March 30, 2017
Registration Brochure
Welcome!

Nicole M. Godaire, CBIS, BIA-MA Executive Director

I would like to invite you to participate in our 36th Annual Brain Injury Conference on March 30th, 2017. This conference provides a venue to gather and discuss the challenges facing professionals, survivors and families, while learning about new developments in the brain injury field. We are expecting over 800 attendees, 45+ Exhibitors and 29 content-rich workshops on a wide variety of topics, such as “Brain Injury and Substance Use Disorders”, “Concussion - Look into the Eyes”, “Understanding and Approaching Hoarding Behavior due to TBI”, “ABI and Dementia”, “Tai Chi”, and many, many more!

A special thanks to our Presenting Sponsors, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) and HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospitals.

Hope to see you on March 30th!

Best Regards,

Nicole M. Godaire

Keynote Speakers - Stacia Bissell and Katya Bowen

“Courageous Inspiration Through Brain Injury Education”

Stacia Bissell, MEd, is a native of Berkshire County in western Massachusetts. She studied mathematics at Wells College in Aurora, New York and earned a Master’s in Education degree from Cambridge College. Passionate about education, Stacia spent much of her career as a middle school math teacher and high school business teacher until taking on roles in administration and academic coaching.

In 2011, she became a licensed middle and high school principal with aspirations of running her own school in the near future, however, a bicycle accident that same year left her with a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and her career as a public school educator came to an end.

Instrumental in Stacia’s recovery was her Speech Lanugage coach, Katya Bowen. With encouragement from Katya, the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts, former co-workers, friends and family, Stacia began doing speaking engagements to various audiences on the topic of brain injury. In addition to being a keynote speaker for a number of organizations, she is a co-facilitator of the BIA-MA Northampton brain injury support group and a founding member of the Berkshire Brain Injury Collaborative, developing and providing professional development to teachers on “return-to-learn” strategies after a student suffers a concussion. In her free time, Stacia enjoys hiking, camping, gardening, and time with family and friends. She has three grown children who live in Nashville, TN, Boston and Tacoma, WA.

Katya Bowen, MS, CCC-SLP, CBIS received her Bachelor of Arts in Justice from the University of Alaska, Anchorage in 1989, and then wandered “lost in the wilderness” of the financial services industry for seven years. She finally came to her senses and went back to school. She received her Master of Science in Speech Language Pathology from Worcester State College in 2002. She has been treating patients with both traumatic and acquired brain injuries for more than 14 years. She lives and works in Western Massachusetts.
Who Should Attend:
Professionals, family members, caregivers, survivors of brain injury, and anyone affected by brain injury.

The Venue:
Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, 181 Boston Post Road West, Marlborough, MA  01752, (508) 460-0700, www.rplazahotels.com. A block of discount rooms is available for conference attendees at $134.00, please contact the Best Western by March 28th to book one of these rooms. Continental breakfast, break refreshments, and lunch will be provided.

Conference Schedule:

