



Call for Presentations
BIAPA 2025 Annual Conference
June 30 - July 1, 2025
SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Friday, November 1, 2024

You are invited to submit a Presentation Proposal. This year's theme is:

Celebrating an Empowered Brain Injury Community: **A Conference for Survivors, Care Partners, and Professionals**

The Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania (BIAPA) has been holding an Annual Conference for over two decades and it is typically attended by 300 or more people. Among the annual brain injury conferences held across the country, BIAPA's Annual Conference has been recognized for its commitment to designing and offering a conference with content for survivors of brain injuries, their family members and care partners, as well as the multidisciplinary practitioners, researchers, educators, and students who make up this ever-emerging field. This inclusive conference provides opportunities for networking and communication among all stakeholders, as needed to advance the field. The Annual Conference is an important part of BIAPA's mission to foster a community of education, advocacy, support, and research to maximize the quality of life for individuals with brain injuries, their families, and their communities.

In planning the annual conferences, the Conference Committee carefully reviews the evaluations of past attendees and their suggestions for specific topics. Verbal feedback and suggestions have also been solicited by committee members. While assuring that all attendees can select any workshop(s) they wish to attend, the topics specifically requested by brain injury survivors will be highlighted with an asterisk (*) in the conference brochure.

All attendees will receive a general certificate of attendance for the conference. Licensed and certified professionals who are required to meet continuing education requirements in specific disciplines will be able to earn continuing education (CE) units/credits. Specifics regarding CE fees will be provided on the conference registration form.

Presentations are an excellent way to share your expertise and contribute to advances in the field of brain injury rehabilitation overall, and to support BIAPA. Professionals attending the conference typically include certified brain injury specialists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech therapists, social workers, nurses, psychologists, therapeutic recreation specialists, vocational rehabilitation counselors, cognitive rehabilitation therapists, physicians, case managers, personal care home administrators, individuals with interests in alternative treatments, and representatives from various fields of health care.

General Information:

- The conference is scheduled for two days in order to provide substantial sharing of knowledge and resources and a significant number of continuing education units. The dates for the 2025 Annual Conference are Monday, June 30, and Tuesday, July 1, 2025.
- The conference will be held at the Lancaster Marriott & Convention Center in Lancaster, PA.
- Concurrent educational sessions (i.e., workshops) last 60 minutes: 50 minutes for the formal presentation and 10 minutes for questions and answers.
- Approximately 75 individuals attend each session; session audiences include a mixed representation of attendees (survivors, care partners, and professionals).
- **Complete presentation proposals, including resume/CV, session outline, and references, must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 1, 2024. For your convenience, this is an editable PDF.** Presenters will be notified by February 1, 2025, if their presentation has been accepted.

- In order for BIAPA to request approval for continuing education units/credits, presentation materials (e.g., PowerPoint, any handouts) must be submitted in an electronic format. The deadline for submission of materials is May 1, 2025. In submitting a presentation for consideration, presenters must agree to meet the guidelines and submission date. They must also agree to permit BIAPA to share their presentation and materials with conference attendees.

Presentation Proposal Submission Guidelines:

- Individual, group, or panel presentations may be submitted. Group or panel presentations that include professionals and persons with brain injury and/or care partners are encouraged.
- Individuals or groups may submit more than one proposal, but a separate proposal must be completed for each presentation.
- Submission of a proposal does not guarantee that your presentation will be selected. The Conference Committee reserves the right to make final presentation selections, to combine proposed topics and presenters, and to edit the abstracts.
- Presenters must be careful to use disability-sensitive language throughout their submission (e.g., using “person first” terminology, avoiding stereotypes) and language that is professional and appropriate for the diverse audience of varying perspectives and values.
- Please refrain from making political statements during your presentations. Our goal is to foster a focused and inclusive environment for all attendees; keeping the content of your presentations nonpolitical will help us achieve that goal. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.
- Presenters may NOT use any educational session as an opportunity to promote a company, product, or service, verbally or in writing. Marketing is prohibited.
- Presenters who are selected to speak at the 2025 Annual Conference agree to abide by **ALL** deadlines established by the Conference Committee.

