Best Practices in Brain Injury

Meeting the Challenges of Role and Life Cycle Change

June 23-24, 2008
Sheraton
Harrisburg-Hershey
8th Annual Conference
Please come and share in one of our best Conferences yet! The Eighth Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania Annual Conference, titled “Best Practices in Brain Injury: Meeting the Challenges of Role and Life Cycle Changes”, is a continuation of a theme we have been exploring for some time. This theme recognizes that needs after brain injury may continue throughout an individual’s lifespan.

This year, two pre-conference workshops will be offered beginning Sunday afternoon, finishing up Monday morning. One is the American Academy for Certification of Brain Injury Specialists (AACBIS) training, available to both entry-level staff and experienced professionals working in brain injury services (www.aacbiss.net). The other training is the National Brain Injury Information Center (NBIIC), available to BIAPA-registered Brain Injury Resource Line Volunteers. http://www.biausa.org/BIAUSA.ORG/word.files.to.pdf/good.pdfs/NBBICannouncement2.pdf

Our Opening Plenary this year “Lunch at Salad Street” is a unique play about life with brain injury. The play was written by, and will be performed by the Acadia Thesbian Players. We are particularly honored to have Dr. Dan Gottlieb, of WHYY’s Voices in the Family coming to teach us “Learning From The Heart: Lessons in Living, Loving and Listening”. Dr. Dan’s new book by the same title will be made available to each Conference participant. Ending the Conference will be a presentation by Erin Hall of the Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire, describing NeuroResource Facilitation, a program that provides assistance to individuals and families who have experienced a brain injury to acquire supports and services in their communities (http://www.bianh.org/neuro-resource-facilitation.asp).

As always, a rich array of breakout sessions covering topics under the tracks of New Alternatives in Treatment, Activism & Advocacy and Improving the Quality of Life will be offered. Plus, a special workshop featuring Monica Vaccaro, Support Group Coordinator will be held just for Support Group Facilitators. The ever-popular Hospitality Suite will be full of activity on both days with art classes conducted by John Sears, recreational activities by Louanne Boos, the Conversation Café with Lynn Grahame and a demonstration of juggling by Kit Summers. And of course, exhibits from brain injury providers, advocacy organizations and Pennsylvania support agencies will be featured throughout both days.

Remember, your conference registration entitles you to Annual Membership in the Association, so by registering for this year’s Conference, your BIAPA Membership is automatically renewed for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. Attend the Association’s Annual Meeting on Monday night, June 23, where we will chart the course for the year to come and elect Directors. Be sure to sign up for the Monday Awards Dinner, where we will celebrate the achievement of many individuals in the field of brain injury rehabilitation.

Deborah Cerra-Tyl and Drew Nagele
Conference Co-Chairs

New this year!
Register online at www.biapa.org.
DEADLINE TO REGISTER - June 9, 2008
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, June 22, 2008

2:00-8:00 PM    AACBIS Training
2:00-8:00 PM    NBIIC Training

Monday, June 23, 2008

8:30 AM    Registration Opens
8:00 AM-12:00PM    AACBIS Training & Exam
10:00 AM-7:00 PM    Exhibits Open
10:00 AM-10:45AM    Welcome Plenary Speaker

   Acadia Thespian Society - “Lunch at Salad Street”

11:00 AM-12:15 PM    Workshops 1, 2 & 3
11:00 AM    Art Class    Hospitality Room
12:15 PM-12:45 PM    Box Lunch / Visit Exhibits
12:45 PM-2:00 PM    Workshops 4, 5 & 6 & Special Session for Support Group Facilitators
12:45 PM    Juggling Lessons    Hospitality Room
2:00 PM-2:15 PM    Visit Exhibits
2:15 PM-3:30 PM    Workshops 7, 8 & 9
2:15 PM    Recreational Activities    Hospitality Room
3:30 PM-3:45 PM    Afternoon Break / Visit Exhibits
3:45 PM-4:45 PM    Afternoon Plenary Speaker