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 - 8:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Registration:</strong> Continental Breakfast and Networking</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 - 8:15 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Welcome:</strong> Nicole Godaire, CBIS, Executive Director, BIA-MA</td>
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<td>David Dwork, Esq., President, BIA-MA Board of Directors</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15 - 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Keynote:</strong> Stacia Bissell, MEd; Katya Bowen, MS, CCC-SLP, CBIS</td>
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<td>“Courageous Inspiration Through Brain Injury Education”</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 - 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Break:</strong> Network &amp; Refreshments</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Session I:</strong> Workshops 1-10</td>
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<td>12:00 - 12:15 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Break:</strong> Network</td>
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<td>12:15 - 1:15 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Lunch in the Main Ballroom and Zachary’s Restaurant</strong></td>
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<td>1:15 - 2:45 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Session II:</strong> Workshops 11-20</td>
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<td>2:45 - 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Break:</strong> Network &amp; Refreshments</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 - 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Session III:</strong> Workshops 21-29</td>
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<td>4:30 p.m. - end</td>
<td><strong>Professionals Sign Out for CEUs</strong></td>
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Conference Committee:
Beth Pusey, Chair
Cynthia Cardeli
Eileen Chernoff, RN, MBA, LicNHA
Ruth Crowley, MS, CCC-SLP
Danna Delaney-Young, CBIS
Catherine Dennehy, MSPT, CBIS
Nicole M. Godaire, CBIS
Elizabeth Harnois
Kenneth Hughes
Marine Johanson, LPN
Gabriela Lawrence-Soto
Janet McBride-Roy, CTRS
Daniel Meninger, MSPT
Zelinda Pereira, CBIS
Rebecca Pritchard, MS, OTR/L, CSRS
Joseph Ricciardi, PsyD, ABPP, BCBA-D, CBIST
Helen Stewart, RN
Stacey Sirotta, MS, DPT, CBIS
Continuing Education

Continuing Education Credits (CEUs):

CEUs are offered in the registration price for professionals in the following fields:

- Audiologists
- Case Managers*
- Certified Brain Injury Specialists and Trainers
- Licensed Mental Health Counselors
- Nurses
- Occupational Therapists
- Physical Therapists
- Psychologists
- Recreational Therapists*
- Rehabilitation Counselors*
- Social Workers
- Speech-Language Pathologists

*Applications for these CEUs have been submitted.

Commonwealth Educational Seminars (CES) provides CEUs (in part) for the following clinical fields:

**Licensed Mental Health Counselors in Massachusetts:** As an American Psychological Association approved provider, CES is entitled to grant continuing education credit to Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHCs) in Massachusetts. CES maintains responsibility for this program. LMHCs completing this conference will receive 6.0 continuing education credit hours.

**Nurses:** As an American Psychological Association approved provider, CES programs are accepted by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Every state Board of Nursing accepts ANCC approved programs except California and Iowa, however CES is also an approved Continuing Education provider by the California Board of Registered Nursing, (Provider Number CEP15567) which is also accepted by the Iowa Board of Nursing. Nurses completing this conference will receive 6.0 continuing education credit hours.

**Psychologists:** Commonwealth Educational Seminars (CES) is approved by the American Psychological Association (APA) to offer continuing education credit programs. CES maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Psychologists completing this conference will receive 6.0 continuing education credit hours.

**Social Workers:** CES provider #1117, is approved as a provider for Social Work Continuing Education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) www.aswb.org, through the Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. CES maintains responsibility for the program. ASWB approval period: 10/5/15 – 10/5/18. Social Workers should contact their regulatory board to determine course approval. Social Workers completing this conference will receive 6.0 continuing education credit hours.

**The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) provides CEUs for the following professions:**

**Audiologists & Speech-Language Pathologists:** This course is offered for .6 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional area). Information pertaining to the speaker’s financial and non-financial relationships can be found on the BIA-MA website at www.biama.org/annualconference.

To obtain your Continuing Education Credits: Professionals must sign in, attend the full training, and sign out at the end of the day. Evaluations must be submitted online to receive continuing education credits. For more information on continuing education, please visit www.biama.org/annualconference.

A Certificate of Attendance showing hours attended will be awarded online to all participants upon completion of online evaluations.
Registration and Membership

Become a BIA-MA Member!

Membership Benefits
• ALL memberships receive discounts for the Annual Brain Injury Conference (as noted above).
• ALL memberships receive the Quarterly newsletter, Heads Up Headlines, which includes survivor tips, information about upcoming conferences and workshops, and much more.
• ALL memberships receive online access to BIAA's magazine, THE Challenge.
• PROFESSIONAL & PROFESSIONAL PLUS members also receive discounts to professional workshops, including the ABI Clinical Series.
• PROFESSIONAL PLUS members also receive a one year subscription to the Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation (JHTR).

