



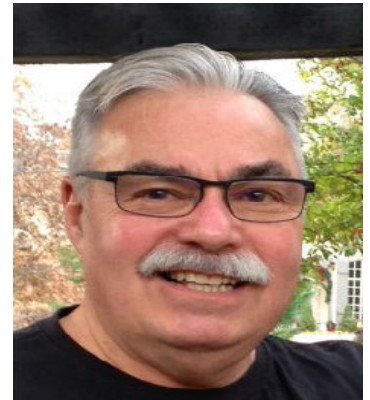
**Brain Injury  
Alliance**  
I O W A

**25th Annual  
Best Practices in Brain Injury Services Conference**  
**“Shattering the Myths,  
Unmasking the Opportunities”**

**Keynote**  
**Friday, March 3, 2017**  
**11:00am-12:15pm**

***Rolf Gainer, PhD***

Rolf Gainer, Ph.D., Diplomat ABDA, is the VP of Rehabilitation Institutes of America and the founder and CEO of the Neurologic Rehabilitation Institute of Ontario (Canada) and services as the CEO at Brookhaven Hospital in Tulsa, OK. He has been involved in the design and operation of brain injury rehabilitation and treatment programs since 1978. He has a Ph. D. in Clinical Psychology and M.Ed. in Counseling Psychology. He has published numerous articles on brain injury rehabilitation and mental health topics and has presented at many national and international conferences. He is involved in three outcome research projects related to social role return and lifespan considerations for individuals with traumatic brain injury.



**Roadblocks to Re-Entry: The Triple Whammy of Brain Injury**

Individuals living with a moderate to severe brain injury coupled with psychiatric and/or substance abuse problems face many challenges in their recovery. Those individuals with psychiatric and/or substance abuse problems which pre-date their brain injury may experience greater barriers to positive outcomes than individuals whose mental health and/or substance abuse problems occurred after their injury. Rehabilitation for either cohort must include psychiatric and substance abuse treatment services within the context of the program to achieve optimal results. The failure to offer integrated rehabilitation services can be the cause of these individuals experiencing ongoing crises, unnecessary emergency hospitalizations, incarceration and personal upheaval. The Outcome Validation Studies being conducted at the Neurologic Rehabilitation Institute of Ontario and Community NeuroRehab provide data to examine the barriers to outcome attainment and to maintaining stable and effective personal, social and community return after discharge. These studies indicate that for both pre-existing and post-injury cohorts the length of time from injury to rehabilitation effects the attainment of positive outcomes. The course of rehabilitation opportunities for the person living with a brain injury and a dual diagnosis must include early and effective interventions to produce positive results which reduced extended costs, ongoing problems and diminished quality of life.

**Objective:**

- Recognize the barriers to positive outcomes faced by individuals living with brain injury
- Examine pre and post injury mental health and substance issues which affect personal, social and community outcome domains
- Identify how rehabilitation services can evolve to improve potential outcomes available to the persons served

**Target Audience:**

Case managers, counselors, professionals

\*Not limited to target audience