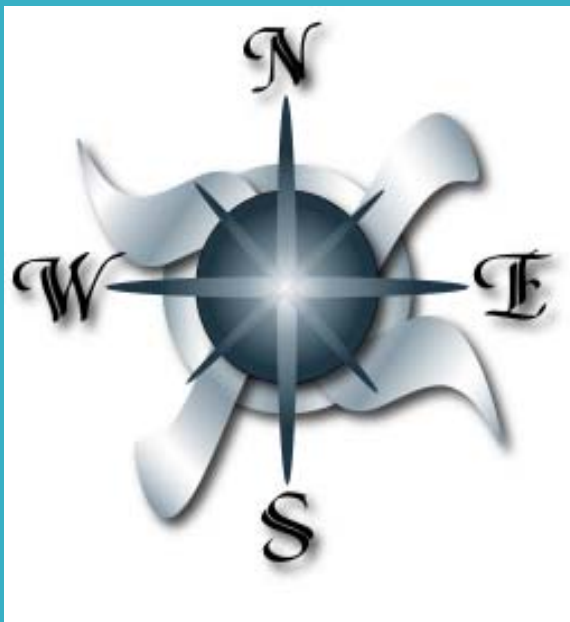


Brain Injury 
Association
of Pennsylvania, Inc.

TENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JUNE 21-22, 2010



*Navigating a
Changing Community:
Resources for
Brain Injury*

**LANCASTER MARRIOTT &
CONVENTION CENTER**

LANCASTER, PA

WWW.BIAPA.ORG

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania is pleased to announce the 2010 Annual Conference. The conference will be held on June 21-22, 2010. The theme this year is *Navigating a Changing Community: Resources for Brain Injury*. Focusing on our theme, the conference program will feature four outstanding and dynamic keynote sessions as well as four concurrent education tracks covering the following topic areas:

- New Alternatives in Treatment
- Activism & Advocacy
- Improving the Quality of Life
- Support & Services

CEU credits will be offered. For a complete listing of continuing education credits, visit www.biapa.org. A post-conference ACBIS course and exam is scheduled. We are expecting more than 300 attendees including a wide variety of rehabilitation professionals, families, and survivors, so don't miss this high quality event at the new Lancaster Marriott and Convention Center.

Registration Information Three Ways to Register

Mail the enclosed registration form to:

**Brain Injury Association of
Pennsylvania**
950 Walnut Bottom Road
Suite 15-229
Carlisle, PA 17015

Fax the form to: (717) 692-5567

Online registration is available at:

www.biapa.org

Registrations cannot be processed without proper payment. Please provide your email address on the registration form to receive an electronic confirmation.

**Questions? Contact Kara Dohrman at
1-866-635-7097 or email
admin@biapa.org**

THE NEW LANCASTER MARRIOTT & CONVENTION CENTER

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

The conference will be held at the Lancaster Marriott and Convention Center located at Penn's Square in the heart of Lancaster City.

Conference attendees have a reduced rate of \$89. Overnight reservations can be made by calling 1-800-228-9290. The conference rate of \$89 can be obtained by requesting the Brain Injury Association room rate. Online reservations may be made at www.marriott.com. The online reservation code is BIABIAA.

Because all work and no play makes for a dull stay, the Lancaster County Convention Center's central location insures visitors quality free time. A variety of museums and restaurants, shops and art galleries dot the center of town, while a short drive away are upscale shopping outlets, Clipper Magazine Stadium, home of the Atlantic League's Barnstormers, Sight & Sound Millennium Theatre, American Music Theatre, Hersheypark and Dutch Wonderland Family Amusement Park.

For more ideas on things to see and do while in town, visit the following sites:

Downtown Lancaster:

www.downtownlancaster.com

Throughout Lancaster County:

www.padutchcountry.com

Poster Presentations

Posters will be on display during the conference. Poster presenters will be available during these times to answer questions:

Monday, June 21

11:00 am – 11:15 am

12:30 pm – 1:45 pm

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Monday, June 21, 2010

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Registration Opens

9:00 am – 7:00 pm

Exhibits & Poster Presentations Open

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Opening Keynote Session

Lee Woodruff - *In An Instant*

As co-author of *In an Instant*, the #1 *New York Times* bestseller, Woodruff recounts her story of a marriage, a family, a crisis and a healing. When her husband, ABC's co-anchor Bob Woodruff, was hit by a roadside bomb while covering the war in Iraq, Woodruff's life was changed in an instant. She had to learn to put her grief aside to care for her children, as well as her husband. One of the most popular aspects of her presentation are the insightful and often surprising tips Woodruff has to offer anyone going through a difficult time or the people surrounding them. From what to say and what not to say, to what to do, Woodruff lays it out in an engaging fashion.