Membership Levels
• Professional Plus $125
• Professional $75
• Family/Caregiver $50
• Individual $35
• Brain Injury Survivor $5

Online Registration
To register go to: www.biama.org/annualconference

**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!!**
**ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2017**

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**AFTER MARCH 1, 2017**

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Registration deadline: March 17, 2017 - No walk-in registrations will be accepted.
• Cancellations on or before March 1st will receive a full refund. Cancellations between March 2nd and 16th will be charged a 35% administrative fee deducted from the refund. Cancellations after March 17th will not receive a refund.
• Conference registration includes breakfast, lunch, refreshments, and educational workshops.
• Scholarships are available for survivors of brain injury for a fee of $10 (includes one family member/caregiver); Printed registration forms are available upon request.
• Registration questions for Sponsors & Exhibitors, please contact Chesa Conrad at 508-475-0032 or visit www.biama.org/annualconferenceprofessional
• Questions? Contact BIA-MA (508) 475-0032 or email bpusey@biama.org

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**ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1, 2017**

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**Questions? Contact BIA-MA (508) 475-0032 or email bpusey@biama.org**
1. Concussion: Look into the Eyes

**Intended Audience:** Professionals

Dr. Cathy Stern, OD, FCVO, FCOS, FNORA, Behavioral and Neuro-Optometrist - Private Practice

**Description:** Vision problems are common after concussion and research supports the effectiveness of specific vision tests and treatment for concussion. In this workshop discussions will include issues with vision that occur after concussion, the effectiveness of specific vision tests, and treatment for concussions. Discussion will also review the newest tests and neuro-visual rehabilitation therapy.


**Intended Audience:** Professionals

Joseph Riccardi, PsyD, ABPP, BCBA-D, CBIST, Director of Clinical Services/Assistant VP, Seven Hills NeuroCare; David Webb, Service Coordinator Supervisor, Northeast Region and Lorraine Murphy, NP, ABI Nurse Practitioner - both from Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

**Description:** This workshop presents a summary of clinical challenges, seen in people who have applied for the Massachusetts Residential ABI-Waiver Program, based on data gathered by the Northeast Region Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Program at DDS and a community provider, Seven Hills NeuroCare. There will be a discussion on the frequency of specialized clinical support needs and the resulting behavioral-clinical practices that have been developed to address these challenges. Rehabilitative outcome data and illustrative clinical case examples will be presented.

3. What You Need to Know About Going Back to Work

**Intended Audience:** All

Linda Landry Esq. and Thomas Murphy, Esq., Senior Staff Attorneys, Disability Law Center

**Description:** This workshop will cover what you need to know about going to work including disclosure of disability to an employer, making effective reasonable accommodation requests, understanding the effect of work on disability benefits, and the basics of Social Security Income or Social Security Disability Income.

4. Medications and Falls

**Intended Audience:** All

Donna Bartlett, PharmD, CGP, RPh, Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice, MCPHS University

**Description:** This workshop will highlight one of the important factors identified in falls prevention, a medication review. Many medications may not be appropriate as we age or may increase our risk of falling, a multi-factorial event. Learn how medications may increase the risk of falls and options for lowering risk.

5. The Stress of Caring for Others in Your Life: What’s in Your Toolbox to Stay Healthy?

**Intended Audience:** All

Donna McCarten White, BSN, Consultant Addiction Specialist, Department of Public Health

**Description:** This interactive workshop will identify common stressors that impact performance of people who are either employed in caring for others or care for individuals in their lives. Topics include methodologies to identify patterns of Compassion Fatigue as well as strategies to promote Wellness, Recovery, and a renewed sense of identity as a caring person or professional.
6. **Functional Recovery: A Residential Recovery Overview**

**Intended Audience:** Advanced Professionals

**Victoria Harding, PhD, CCC/SLP, MBA, CBIT, Vice President of Development, NeuroRestorative**

**Description:** This workshop presents results from a mixed methods explanatory design study, which examined specific elements of Post Hospital Interdisciplinary Brain Injury Rehabilitation – Residential (PHIDBIR-R) programs, which positively influenced gains in function. The study’s primary purpose was to understand individuals who made the greatest gains in function while participating in these programs, from admission to discharge, and determine which components of these programs may have contributed most to individuals’ gains in function.