   Dan Gottlieb, PhD - Injured Brains and Open Hearts

5:30 PM-7:00 PM    Reception
7:00 PM-8:00 PM    Awards Dinner (Tickets required)

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

7:00 AM    Registration Opens
7:00AM-8:00 AM    BIAPA Board Meeting
7:00 AM-4:30 PM    Exhibits Open
7:00 AM-8:00 AM    Breakfast
8:00 AM-9:00 AM    Breakfast Plenary Speakers

   Thomas Drake, MD & Randy Laborde, MD - Best Practices in Early Identification & Intervention of Mild TBI

9:15 AM-10:30 AM    Workshops 10, 11 & 12
9:15 AM    Art Class    Hospitality Room
10:30 AM-10:45AM    Coffee Break/Visit Exhibits
10:45 AM-12:00 PM    Workshops13, 14 & 15
10:45 AM    Conversation Cafe    Hospitality Room
12:15 PM-1:15 PM    Lunch Keynote Speaker

   Ann Marie McLaughlin, PhD - Changing Roles: Perspectives of Brain Injury Survivors & their Families

1:15 PM-1:30 PM    Visit Exhibits
1:30 PM-2:45 PM    Workshops 16, 17 & 18
1:30 PM    Recreational Activities    Hospitality Room
2:45 PM-3:00 PM    Visit Exhibits
3:00 PM-4:00 PM    Closing General Session -

   Erin Hall, MS, CBIS - Neuro Resource Facilitation: Getting Started
CONFERENCE ITINERARY

Welcome Plenary  10:00 AM
“Lunch at Salad Street - Reflections on TBI”

Presented by
The Acadia Thespian Society

“Lunch at Salad Street, Reflections on TBI” is a 20 minute play written and performed by a group of survivors of brain injury and staff who are associated with Acadia, a brain injury program located in Lancaster, PA. The play is focused on awareness and the challenges survivors face in the community. The play has been performed in the Lancaster area to rave reviews. Kelly Hohenwarter, a cognitive therapist with Acadia will facilitate a discussion after the play with members of the audience.

Concurrent Sessions
3 Tracks
New Alternatives in Treatment
Activism & Advocacy
Improving the Quality of Life

MONDAY   11:00 AM  – 12:15 PM

1 – Unmasking the Potential of the Brain: Constraint Induced Therapy
New Alternatives in Treatment Track
Heather Atkinson, The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia

Can the brain really rewire itself after injury? This session will discuss the theory and evidence behind constraint-induced movement therapy and suggest strategies on how to transition research into practice with the ultimate goal of improving the lives of individuals with brain injury.

2 – Formulating New and Interesting Roles for Individuals With Brain Injuries at Home
Activism & Advocacy Track
Hallie Zeleznik, UPMC - Institute for Rehabilitation and Research, Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit

The session will look at some of the emotional responses of the individual once they are in a home environment after the inpatient hospitalization and rehabilitation is complete. We will discuss ways in which family members can work in conjunction with the rehabilitation team (inpatient or outpatient) to develop meaningful daily routines and ways for the individual to participate as a member of the family unit.

3 – Iraq and Afghanistan to Home: Personal and Family Perspectives
Improving the Quality of Life Track
Larry Rutledge, Laurel Highlands Neuro-Rehabilitation Center

This session will be a panel discussion with soldiers who have brain injuries resulting from their service. Panelists will share their experiences and challenges they face, including changes in roles after surviving brain injury.

4 – Current Best Practice in Pharmacology Management for Traumatic Brain Injury
New Alternatives in Treatment Track
Gary Goldberg, UPMC Mercy Hospital - Acquired Brain Injury Rehabilitation Program

This session will provide a review and update on current medications being used in the treatment and recovery process for persons with brain injuries.

5 – Rehabilitation as Perception
Activism & Advocacy Track
Thomas Felicetti, Beechwood Rehabilitation Services

This workshop will deal with how people perceive reality. Frequently people’s perception of reality is not the same thing as actual reality. The objective of this workshop is to explore how perceived reality can be applied as a therapeutic tool in the rehabilitation process.

