



## Press Release

**For Immediate Release**  
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### **Pediatrician and Mother of Brain Injury Survivor to Discuss the Consequences of Drunk Driving at Lahey Clinic's Annual Trauma Symposium**

Carolyn Roy-Bornstein, MD, a pediatrician and the mother of a survivor of traumatic brain injury, will be discussing the consequences of drunk driving at Lahey Clinic's Annual Trauma Symposium, on Thursday, Oct. 20. As an Ambassador for the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts (BIA-MA), Roy-Bornstein will share her personal experience as well as professional perspective with nurses, EMTs, physical therapists, rehab specialists and other medical professionals attending the event.

"Traumatic brain injury is a major cause of death and disability to trauma patients," says Sandi Mackey, RN, Trauma Program Coordinator at Lahey Clinic. "Having speakers such as Dr. Roy-Bornstein present at our annual trauma conference is an excellent opportunity to educate our staff about her unique experience as the mother of a child who suffered a traumatic brain injury and as a medical professional."

"As an Ambassador for the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts, I hope to increase awareness of the risks and consequences of traumatic brain injury," says Dr. Roy-Bornstein, a pediatrician at Merrimack Valley Child & Adolescent Health in Haverhill. "Through increased understanding, we can better support survivors of brain injury and help prevent others from suffering this devastating tragedy."

Dr. Roy-Bornstein, whose son sustained a brain injury when he was hit by a drunk driver while walking home from a study date, has spoken before groups in Stoneham, Saugus, Amesbury, Haverhill, Newton, and Attleboro. She was the keynote speaker at BIA-MA's 2010 Pediatric Conference. Audience members described her presentation as "very emotional and engaging...I loved hearing the mother/doctor perspective...she captivated the audience."

A pediatrician with over 15 years' experience, Dr. Roy-Bornstein is also a writer. Her essays and articles have appeared in or been accepted for publication in many medical and literary journals and anthologies, including *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, *Brain*, *Child* magazine, *Literary Mama*, *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Grieving and Recovery*, *The Writer*, *The Examined Life*, *Kaleidoscope* and more. Her memoir about her son's injuries entitled *Crash* will be published by Globe Pequot Press in October 2012. She and her family live in Newburyport, MA.

In Massachusetts, more than 44,000 people sustain brain injuries each year and many

may have been prevented by seat belts, helmets, and simple common sense. Common causes of brain injury include car crashes, sports concussions, falls, and violence.

Ambassador presentations focus on injury prevention and education for all ages and can be tailored to individual audiences. Each Ambassador's story is unique and puts a personal face on the issue of traumatic brain injury. If your organization is interested in having an Ambassador from the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts speak, please call Kelly Buttiglieri at 508-475-0032 or email [kbuttiglieri@biama.org](mailto:kbuttiglieri@biama.org).

The Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts (BIA-MA) is a private, non-profit organization that provides support to brain injury survivors and their families, offers programs to prevent brain injuries, and educates the public on the risks and impact of brain injury. The association also advocates for funding for services and for legislation to prevent brain injuries, including seatbelt and helmet laws.

Affiliated with the Brain Injury Association of America, BIA-MA has been honored with multiple national and regional awards, including a "Lifesavers Award," an award for "Outstanding Advocacy," a "Leadership" award, and one for its billboard reaching out to veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with brain injuries.

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