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7. **360 Thinking: A New Model for Remediating Executive Function Skills**

**Intended Audience:** Professionals

**Sarah Ward, MS, CCC/SLP and Kristen Jacobsen, MS, CCC/SLP: both from Cognitive Connections, LLP**

**Description:** This workshop will teach participants to utilize situational intelligence, develop a memory for the future, internally sense the passage of time, complete tasks within allotted time frames, and breakdown plans and initiate tasks.

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8. **Understanding Your Own Brain Can Impact Care and Understanding for Others**

**Intended Audience:** All

**Dr. Kevin Morford, DC, CCCN, Chiropractic Physician, Adjunct Instructor, Oklahoma State University**

**Description:** This workshop will discuss three case studies that reveal fundamental characteristics of how the brain works and heals, the roles of emotions in healing, and why “one size fits all therapy” isn’t accurate.

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9. **MassHealth’s Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waivers: Opportunities for Community Living for ABI Survivors**

**Intended Audience:** All

**Amy Bernstein, LSW, MMHS, Director; Dorathée Alsentzer, JD, Manager - both from Community Based Waivers, MassHealth, Executive Office of Health and Human Services**

**Description:** This workshop will explore the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) and Money Follows Person (MFP) waivers, which are designed for adults who transition from nursing facilities or long-stay hospitals to the community. HCBS waivers are alternative long-term services and supports programs for MassHealth members who otherwise need facility-based care. The discussion will also cover the Frail Elder waiver, which serves older adults in the community.

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10. **Why Less is More: Cognitive and Executive Functioning Aids**

**Intended Audience:** All

**Genise Burnett, SLP-A, Assistive Technology Specialist; Jessie Salz, MS, OTR/L, Assistive Technology Specialist - both from Easter Seals**

**Description:** This workshop is geared to inform consumers, practitioners, and families about the various Cognitive and Executive Functioning Aids that are useful in daily living. Individuals will have opportunities to try out both low and high tech executive functioning aids, and will be provided with resources for seeking out additional information.
11. **Total Health for Chronic Moderate to Severe Brain Injury**

**Intended Audience:** All

Laura Lorenz, PhD, MEd, Director Research & Education and Peter Noonan, MSA, Executive Director: both from Supportive Living, Inc; Therese O’Neil-Pirozzi, ScD, CCC-SLP, Associate Professor, Northeastern University & Associate Project Director Spaulding/Harvard TBI Model System

**Description:** This workshop provides an update on: The science-base for community-based programming to maximize physical, cognitive, and social health issues of individuals with moderate-to-severe disabilities from brain injury; outcomes used to measure benefits of participation in community-based programming; and challenges and supports to program sustainability and outcomes.

12. **An Empowering Movement-Based Approach for those who Support Survivors**

**Intended Audience:** Professionals

Pam Formosa, MA, OTR/L, Co-Owner and Karla Boudreau, PTA, Brain Fit Coach - both from Brain Fit Academy, Inc.

**Description:** People who support survivors provide comfort, advice, and encouragement. Imagine if they also provided powerful, self-help tools that promoted independence. Learn about a 4 week movement-based model that empowers survivors to use goal setting, noticing, and movement to promote relaxation and enhance balance and visual ability.

13. **This is Your Brain (and Body) on Music**

**Intended Audience:** All

Eve Montague, MSM, MT-BC, South Shore Conservatory

**Description:** Research has shown that music therapy interventions in rehabilitation can improve motor, speech, cognition, and mood/behavior. This workshop will demonstrate the influence that music and its parts (rhythm, melody) have on rehabilitation and quality of life for individuals with a brain injury.