6 – Roundtable Discussion on Medical Issues in Brain Injury Rehabilitation
Improving the Quality of Life Track
Andrea Laborde, Director of Trauma Rehabilitation Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Laborde, who has over 16 years of experience in physical medicine and rehabilitation, will convene this workshop as a roundtable for medical issues in brain injury rehabilitation. Topics that could be reviewed include management of seizures, sleep, headache, vestibular and balance problems. Come to this session prepared to “ask the doctor”!

Special Session for Support Group Facilitators
Monica Vaccaro, Support Group Coordinator - Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania

This session is geared toward facilitators of brain injury support groups and those interested in starting one. The focus will be on group problem solving around the challenges faced by support group facilitators and generating ideas for building structures to promote successful groups.
MONDAY 2:15 PM – 3:30 PM

7 – Technologies to Enhance Independence
New Alternatives in Treatment Track
Richard Simpson, University of Pittsburgh, Department of Rehabilitation Engineering

This session will introduce new technologies and devices being developed at the University of Pittsburgh to address the needs of individuals with brain injuries. Topics will include intelligent mobility aids, cognitive aids, and computer access.

8 – OVR’s Program for Transition of Youth with Disabilities
Activism & Advocacy Track
Denise Verchimak and Patricia Vasco, Special Programs Division with the Central Office of PA-Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

Overview of OVR services for transition of youth. Discussion of RSA grant to PA entitled: PA Community on Transition: Achieving Outcomes through a Shared Agenda. Explanation of Project Search, Promoting Academic Success (PAS), and G.E.T. Ready program.

9 – Support Group Networking
Improving the Quality of Life Track
Tom Byrnes, Brain Injury Management
Anne Sears, BIAPA Vice President
Scott Shaw, Unlimited Care Providers
Monica Vaccaro, MossRehab Research Institute

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.

Afternoon Plenary
3:45 PM
Injured Brains and Open Hearts: What It Means To Be Human

Dan Gottlieb, PhD

A Sufi once said: “when the heart weeps for what it’s lost, the soul rejoices for what it’s found.” On the other side of the grief and frustration and fear, one can open doors to a new understanding of what it means to be human. This presentation will offer guidance about how to find the doors. Presentation will be followed by a book signing for Dr. Dan’s new book Learning From The Heart: Lessons in Living, Loving and Listening.
TUESDAY 9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

10 – Vestibular Rehab - Following Brain Injury
New Alternatives in Treatment Track
Elizabeth Grace, Neurologic Team Leader
University of Pennsylvania Health System, Division of Occupational and Physical Therapy

One of the most difficult issues to resolve following a brain injury are problems with vertigo, dizziness, and imbalance. These problems can result from dysfunction in the vestibular system, the system that senses the body’s orientation in space and maintains balance.

A specialized type of physical therapy, Vestibular Rehabilitation, can be very effective at evaluating and treating the cause of dizziness and imbalance through specific exercises and activities that facilitate central nervous system compensation for the individual’s dysfunction. This workshop will describe the various causes of dizziness following brain injury and the techniques used to treat them.

TUESDAY 10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

13 – Concussion in Sports
New Alternatives in Treatment Track
Matthew Grady, Pediatric Sports Medicine Specialist - Department of Orthopedics, The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia

Concussions can happen to any athlete -male or female- in any sport. Concussions are a type of traumatic brain injury (TBI), caused by a blow or jolt to the head that can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally works. This workshop will focus on how concussion can be better recognized and managed both on the playing field, and in follow-up care.

12 – Juggling as a Metaphor
Improving the Quality of Life Track
Kit Summers

After winning first place on “The Gong Show”, Kit went on to perform as a professional juggler throughout the country and ended up headlining at Ballys in Atlantic City. After nine months as a featured performer, Kit was walking to the show one night in a terrible rainstorm and was struck down by a truck. There was major brain trauma. After taking a nap for 37 days, Kit had to relearn everything physical. Since the accident Kit has returned to juggling once again (and will teach you when you attend his workshop.) Come and learn how Kit came back to write 4 books, has spoken around the world helping others to get through their changes, and developed his unique fresh salsa.