11:15 am - 12:30 pm

Session: (1) - Dawn Macomber, Dianne Beres, & Erika Place

Embracing Diversity Across the Rehabilitation Setting

A rehabilitation setting consists of persons served from a very diverse range of cultural and ethnic backgrounds. It is important to create a safe space, which recognizes the value of understanding, and acknowledging the person's served cultural and ethnic diversity (i.e. language, culture, religious beliefs, family customs, sexual orientation, and education). Inclusion of these specific needs into a person centered treatment plan in conjunction with training for both staff and person's served will encourage a sensitive and empowering environment for all within the rehabilitation setting.

Session: (2) - Jennifer Howell

Living Beyond the Label: The Power of Finding Your Voice

When people are faced with TBI they often feel powerless, fearful, and unsure of where to turn to get the essential services and supports to live the life they want for themselves or their loved one. This session will answer questions such as what are some ways that people can develop advocacy skills? How can others assist individuals to become their own advocates? What are some ways that people can combine systematic and natural supports so that all options are not funding dependent? We will also share stories of individuals with TBI who with supports are living the life they want to live.

Session: (3) - Madeline DiPasquale, Facilitator

Survivors - Dennis Pennington & Dominic Appleton

Real Life Experiences – Finding Your Way Back

Join this panel discussion where two people affected by different brain injuries will share their recovery experiences. Faced with expectations of family and friends, the survivor often has no tools to help recovery and to cope with changed social status. A key element in recovery is guidance. Aspects of the stages of recovery in a successful example are presented to familiarize survivors and caretakers to help minimize mistakes and ensure a balanced recovery. Recovery plans by the nature of a brain injury must be customized. However, there are basic elements of any plan which are discussed. Establishment of a sense of self worth can be used to speed the process of healing. Accessing quality rehabilitation treatment and medical care can be an overwhelming, time consuming task. Learn how to overcome the difficult moments through the wisdom of others who have learned through experience.

Session: (4) - Josh Mason, Heather Ufberg, & Brenda Eagan Brown

Supporting Families, Schools & Students for School Re-entry

Annually, approx. 4,000 children and adolescents in PA sustain traumatic brain injuries severe enough to require hospitalization. School Re-entry begins during the rehabilitation process. As children return to school, BrainSTEPS, Pennsylvania's model school re-entry program, administered by BIAPA, is accurately identifying and classifying students with brain injuries so that students receive the correct cognitive supports and compensatory strategies through graduation. Since 2007, BrainSTEPS has been establishing initial and early connections between medical, rehabilitation, families, and schools to prepare for a student's re-entry back to school. The vital importance of quality communication among the patient, family, service providers, and school personnel will be examined. Challenges and obstacles in the development of an optimal educational plan will be raised as will the unique and varied needs of students and families who have suffered brain injuries. This session will focus on the BrainSTEPS Program overview, strategies for facilitating a smooth school re-entry, and program developments over the past year.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

12:45 pm - 1:45 pm

Box Lunch Provided

Exhibits Open

Lee Woodruff - book signing

2:00 pm - 3:15 pm

Session: (5) - Megan Dean, Tessa Golder, & Dave Predko

Improving Function Through Technology

Participants attending this session will become familiar with new technologies that are presently utilized in inpatient rehabilitation for patients with brain injury. Technologies discussed include the Reo-Go system, Hand Mentor, Interactive Metronome, Auto Ambulatory, Wii Nintendo system, and the Balance Trainer. During the session you will learn how these technologies are used in adjunct traditional treatment methods to enhance their participation and engagement in their recovery. These technologies provide an engaging and motivating experience that strengthens their ability to carryover their functional gains into a community-based setting.