14. **Spasticity Management: Optimizing Function and Care**

**Intended Audience:** Professionals

Dr. Zachary Bohart, Physiatrist, Tufts Medical Center

**Description:** This workshop will focus on the selection of patients for medical and therapy treatments. The content will include problem solving for complex patients, Inthathical Baclofen pump therapy, injection management, the role of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy. The goal is to optimize care, comfort, and function for the traumatic brain injury patient.

15. **Navigating Your Relationships Through the ABI Storm**

**Intended Audience:** All

Gary Brennan, BS, Peer Visitor and Lynne Brennan, BS, MEd, Patient Family Advisory Council Member: both from Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital Cape Cod; Helen Reid Stewart, RN, Information & Resource Outreach Coordinator, Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts

**Description:** This workshop will focus on navigating relationships after brain injury. A couple will share their journey through recovery. Participants will learn about contributing factors and barriers that brain injury may cause in any relationship. Tips and strategies will be provided as well as a Q&A.
16. Meditation and the Brain

**Intended Audience:** All

Sara Lazar, PhD, Associate Researcher in Psychiatry, Massachusetts General Hospital and Assistant Professor in Psychology, Harvard Medical School

**Description:** This workshop will present data concerning the impact of meditation training on brain structure and function. A discussion will be included on the relation of meditation to clinical symptoms including pain, anxiety, depression and cognition.

17. Life After Transition into the Community

**Intended Audience:** All

Sandy Biber, LRC, LMHC, Director, Community Based Services, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

**Description:** What happens after transition, after one settles in, after things calm down? This workshop will provide a glimpse into how ABI/MFP participants have settled into the community. A participant panel will discuss what works and what doesn’t work, and how life looks after the transition from a nursing home or rehab hospital is well past.

18. Difficult Conversations in Serious Illness Situations

**Intended Audience:** Professionals

Betsy Pollock, LICSW, Director of Social Work, Mount Auburn Cambridge Independent Practice Association

**Description:** Health Care professionals may feel ill-equipped to conduct conversations about serious illness treatment and values. Participants in this workshop will learn how to engage in these conversations, thus improving the quality of care received by patients and their families. Participants will also learn and practice a patient-centered protocol developed by Atul Gawande and Ariadne Labs.

19. TBI and Dementia

**Intended Audience:** Professionals

Dr. Jonathan Jackson, PhD, Instructor, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School; Kristen Dams-O’Connor, PhD, Associate Professor, Director, Brain Injury Research Center, Research Director, Mount Sinai Injury Control Research Center, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

**Description:** This workshop will provide the audience with the latest information on how brain injury over the lifespan influences risk for Alzheimer’s Disease (AD) as well as other dementia subtypes. The presentation will also address differences between AD, dementia, and other neurodegenerative conditions that may be associated with TBI, as well as promising new therapies.

20. Engaged to Empower: Beyond our Words

**Intended Audience:** All

Scott Kruczek, Master Level CPI Instructor, Director, Operations / Regional Director Training & Employee Engagement - NeuroResorative – MENTOR Network

**Description:** Discover how to inspire the person served by the way we communicate non-verbally and verbally. This workshop will examine body language, micro expressions, and gestures in conjunction with para-verbal communication.
21. Laugh for the Health of It: Creating Therapeutic Laughter for Brain Injury Survivors  
Intended Audience: All  
Trevor Smith, BA, MA, MEd, CLL, Blue Sky Consulting  
Description: This workshop will demonstrate how “Laugh for the Health of It”, a community-based health and wellness program, helps survivors build healthier habits through positive outlook and behaviors. This experiential workshop will help participants interact with each other in a deeper and more authentic level, creating a common language that you can take back to your work practice and daily life.