Presentation Selection Guidelines/Criteria:

- Topics should reflect the conference theme and relate to at least one of the suggested topics listed below.
- The knowledge, strategies, and skills presented should be able to be applied immediately.
- The workshop format is intended to stimulate audience participation.
- The quality of the content will meet professional standards. References to relevant, timely, and recent evidence-based research and/or best practices must be included.
- The resume/CV and references will provide evidence of expertise and public-speaking experience.

Celebrating an Empowered Brain Injury Community: A Conference for Survivors, Care Partners, and Professionals

Suggested Topics

Caregiver/Care Partner Concerns

- Specific Parenting Concerns/Issues and Strategies for Caregivers/Care Partners
- Compassion Fatigue for Caregivers/Care Partners
- Ways to Promote Community Inclusion
- The Importance of Social Connections for Care Partners

Compensatory Strategies for Cognitive Enhancement

- Attention
- Memory
- Executive Functions
- Lack of Awareness (Anosognosia)

COVID Post-Brain Injury

- Complications for Persons with Brain Injury
- Treatment, Considerations, and Interventions for Long COVID

Creation of Meaningful and Productive Activity Patterns

- Pre-vocational/Vocational Activities – Resume Writing, Preparation for Interviews, and Decision-Making Regarding Disclosure
- Exploration and Development of Avocational Interests after Brain Injury
- Social Skills Development and Interaction Practice in Preparation for Vocational/Avocational Activities
- The Importance of “Soft Skills” in Employment
- Strategies to Enhance Community Inclusion

Management of Financial Stressors Following Brain Injury

- SSI/SSDI/Special Needs Trusts; Guardianship/POA Issues
- Long-term Disability Issues and Concerns
- Access to Funding for Brain Injury Rehabilitation – PHIP/CHC
- Risks Related to the Internet and Social Media: Financial Scams

Managing Professional Achievements and Challenges as a Rehabilitation Provider

Mild TBI/Post-concussion Syndrome (PCS)

- Fatigue, Headache, and Pain Strategies and Management
- Mood Disorders and Neuropsychiatric Sequelae
- Emotional Regulation

Mood Regulation

- Depression, Anxiety, Suicidality, Anger
- Treatment Options – Psychotherapy, Medication Management, and Alternatives

Pediatric and Adolescent Issues

- Course of Recovery and Developmental Milestones after Pediatric Brain Injury
- Treatment Considerations for Adolescents after Brain Injury
- Academic Challenges and Supports across the Educational Continuum
- Post-secondary Education and Vocational Training following Brain Injury
- Navigating Familial Relationships and Roles
- The Role and Impact of Brain Injury on Siblings
- Building Social Connections for Children and Adolescents with Brain Injury
- Current Trends in Pediatric Brain Injury Treatment and Research Modalities

Relationships and Intimacy Post-Brain Injury

- Maintaining Established Relationships
- Creating New Relationships with Intimate Partners
- Relationship-Building with Others
- Navigating Relationships Safely
- Navigating Familial Relationships
- Safe Sex: Discussions with Partners about Needs/Wants
- Developing a Support Community

Resources

- Pennsylvania’s State-Based Resources
- Brain Injury Coalition Resources

The Aging Brain

- Common Problems for Aging Survivors
- Recent Research on the Aging Brain

Update on Research

- Model Systems Update

- Research in Progress
- Single-Subject Designs and Data Collection Methods for Clinicians
- Outcome Data
- Measurement of Quality of Life

Vulnerable Groups

- Substance Misuse and Brain Injury
- Intimate Partner Violence and Brain Injury
- Incarceration and Brain Injury
- Persons with Brain Injury Who Are Unhoused
- Community Support for LGBTQIA+ Individuals with Brain Injury
- Ethical Considerations in the Care of Persons with Brain Injuries