Session: (6) - Ginny Rogers

Office of Long Term Living: Independent Enrollment Supports Broker and Waiver Enrollment Changes

This year a new process will be rolled out for assisting individuals who have sustained brain injury to obtain long term living supports and services. This presentation will describe the implementation of the Independent Enrollment Supports Broker project, and will review how these new services will be used to conduct intake visits to persons with brain injuries applying for a home and community based waiver program, as well as how follow-up will be conducted to assure completion of waiver applications. Community based outreach and training on issues related to persons with brain injuries will also be conducted. This presentation will also review upcoming changes that affect the MA Waiver programs available to people who have sustained brain injury.

Session: (7) - Kirk Hummel

Making The Home Accessible for Persons with Brain Injury, Even in a Challenging Economy

Living safely and actively in one's own home is priceless. But, renovating homes to be more livable for persons with brain injury can be an investment that feels out of reach for many families. Recently decreased government

Session: (7) Continued

...funding for home modification programs is creating challenges statewide, but affordable options and financial aid exist even in the current economic climate. Learn how to get the most value out of an investment in home modifications through practical, individualized solutions, innovative new products and education on how to navigate the financial aid maze because *everyone* deserves an accessible home.

Session: (8) - Barb Dively, Anna Marie Childress, Corinne Gries & Pat Strenk

Building A New Life After Brain Injury: Peer to Peer Training by Survivors & Families for Survivors & Families

Learn how survivors and family members developed and piloted this ABIN-PA program on building a new life after brain injury. Discuss the philosophy behind this program. Review the topics included in the program manual: anatomy, effects from the injury, emotional reactions, rehabilitation, communication strategies, staying calm, getting things done, getting the help you need, brain games, books, and the program guide. Experience the interactive method for delivering this program to groups. Discuss how this manual could be downloaded and used by facilities and support groups. Provide input on our next projects – an anatomy supplement and peer to provider training.

3:30 pm to 4:45 pm

Session: (9) - Charlotte Klucher

Managing Language and Memory: Challenges in the 21st Century and Beyond

Language and memory challenges often accompany brain injuries. While current therapies (e.g., cognitive rehabilitation) have been effective in helping recoup some lost skills, many individuals with brain injury will suffer from life-long disabilities in these areas. External memory aids are not always easy to use and can be embarrassing, particularly to young people. By providing the option for spoken messages, cell phone technologies eliminate problems for individuals with visual impairments, perceptual difficulties, and reduced reading ability. The purpose of this workshop is to familiarize participants with advances in assistive technology which allow those with memory and language impairments to achieve maximum independence.

Continued...

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Session: (10) - Susan Plank

Benefit of Complimentary Therapies for Chronic TBI Symptoms

This presentation is based on researched protocols and personal experience. Following acute care for brain injury an individual, by definition, continues to suffer from a myriad of debilitating symptoms. This presentation will identify some of the physical, emotional and cognitive symptoms frequently experienced by TBI survivors and the complimentary therapies that can improve a survivor's ability to gain greater control and quality in their life. Symptoms to be discussed include: dizziness, headache, pain, muscle tightness, anxiety, memory loss, balance and cognitive issues.

Session: (11) - Ann Marie McLaughlin

Survivor Panel: Romantic Relationships: Delights & Disappointments

Each year, we have provided a Survivor Panel. This year's panel will focus on the theme of exploring romantic relationships. Three to four panelists will describe their experiences and offer strategies which have supported their relationships. They will also identify pitfalls in an effort to inform audience members.

Session: (12) - Monica Vaccaro

Support Group Networking

Support Groups can be an amazing way for families to support one another through a life-altering event. Come to learn how different groups are making this happen in creative ways and meet support group members from around the state. This session will provide an opportunity for those in similar roles to share experiences.

Session: (13) - Sally Kneipp

Successful Vocational Outcomes in a Challenging Economy

The current economic climate, with staggering numbers of persons out of work and intense competition for available jobs, places new demands on job coaches as well as job seekers. Job coaches may need to use creative approaches at each step in the job placement process, and learn new ways of assisting individuals to handle unfamiliar on-line applications, group interviews, and frequently fluctuating work schedules, etc. During this presentation, case illustrations will be used to examine the job demands, and the strategies and techniques that led to the successful outcomes. Handouts of the actual written compensatory strategies for cognitive impairments will be distributed to audience participants.

