  
Diamond 9 & 10

**General Session: Undergraduates' Perceptions of Persons with Traumatic Brain Injury (Research)**

Laura Gaudet, Ph.D., B.C.E.T.S., B.C.F.T., Professor & Department Chair, Department of Counseling, Psychological Sciences, and Social Work, Chadron State College

Objectives: Discuss the change in perceptions of students after an educational intervention training about TBI, identify the differences as reported on the Forgetting Frequency Questionnaire, Emotional Intelligence Scale and EAS Temperament Survey between persons with TBI and those without TBI.

11:45 a.m.

**Stretch Break** (*No Snacks Provided*)

12:00 p.m.  
Diamond 9 & 10

**General Session: Technology in Rehabilitation and Beyond** - Jeffry B. Snell, Ph.D., Clinical Neuropsychologist, Director, Psychology and Neuropsychology Services, QLI

Objectives: Recognize and judge appropriateness of technological solutions for deficits arising from brain injury, spinal cord injury, or stroke and explore the usefulness of available consumer technology for compensation or environmental access.

1:00 p.m.

**Conclusion** (*For CEUs-turn in Day 2 Evaluations and receive certificate at Registration Desk*)

## Welcome to the 11th Annual Brain Injury Conference

### Contact Hours Are Available to Many Health Professionals:

You must sign in and pick up an evaluation for each day and return the evaluation for a certificate at the end of each day.

7.2 contact hours provided for Thursday, March 23, 2017

4.7 contact hours provided for Friday, March 24, 2017

Continuing Education Contact Hours awarded by Iowa Western Community College  
Iowa Board of Nursing, Provider #6

### Evening Reception at the Great Platte River Archway:

Join us for a fun evening, Thursday, March 23 from 6:30 to 8 p.m., at the Great Platte River Archway. \$35 per person. Heavy hors d'oeuvres, cash bar and tours. To register, pay at the front Registration Desk.

### Speaker Handouts Available Online for the Conference:

To eliminate the amount of paper generated by a conference, printed handouts are not provided at the conference. Speaker presentations that are provided to us will be displayed March 18 through March 31.

Go to [www.biane.org/events-programs/conference](http://www.biane.org/events-programs/conference) "Conference Speaker Presentations" to print.



**Brain Injury  
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