11 – Brain STEPS: A School Re-Entry Program
Activism & Advocacy Track
Brenda Eagan Brown, Program Coordinator - Brain Injury Association of PA

This session will present Brain STEPS, a school re-entry program developed by the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania under contract from the Pennsylvania Department of Health. This program establishes and trains Brain Injury Consulting Teams across the Commonwealth consisting of educational professionals, rehabilitation professionals and family members of students with brain injury. Teams will work with local school staff to develop educational programs, academic interventions, strategy implementation, and monitoring of students.
Survivors and their families are often faced with difficult choices when making long-term care decisions. The Medicaid waivers offer the opportunity to remain in the community with a high degree of consumer control and independence. Information will be provided on the Independence, OBRA, COMMERCARE and other waivers, with a special emphasis on the COMMERCARE waiver. This workshop will describe the waivers and their limitations, the realities of the intake process, service gaps and referral information. Eligibility criteria for both consumers and providers will be covered. Finally, provider issues will be discussed. This topic will cover both information on why and how to become a waiver provider, the billing and reimbursement process, as well as information on choosing a provider.

15 – Community-Based Group Support to Families & Significant Others
*Improving the Quality of Life Track*

**Dianne L. Beres**, Success Rehabilitation Inc.
**Reynaldo T. Palacio**, Success Rehabilitation Inc.

Our community-based Family Support Group is designed for individuals whose lives have been impacted by a brain injury and neurological impairment to a family member or close significant person in their lives. During this workshop, we will explore the value of this community support through personal sharing of how individual group members utilize this dynamic forum to address their personal journey through grief, changes & adaptation in their own & significant other’s life, current & long-term planning, ongoing education, and emotional support, encouragement & camaraderie.

16 – Cortical Visual Impairment: Identification, Assessment & Intervention
*New Alternatives in Treatment*

**Christine Roman**, Pediatric View - The Western Pennsylvania Hospital

Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI) is the leading cause of visual impairment in children and it occurs when there is damage to or structural differences in the brain. Individuals with CVI generally have a normal eye exam and therefore, the condition can be undiagnosed. It is critical that CVI is recognized because the vision loss can best be rehabilitated through an understanding of the unique visual and behavioral characteristics that define this form of visual impairment. This session will provide participants with an overview of the basic principles of CVI, general causes, and descriptions of the characteristic behaviors associated with CVI. Photo and video examples will be used throughout the presentation.

17 – Department of Health Plans for the Future
*Activism & Advocacy Track*

**Carolyn Cass**, Division of Child and Adult Health Services

This session will focus on accomplishments of the Department of Health’s Head Injury Program, current activities and program status, and plans for the future, including new initiatives.

18 – Iraq & Afghanistan to Home: Community Reentry TBI Rehabilitation
*Improving the Quality of Life Track*

**Larry Rutledge**, Laurel Highlands Neuro-Rehabilitation Center

This session will focus on the needs of soldiers who have brain injuries as they return to their communities. It will include discussion of how soldiers engage in home and community based services and supports.

**LUNCHEON KEYNOTE - 12:15 PM**

**Changing Roles: Perspectives of Brain Injury Survivors & their Families**

**Ann Marie McLaughlin, PhD**
ReMed

This session will focus on the challenges of changing roles after surviving brain injury. A panel of survivors and family members representing different roles will share their experiences, followed by discussion.

**CLOSING PLENARY SESSION**

**3:00 PM**

**Neuro Resource Facilitation Getting Started**

**Erin Hall, MS, CBIS**
Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire
Neuro Resource Facilitation Coordinator

This workshop will allow individuals to learn about the Neuro-Resource Facilitation Program. New Hampshire was the first state to offer this service statewide. Discussion will be regarding starting and maintaining a NeuroResource Facilitation program.
Continuing Education Credits and Contact Hours

Case Managers
Licensed Professional Counselors
Occupational Therapists
Personal Care Home Administrators
Physical Therapists
Psychologists
Social Work
Speech Therapists
Recreational Therapists
Rehabilitation Counselors
Rehabilitation Nurses

Continuing education credits or contact hours have been requested and are pending approval.