4:45 pm to 5:30 pm - All attendees welcome!
Annual Membership Meeting

5:30 pm to 7:00 pm - All attendees welcome!
Reception, Awards Ceremony & Silent Auction

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

7:00 am – 8:00 am

Breakfast Buffet

7:00 am – 4:00 pm

Exhibits Open

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Breakfast Plenary

Dave Meaney - Football Helmets: Lessons From the Past and Looking To the Future



This session will provide a review of football helmet testing. New data on measuring helmet performance is also presented. The advantages and interpretation of existing standards and new test data will be discussed.

9:15 am to 10:30 am

Session: (14) - Mary Brownsberger & Vicki Eicher
Outcomes Research: What Is It & Why Is It Important to you?

Individuals and families served by brain injury rehabilitation programs may know that programs collect outcome data, but may not be completely familiar with what the data means and how data is used. This presentation is designed to increase understanding regarding what data are collected, including what measures are used and why; and how data are used to improve individual outcomes, program quality and advocacy efforts. Pennsylvania's leadership efforts through the PARF Outcomes Benchmarking Project to further the use of outcomes data research in brain injury will be highlighted.

Session: (15) - Mike Miller

Building A Legislative Caucus in Pennsylvania

The process utilized to build a legislative caucus in both the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and Senate will be described and evaluated.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

9:15 am to 10:30 am - continued

Session: (16) - Stewart Shear, Michelle Herrigel, Lisa Fernandez, & Katharine Donlan

Keeping The Faith: The Effect of the Practice of Faith on Quality of Life for Adults with Brain Injury

Lives are forever changed after brain injury, and the struggle to define a “new normal” continues after the injury has occurred. Many individuals develop networks of support post-injury and identify faith as one of these supports. An empirical investigation was conducted to determine what impact the practice of faith has on quality of life which included adults who have brain injury. Individuals with moderate to severe injuries were administered the Quality of Life Questionnaire and the Practice of Faith Survey (developed for the purpose of this study). Recommendations for incorporating the practice of faith into person-centered planning are discussed.

Session: (17) - Gayle Chesley, Alexis Geib, & Jennifer Olinik

Teenagers with Brain Injury: Community Supports in PA

Consequences of brain injury include cognitive, emotional, social, and academic impairment. Adolescents with brain injury experience the burden of attempting to develop a positive self-identity while coping with these impairments. A connection with other adolescents with brain injury and optimal school accommodations are vital to achieve positive outcomes with this process. This presentation will focus on three programs by which teens with brain injury can find social and academic support in Pennsylvania: teen brain injury support groups (i.e., The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and Bucks County Brain STEPS support groups), Camp Cranium, and Brain STEPS.

10:45 am to 12:00 pm

Session: (18) - Dawn Scheidell & Linda Geldner

The Use of a Vocational Rating Scale: From Sheltered to Competitive Employment

This presentation is an overview of a vocational rating instrument developed for use in a community integrated brain injury setting using the framework of The Work Personality Profile (WPP) developed by Bolton and Roessler. The rating system recommends a range of vocational programming and profiles are clustered into five behavioral categories: Autonomy; General Work Skills; Attention; Emotional Stability and Judgment. Goal areas and compensatory strategies are developed based on the need areas and future vocational

Continued...

Session: (19) Continued

...programming is recommended. The ratings were obtained on data collected on the individuals in various real life (paid) jobs from sheltered to competitive employment. Case studies will be presented in video and/or pictorial form in their natural work environments and discussion to follow.

Session: (19) - Juanita Kasper & Ed Snyder

IEP Success: Parent & Student Involvement

Johnson and Sharpe (2000) reported that more students were attending their IEP transition meetings than in previous years, but active participation is still minimal. As high school students are preparing for adult life, their involvement in their transition planning becomes crucial. There is also some evidence that parental participation in the transition process can increase the likelihood of a good match between students and their post school goals. This presentation will discuss the importance of student/parent participation in transition planning as well as the self-determinations skills that will enhance this process.

