



**Brain Injury
Alliance**
I O W A

**25th Annual
Best Practices in Brain Injury Services Conference**

**“Shattering the Myths,
Unmasking the Opportunities”**

**Break Out
Friday, March 3, 2017
2:15pm-3:15pm**

Thomas W Brown, BS, CBIST

Tom Brown has a Bachelor's degree in Sociology and began his career in brain injury rehabilitation in 1992. He has been a CBIST since 1999 and has provided brain injury training and consultation support to providers and professionals across the country. His employment history includes 19 years of clinical and administrative experience in brain injury rehabilitation, with emphasis in supporting individuals who experience severe behavioral challenges. In addition, Tom worked for the Iowa Department of Public Health for six years as the Brain Injury Program Manager and then as the Bureau Chief of Disability and Violence Prevention, supervising the Brain Injury Services Program. Tom has a sister and nephew with acquired brain injury, further increasing his passion to increase prevention efforts and improve services and supports to individuals and families experiencing brain injury.



Unmasking the Magic for Dealing with Difficult Families

The family system gets a shock when a member experiences brain injury. The fear, confusion, frustration, and desire to protect and advocate can manifest in a variety of ways, some pleasant and some challenging. Providers will gain an understanding of the affect brain injury can have on the family system, and learn skills and techniques for building cooperative relationships. Emphasis will be placed on creating environments where everyone can support the individual with a brain injury while understanding how actions and reactions can help, shake up, redefine and provide healing to the entire family structure.

Objective:

- Participants will gain an understand of the affect brain injury can have on the family system and individual members
- Participants will learn how to assess each family member's needs and how best to provide individual supports
- Participants will learn promising practices and skills for supporting all family members, from the “difficult” to the “delightful”

Target Audience:

Case managers, counselors, professionals

*Not limited to target audience