2007 CONFERENCES EXHIBITORS

Alternatives in Community Treatment, Inc.
American Trauma Society, PA Division
AristaCare at Meadow Springs Center
Bancroft NeuroHealth
Beechwood Rehabilitation Services
Bioness Inc.
Brain Injury Association of New Jersey
Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania
Brain Injury Helpline/PA Health & Human Services
Brighten Place
Comprehensive Medical Case Management
Community Skills Program
Good Shepherd Rehab Hospital
HealthSouth of Pennsylvania
Lakeview Neuro Rehab
Magee Rehabilitation Hospital
Main Line Rehabilitation Associates, Inc.
PaTTAN
PA Liquor Control Board
PLUS Neuro Rehabilitation
Progressive Health of PA & NJ
QuietMind Foundation
Re-Med
Success Rehabilitation
The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
The Children’s Institute of Pittsburgh
John Heinz Institute
UPMC Institute for Rehabilitation & Research
Whitemarsh House
Conference participants must make their own arrangements for lodging. Conference registration fees do not include the cost of lodging.

Conference participants are offered a special rate at the Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey for their room accommodations. Hotel reservations should be made directly with the Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey by calling (800) 325-3535 no later than June 9, 2008. Please identify yourself as a participant with the 2008 Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania Conference.

You will need to provide the hotel with a credit card number to guarantee the rooms. Deposits are refundable if room reservations are canceled within 72 hours of scheduled arrival. Make your hotel reservations as early as possible to assure the most convenient room accommodations.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS
Sheraton offers shuttle transportation to and from the Harrisburg International Airport. If you are interested you can make arrangements by using the courtesy phone by the baggage claim area or by making an appointment through the Sheraton.

FROM HARRISBURG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
Take 441 North to 283 West (Harrisburg) to I-283 North (Harrisburg) to Exit #2 (Swatara). Turn right and the Sheraton will be on left-hand side.

FROM PHILADELPHIA
Travel West on PA Turnpike to exit #247. Go North on I-283 for 2 miles. Take Exit #2 (Swatara). Turn right and the Sheraton will be on your left-hand side.

FROM PITTSBURGH & POINTS WEST
Travel East on PA Turnpike to Exit #247. Go North on I-283 for 2 miles. Take Exit #2 (Swatara). Turn right and the Sheraton will be on your left-hand side.

FROM STATE COLLEGE
Follow Route 322 East to I-81 North to I-83 South to I-283. Take I-283 South for 1 mile. Take Exit #2 (Swatara). Turn left and the Sheraton will be on your left-hand side.

FROM ALLENTOWN/BETHLEHEM
Take I-78 West to I-81 South to I-83 South to I-283 South. Take Exit #2 (Swatara). Turn left and the Sheraton will be on your left-hand side.

FROM BALTIMORE AND YORK
Take I-83 North, take I-283 South to Exit #2 (Swatara). Turn left and the hotel will be on your left-hand side.

FROM SCRANTON
Take I-81 South to I-83 South to I-283 South. Take Exit #2 (Swatara). Turn left and the hotel will be on your left-hand side.

Room Rates
$78
(up to 4 people per room)
Conference rate will be honored until June 9, 2008.
The Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania will be offering an 8-hour pre-conference CBIS training for the American Academy for the Certification of Brain Injury Specialists on June 22 and June 23. Immediately following the training, participants will be able to sit for the exam. It is strongly encouraged that participants purchase the manual (www.aacbis.net) and begin reviewing and studying content prior to this training in preparation for the exam which will be given on Monday, June 23, 2008 at 10:00 am.