Wellness Initiatives Following Brain Injury

- Yoga, Meditation, Mindfulness, Tai Chi
- The Role of Nutrition After Acquired Brain Injury
- Acupuncture
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Its Role in Wellness after Acquired Brain Injury
- Music, Art, Equestrian, and Pet Therapies
- Adaptive Vacation Programs
- The Benefits of Retreats for Brain Injury Survivors

**Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania
Presentation Submission Form for 2025**

Presentation Proposal

Please Note: After presentations have been reviewed, approved, and submitted to applicable continuing education organization(s), there should be no changes in the title, objectives, or content specified in this submission.

Name of Each Presenter: Please provide the full name/credentials of each person presenting or participating in the presentation (with the credentials in the order your discipline prefers).

1)

2)

3)

4)

Title of Presentation (*Required*):

Presentation Dates I Am Available: (Check either or both): Monday, June 30, 2025
 Tuesday, July 1, 2025

Please note: *Preferred dates will be taken into consideration but are not guaranteed.*

Session Description (Required for all proposals): Please provide a 100-word description of the presentation content, which attendees will use to select their workshop sessions. Keep in mind that this is the **only** information attendees will have when deciding which sessions to attend. The Conference Committee reserves the right to edit session descriptions.

Session Objectives (Required): Complete the following sentence to provide three specific, measurable learning outcomes and/or knowledge/skills the attendees will gain.

At the conclusion of this session, the participant should be able to:

1)

2)

3)

Session Outline (Required): A one-page outline of the presentation is required and must include the title, main topics, and subtopics, as well as citations from books and/or reputable, peer-reviewed journals published within the past five years.

The outline must support the three specific learning objectives listed above.

Session References (Required): Please provide citations for at least three recent references (within the last five years) in relevant literature (e.g., book chapters, journal articles) that will support the content of your presentation.

1)

2)

3)

PRESENTER INFORMATION

An information form must be completed for EACH presenter.
All information is required.

Check here if you are the primary contact:

Full Name and Credentials _____

Agency/Employer _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Educational History (including institution, area of study, degree awarded, and the year):

Current Job Title _____

Presenter Credentials (Required): Provide a short, one-paragraph biography of each presenter that will illustrate the presenter's expertise in relation to the proposed topic **and his/her public-speaking experience**. **Please note: This information will be used by the session moderators to introduce the presenters at the conference.**

Presenter Resume or Curriculum Vitae (Required): Professional presenters must submit their resume or curriculum vitae, including educational history, in an electronic file.

Completed Proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 1, 2024.

Proposal Submission Task List:

- *Presentation Proposal*
- *Presenter Information for each presenter*
- *Conflict of Interest/Disclosure Form for each presenter*
- *Resume or CV for each presenter*
- *References*
- *Outline*
- *Professional headshot photo in a .JPEG or .PNG file format (Headshot photo must be emailed to admin@biapa.org.)*

Email: admin@biapa.org – An email confirmation will be sent upon receipt of your proposal.

PLEASE NOTE – Email is strongly preferred. Upon receipt of your proposal, an email confirmation will be sent to you. If you do not receive an email confirmation within 48 hours of your submission, please contact Sandra Powell. BIAPA is not responsible for lost submissions.

Mail: Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania
947 Wayne Avenue, No. 110
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Questions: Email Sandra Powell at admin@biapa.org, or call her at 833-242-7248.

Required Presentation Materials:

Materials for accepted presentations (e.g., PowerPoint, handouts) in an electronic format are required for each session by the **deadline of May 1, 2025**. Presenters not meeting the deadline for handout materials may not be selected to present at future events.

I give BIAPA permission to share my presentation, in a secure PDF format, with conference attendees. If you have any questions concerning this requirement, please contact admin@biapa.org.

I do not give BIAPA permission to share my presentation with conference attendees.

(Submitter signature here)

Presenter Registration Information:

In accordance with our conference policy, no fee or honorarium will be provided for giving your presentation. We very much appreciate your commitment to the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania and the expertise you will provide to support its mission.