Session: (20) - Roberta Brooks & Madeline DiPasquale

Ways & Means of Relationship Building

Presenters will identify neuropsychological changes after acquired brain injury that impact communication, social skills and changes in life roles. Through modeling and role-playing scenarios, participants will have the opportunity to observe and comment on successful and less successful strategies for interacting with others. After several modeling and formal role playing exercises depicting common social situations, audience members will be asked to identify situations they have experienced and benefit from presenters and group comments for problem solving. Tips on where, when, how and with whom to practice communication strategies for social skills will be provided.

Session: (21) - Sam Pierce & Curry Johnson

Be Involved: Coordinating Races for Recovery

The presentation will discuss the process of organizing a Race for Recovery which is designed to educate the general public about brain safety and generate funding for the BIAPA. The session will review the process of identifying an appropriate venue, volunteer & participant recruitment, race management, sponsor recruitment, online/offline fundraising, and public relations for a Race for Recovery. Practical tips for organizing a Race for Recovery will be the focus of the presentation.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

12:15 pm to 1:15 pm

Luncheon Keynote Speaker

Pennsylvania Representative Tim Briggs

Legislative Update on Brain Injury

State Representative Tim Briggs, D-Montgomery, will discuss the status of his legislation (H.B. 2060) which would make sure that we better manage concussions that happen in youth sports and increase awareness regarding their seriousness. Rep. Briggs' bill would require that if a



player sustains a concussion or brain injury, they could not return to play unless cleared by a licensed health care provider. This measure would also require a student's parent or guardian to annually sign a concussion and head injury information sheet prior to the student's participating in practice or competition.

1:30 pm to 2:45 pm

Session: (22) - Dave Stoddard & Frank Oschell

Brain Injury and Wheelchair Seating

Brain injuries can result in various physical abnormalities that effect mobility and posture. This session will focus on one area of *assistive technology* for those with Brain Injuries, namely adaptive wheelchair seating. Factors influencing seated positioning include primitive reflex patterns, musculo-skeletal asymmetries, abnormal muscle tone, sensory integration, functional abilities and contractures. Various seating approaches will be discussed including planar, contoured and custom-molded, as well as wheelchair frame configurations such as tilt-in-space, recline, and elevating legrests. Custom-molding will be demonstrated using the bead-evacuation process to show how an individual's shape can be accurately captured with bead bags, digitized into a 3-D image and used to carve custom seat and backrest cushions.

Session: (23) - Carolyn Cass

Department of Health - Improving TBI Services, Supports, and Capacity in Pennsylvania

Starting April 1, 2010, the PA Department of Health was awarded a grant from the federal Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) to expand and improve state and local TBI capacity by developing TBI specific programs that target at risk populations who are either unserved or underserved. The program will build on existing programs that advance best practices already in place in Pennsylvania, including providing TBI education in PA Child Care Settings, Education of

Continued...

Session: (23) Continued

...Health Professionals, Training and Education to Domestic Violence Community, Youth Brain Injury Transition to Adulthood Program, Community Awareness, Education and Training Program, Expansion of the BrainSTEPS School Re-Entry Program to Post Secondary Students, Families and Faculty, and Post Secondary Student and Faculty Training, Education and Outreach Program. This session will also highlight accomplishments of the Department of Health's Head Injury Program, current activities and program status, and plans for the future, including new initiatives.

Session: (24) - Page Walker Buck

What Should I Say? Explaining Traumatic Brain Injury to Family, Friends & Work Colleagues

Explaining mild traumatic brain injury, commonly known as concussion, is often a significant burden for survivors, family members and workers alike. Despite the fact that awareness of this invisible injury within the medical community has increased significantly in recent years, the lay community remains largely uneducated about its cognitive, physical and social implications. This interactive presentation will give participants hands-on opportunities to learn and practice ways to communicate about mild TBI injuries in written, spoken and expressed form. Suggestions about language use will be provided including what to say and when to say it.

Session: (25) - Bridget Lowery

Understanding Memory & Attention: Real Life Strategies & Activities

Memory and Attention problems are common after a Brain Injury. We know that memory and attention can be divided into many categories. We use a variety of types of memory and attention in everyday life. In order to improve these skills, we must first understand them. This presentation will describe the different types of memory and attention and highlight how they play out in our everyday lives. We will also identify activities that survivors and/or families can do at home to strengthen these areas. Strategies that can be used to compensate for deficits with memory and attention will be identified.