22. Technology, Frequency, and Personalization: A Winning Combination for Brain Injury Rehabilitation  
Intended Audience: All  
Emily Dubas, MS, CCC-SLP, Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital and Constant Therapy; David Poskanzer, MBA, Constant Therapy  
Description: This workshop will review current research on the importance of customizing components for those wishing to improve language and cognition skills after brain injury. In addition, you will hear from a brain injury survivor utilizing these tools and will review options for obtaining this technology.

23. Brain Injury and Substance Use Disorders: Understanding the Complexity of Co-occurring Disorders to Provide Effective, Evidence-Based Treatment  
Intended Audience: All  
Jennifer Michaels, MD, FASAM, Medical Director, Brien Center  
Description: Addiction to opioids and other substances is occurring at epidemic rates in the United States. Current research has confirmed that addiction is truly a brain disease. People with substance use disorders commonly suffer from co-occurring brain injuries. This workshop will review the neurobiology of addictions, and the impact of brain injury on treatment and recovery from addictions. People with brain injuries often benefit from addiction treatment that is tailored to their unique needs. This workshop will identify methods to address the complex treatment requirements of people with co-occurring brain injury and addictions. Issues related to the current opioid epidemic will also be discussed.

24. Tai Chi: A Guided Interactive Meditation  
Intended Audience: All  
Robin Turner Natanel, Tai Chi Sifu/Taoist Priestess/Wu Shi Warrior, Robin’s Mindful Nest  
Description: An Introduction to Tai Chi including interactive breathing exercises, temple exercises, Tai Chi Form, and Q&A. As a result you will learn how to breathe more healthfully, move more freely, and gain more physical and emotional balance.
25. ABI Needs Assessment
Intended Audience: All
Sandy Biber, LRC, LMHC, Director, Community Based Services, MRC
Description: Proposed in the 2015 Continuum of Care report, MRC has conducted a survey to determine the needs of individuals with acquired brain injuries. This workshop will discuss the process of conducting the survey, what was learned, and what has been proposed.

26. The Utility of a Comprehensive Neuropsychological Examination
Intended Audience: Professionals
Kevin A. Domingos, PhD, Clinical Director; Jillian Bennett, PhD, BCBA-D, LABA, Clinical Psychologist, Behavioral Analyst; Michael Fearing, PhD, Clinical Neuropsychologist - all from Boston Neuropsychological Services, LLC
Description: A workshop for professionals to understand the utility of a neuropsychological evaluation, when to refer, and what questions to ask.

27. Understanding and Approaching Hoarding Behavior due to TBI
Intended Audience: All
Marnie Matthews, LICSW, North Shore Elder Services
Description: Hoarding behavior is often associated with mental health symptoms, though some cases can be attributed to other medical conditions such as TBI. This presentation will help participants understand the difference between Hoarding Behavior and Hoarding Disorder, and how this is the key to effectively approaching the individual and the development of an appropriate treatment plan.

28. Transitioning from Long Term Care to Community “Residential” Living
Intended Audience: All
Christina Schilling, MA, ABI Service Coordinator and Megan Bercume, ABI/MFP Service Coordinator, - both from Department of Developmental Services
Description: This workshop will discuss barriers of transition as well as interventions that have been effective and successful in transition.

29. An Overview of Vestibular Dysfunction and Rehabilitation in Individuals with Brain Injury
Intended Audience: Professionals
Janet Callahan, PT, DPT, MS, NCS, Assistant Professor, Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions
Description: Vestibular dysfunction occurs commonly following brain injury and can have a marked effect on rehabilitation. This workshop will focus on a review of the function of the vestibular system and the assessment and treatment of types of vestibular dysfunction commonly seen in individuals with brain injury.
March 30, 2017
36th ANNUAL BIA-MA BRAIN INJURY CONFERENCE
YOUR REGISTRATION BROCHURE HAS ARRIVED!