On the day of your presentation, you will receive a complimentary day registration (including meals). We hope that you can join us for the alternate day of the conference. Please note that you will need to cover the registration fee for that alternate day. CEUs are available for conference sessions attended; fees are the responsibility of the professional.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST/DISCLOSURE FORM

The potential for conflicts of interest exists when an individual has the ability to control or influence the content of an educational activity and has a financial relationship with a commercial interest*, the products or services of which are pertinent to the content of the educational activity.

***Commercial interest** is any entity producing, marketing, reselling, or distributing healthcare goods or services consumed by or used on patients, or an entity that is owned or controlled by an entity that produces, markets, resells, or distributes healthcare goods or services consumed by or used on patients. Commercial Interest Organizations may be ineligible to present.

An organization is NOT a **Commercial Interest Organization** if it is:

- A government entity;
- A non-profit (503(c)) organization;
- A provider of clinical services directly to patients, including but not limited to hospitals, health care agencies, and independent health care practitioners;
- An entity the sole purpose of which is to improve or support the delivery of health care to patients, including but not limited to providers or developers of electronic health information systems, database systems, and quality improvement systems;
- A non-healthcare related entity whose primary mission is not producing, marketing or selling or distributing health care goods or services consumed by or used on patients.
- Liability insurance providers
- Health insurance providers
- Group medical practices
- Acute care hospitals (for profit and not for profit)
- Rehabilitation centers (for profit and not for profit)
- Nursing homes (for profit and not for profit)
- Blood banks
- Diagnostic laboratories

Reference: Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) Standards of Commercial Support, August 2007 (www.accme.org) - ANCC's definition is intended to ensure compliance with Food and Drug Administration Guidance on Industry-Supported Scientific and Educational Activities and consistency with the ACCME definition

All individuals who have the ability to control or influence the content of an educational activity must disclose all financial or non-financial **relevant relationships**** with any commercial interest, including but not limited to members of the Conference Committee, speakers, presenters, authors, and/or content reviewers. Relevant relationships must be disclosed to the learners during the time when the relationship is in effect and for 12 months afterward. All information disclosed must be shared with the participants/learners prior to the start of the educational activity.

****Relevant relationships** are relationships with a commercial interest if the products or services of the commercial interest are related to the content of the educational activity.

- Relationships with any commercial interest of the individual's spouse/partner may be relevant relationships and must be reported, evaluated, and resolved.
- Evidence of a relevant relationship with a commercial interest may include, but is not limited to, receiving a salary, royalty, intellectual property rights, consulting fee, honoraria, ownership interest (stock and stock options, excluding diversified mutual funds), grants, contracts, or other financial benefit directly or indirectly from the commercial interest.

- Financial benefits may be associated with employment, management positions, independent contractor relationships, other contractual relationships, consulting, speaking, teaching, membership on an advisory committee or review panel, board membership, and other activities from which remuneration is received or expected from the commercial interest.

Is there an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest for yourself or spouse/partner?

- Yes No

If yes, complete the questions below for all actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest:

Relationship with (Name of Company) _____

Nature of relationship _____

Relationship with (Name of Company) _____

Nature of relationship _____

** All conflicts of interest, including potential ones, must be resolved prior to the implementation, or evaluation of the conference.

DISCLOSURE OF UNLABELED / INVESTIGATIONAL USES OF PRODUCTS:

- The content of my presentation or materials in this presentation **WILL NOT** include discussion of unapproved or investigational uses of products or devices.
- The content of my presentation or materials in this presentation **WILL** include discussion of unapproved or investigational uses of products or devices.

Describe _____

If yes, speakers must disclose this information to the participants.

STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

An “X” in the box below serves as the electronic signature of the individual completing this Conflict of Interest/Disclosure Form and attests to the accuracy of the information stated above.

Electronic Signature (Required) **Date** _____

Completed By: Name and Credentials _____