1:30 pm to 2:45 pm - Special Session

Monica Vaccaro

Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania
Support Group Facilitators Meeting

Program continued on next page...

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Closing General Presentation

Eugene Brown, Linda Washington Brown, Althea Walker, & Dr. David Brock,

Together Rehabing Through Life

Eugene Brown is a survivor of an acquired brain injury that occurred in 1997 as the result of a ruptured arteriovenous malformation (AVM). As a result, he experienced left side paralysis and had to rebuild his life. Eugene, along with his wife, Linda, social worker and friend, Althea Walker and Dr. David Brock, Medical Director, Neurosensory ICU, Thomas Jefferson University, will share what they believe are keys to his recovery.

Continuing Education

Credits and Contact Hours

Continuing education credits or contact hours have been applied for:

ACT 48

Case Managers

Licensed Professional Counselors

Occupational Therapists

Personal Care Home Admin.

Physical Therapists

Psychologists (APA)

Social Workers

Speech Therapists

Recreational Therapists

Registered Nurses

Rehabilitation Counselors

Rehabilitation Nurses

Continuing education credits or contact hours are pending approval. Anyone who would like to receive CEU credits must register in advance and pay the CEU fee of \$30.

ACBIS INFORMATION

A post-conference Certified Brain Injury Specialist (CBIS) training for the Academy for the Certification of Brain Injury Specialists (ACBIS) will be held on June 22 (4:30-8:30 pm) and June 23 (8:00 am-12:00 pm; 1:00-3:00 pm Testing).

ACBIS offers a voluntary national certification program for both direct-care level staff and experienced professionals working in brain injury services. CBIS certification is not restricted to any one profession or discipline. Rather, it is intended for anyone who delivers services specific to brain injury. **See the ACBIS website for eligibility requirements:** www.aacbis.net.

The Post Conference training workshop will be instructed by ACBIS Certified Brain Injury Specialist and Trainers (CBIST): Dawn Macomber, Tammy Konieczny, Todd Levy & Drew Nagele.

Anyone interested in registering for this course must contact Kara Dohrman by calling (717) 692-5562 or email at admin@biapa.org for requirements and registration details.

* Additional details available at www.biapa.org.

**THE MISSION OF THE BRAIN
INJURY ASSOCIATION OF
PENNSYLVANIA IS TO
PREVENT BRAIN INJURY AND
IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE
FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE
EXPERIENCED BRAIN INJURY
AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS
THROUGH SUPPORT,
EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, AND
RESEARCH.**

REGISTRATION FORM

DEADLINE TO REGISTER - FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2010

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

REGISTRATION TYPE (Full Conference registration includes Monday lunch, Monday evening reception, Tuesday breakfast, Tuesday lunch, and coffee breaks.)	COST	TOTAL
Professional: Full Conference	\$375	
Professional: One Day (Monday)	\$250	
Professional: One Day (Tuesday)	\$250	
Survivor/Family Member/Student: Full Conference	\$150	
Survivor/Family Member/Student: One Day (Monday)	\$110	
Survivor/Family Member/Student: One Day (Tuesday)	\$110	
AACBIS Training Course & Examination (Post Conference)	\$275	
AACBIS Training Course Only (Post Conference)	\$100	
AACBIS Examination Only (Post Conference)	\$175	
Continuing Education Credit Fee	\$30	
TOTAL ENCLOSED		

Payment Method:

____ Check: payable to *BIAPA* Credit card: ____ VISA ____ MasterCard ____ Discover ____ AMEX

Card Number: _____

Name on Card: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Billing Zip Code: _____ 3 Digit Verification Code (on back of card): _____

Signature: _____

**Complete form and return by June 4, 2010 to BIAPA 950 Walnut Bottom Road, Suite 15-229
Carlisle, PA 17015 or via fax at (717) 692-5567, OR register online at www.biapa.org.**

*Cancellation Policy: If you need to cancel your registration, you are eligible for a 50% refund if you notify BIAPA by June 4, 2010. Failure to provide notification by this date will result in the loss of the full registration fee.
Substitutions are welcome!*

* For information on survivor and family scholarships: *

Call 1-866-635-7097 Email: admin@biapa.org Visit: www.biapa.org

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The Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) tax exempt organization incorporated in Pennsylvania. The official registration and financial information of the Association may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.