The American Academy for the Certification of Brain Injury Specialists (AACBIS) offers a voluntary national certification program for both direct-care level staff and experienced professionals working in brain injury services. AACBIS provides staff and professionals the opportunity to learn important information about brain injury, to demonstrate their learning in a written examination and to earn a nationally recognized credential. CBIS certification is not restricted to any one profession or discipline. Rather, it is intended for anyone who delivers services specific to brain injury.

The Pre-Conference training workshop will be run by an AACBIS Certified Brain Injury Trainer (CBIT) and will include the AACBIS Curriculum Materials (AACBIS Participant Guide, power point note slides, and Activity / Pre/Post-test materials). The manual will not be included but can be found on the AACBIS website (www.aacbis.net). The certification test consists of a written exam that includes 50 multiple-choice questions based on the manual content and 20 additional multiple-choice application questions regarding several case studies. Candidates must pass with a score of 80% or higher. To maintain certification there are some continuing education requirements and an annual renewal fee of $35.00 for CBIS.

The cost for this Pre-Conference workshop is $225.00. This includes the discounted $175.00 AACBIS application fee for CBIS. The Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania will serve as a group administrator for AACBIS, allowing participants to receive training and examination during this PRE conference workshop. To receive this discounted application fee you must receive the application through the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania. Once your registration fee for the Pre-Conference workshop has been submitted to Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania, the Association will immediately send you the AACBIS application via US Mail and email.

You MUST have the AACBIS Application completed and returned to the AACBIS representative, Erika Mountz, by May 30, 2008. In order to meet this deadline, please submit your conference registration form immediately. You must allow time for the AACBIS application to be mailed or emailed to you, then completed and returned by May 30th. The application MUST be completed in advance to be eligible to take the Examination.

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Please fax and mail application by May 30, 2008 to:
Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
C/o Erika L. Mountz, MBA, OTR/L, CBIST
Occupational Therapy Manager
34th & Civic Center Blvd. CSH211B
Philadelphia, PA, 19104-4399
Office: (215) 590 - 7651 • Fax: (215) 590 - 9162 • email: mountz@email.chop.edu

For more information about AACBIS in general, please see www.aacbis.net.
Complete this form or Register Online: www.biapa.org

(Please duplicate this form as needed—one form per person)

Name: __________________________________________
Organization: ___________________________________
Address: _______________________________________
City: ___________________________________________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________
Phone: (_____) _____________ Fax: (_____) ______________
E-mail: __________________________________________

I am a ___ professional, ___ family member, ___ survivor, ___ state or other government employee.

Please indicate any dietary/accessibility needs: ____________________________

Please indicate one session you will attend in each time period:

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<th>Activism &amp; Advocacy Track</th>
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Registration Options (please circle appropriate option):

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<td>FULL</td>
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1-DAY Registrants Indicate: ___Monday ___Tuesday

For attendees requesting Continuing Education Units or Contact Hours for the sessions they attend, a fee of $20 is being charged.

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<td>AACBIS Training &amp; Examination</td>
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<td>AACBIS Training Only</td>
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Optional: Monday Awards Dinner @ $30 per person ___ Yes ___ No
(BIAPA Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony)

Monday Awards Dinner
Amount Enclosed: $ __________

TOTAL Amount Enclosed: $ __________

Method of Payment: ___ Check (Payable to Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania) ___ Credit Card
Credit Card # ___________________________ Exp. Date: ___________________________
Name of Cardholder: ___________________________ Address: ___________________________
3-Digit Verification Code (on back of card) Signature: ___________________________

Mail this form with Full Payment to: Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania, PO Box 204, Telford, PA 18969
Or fax credit card submissions to: 215-723-4883

Cancellation Policy: If you need to cancel your registration, you are eligible for a 50% refund if you notify BIAPA by close of business on June 9, 2008. Failure to provide notification by this date will result in the loss of the full registration fee. Substitutions are welcome.

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(Includes one-year membership fee. All Tuesday-only registrations include breakfast and lunch.)
2008 Annual Conference
REGISTER TODAY!

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.

Skylar, Grade 3 - Glenside Elementary School

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.