



 **Brain Injury
Alliance**
I O W A

*33rd Annual Best Practices in Brain
Injury Services Conference*

**REGISTRATION
OPEN!**

SCAN HERE



**Weathering the Storm
Together: Collaborative Care
in Brain Injury Services**

 **March 6 - 7, 2025**  **West Des Moines, Iowa**

Join us for the [33rd Annual Best Practices in Brain Injury Services Conference](#)! This conference will provide emerging, evidence-based, best and promising practices for: medical treatment, rehabilitation, adaptation, and accommodations after brain injury, responding to the bio-psychosocial and financial impact of the injury on individuals and caregivers, policy and practice change, mild brain injury/concussion, and prevention of and/or navigating secondary outcomes (i.e. mental health, unemployment, substance abuse). Explore our event hub to learn more about the conference! Don't miss out - register today!

[Event Hub](#)

[Register Now!](#)

[National Brain Injury Conference and Awareness Day](#)

Registration is open for this year's National Brain Injury Conference and Awareness Day which will be hosted on March 3-5, 2025 in Washington, D.C. This event offers the brain injury community the unique opportunity to connect with other survivors, learn more about living with brain injury, advocate for brain injury causes, and more. Registration closes on February 14 so secure your spot today!

[Register](#)

[About the Event](#)

[2025 Traumatic Brain Injury Reauthorization Act Update](#)

Last year, the Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA) made the passage of the Traumatic Brain Injury Program Reauthorization Act of 2024 (TBI Act)

our highest legislative priority. We are grateful for the many advocates from across the country who joined us in Washington, D.C. during Brain Injury Awareness Month to make their case to their elected members of Congress why this important bill needed to be passed. [Read full article.](#)

Banning Use of Handheld Cellphones While Driving

Iowa lawmakers are advocating for a bill that would prohibit motorists from using handheld cellphones while driving. Read articles in the [Des Moines Register](#), [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#), and [The Gazette](#) about the ongoing efforts to pass this legislation.

Research Study Opportunity

Indiana University School of Medicine is conducting a study to find out if a new teletherapy program can help individuals better recognize and respond to others' feelings and improve their relationships after a traumatic brain injury (TBI). [Download research flyer](#) to learn more.

Preventing Falls in the Winter

written by Lisa Jenison, BSW, BIAIA Neuro Resource Facilitator

Although the winter can bring beautiful white scenes, it also can create a hazard and risk for falling. The good news is we can do things to help prevent this. Many of us underestimate the risk of falling and so spreading awareness can help prevent falls. Your doctor can also do a falls risk screening such as the STEADI risk assessment. Putting down cat litter or sand can help reduce the risk of falling. There are also assistive devices people can use such as spikes on your boots, rubber soles, and ice gripper cane tips. As you walk move slowly, use handrails, and take short steps or shuffle for stability. Bend slightly forward and walk flat-footed with your center of gravity directly over your feet as much as possible. Keep your hands out of your pockets. Be prepared to fall. If you fall, fall with sequential contacts at your thigh, hip, and shoulder. Avoid using outstretched arms to brace yourself. Bend your back and head forward to avoid hitting your head against the ground. Enjoy the winter and stay safe!

Iowa's Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organization (BH-ASO) District Advisory Council Application Opportunity

The Iowa Primary Care Association (<https://iowapca.org/administrative-service-organization>) is accepting applications for the District Advisory Councils. Each council shall consist of 10 members as defined in Iowa Code 225.A.5. The initial application deadline is February 13, 2025, but may be extended.

Per Iowa Code 225.A.5. the responsibilities of the District Advisory Councils include the following:



- Identify opportunities and address challenges based on updates received from the ASO regarding the implementation of the district behavioral health plan.
- Advise the ASO while the ASO is developing BH policies.
- Advise the ASO on how to best provide access to BH prevention, education, early intervention, treatment, recovery support, and crisis services related to mental health and addictive disorders, including but not limited to alcohol use, substance use, tobacco use, and problem gambling, throughout the district.

Additional information about District Advisory Council member terms and meetings will be shared as part of the applicant process. Initial District Advisory Council meetings will be held in March or April 2025.

Applications can be submitted at <https://forms.office.com/r/czTNAGW4KH>. Please note that resumes should be emailed to info@iowapca.org.


Webinars

CEU opportunities available for these webinars!
Visit our [webinar page](#) to learn more and register.

WEBINAR
February 12, 2025
12:00-1:00 PM CST

1-855-444-6443
info@biaia.org
www.biaia.org



Honoring Transitions:
HOW DEATH DOULAS SUPPORT CAREGIVERS' GRIEF


Mary Kay Kusner, MA, CDD
*Certified Death Doula with 30 years of experience
as a hospice and palliative care chaplain*

The Heart-Brain Link: Protecting Your Mind Through Heart Health

Dr. HyungSub Shim, MD
Neurologist, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics

WEBINAR
February 26, 2025
12:00-1:00 PM CST

1-855-444-6443
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www.biaia.org

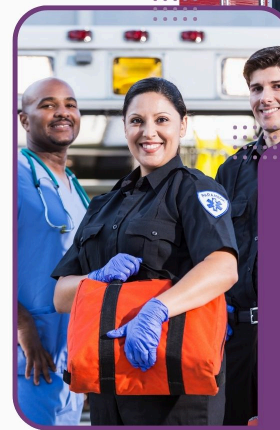




EMS in Stroke: The First Line of Defense

Matt Imming, Paramedic
*Iowa Mission: Lifeline Stroke
Task Force*

March 12, 2025
12:00-1:00 PM CST



WEBINAR



HOW TO EDUCATE AND BUILD AWARENESS IN CHILDREN AND OUR COMMUNITY ABOUT TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY



Katianne Olson
Best-selling Amazon author of
"My Resilient Brain: Understanding
Traumatic Brain Injury for Kids"

WEBINAR
March 27, 2025
12:00-1:00 PM
CST



What topics related to brain injury would you like to see in upcoming webinars hosted by the Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa? Your feedback is valued and appreciated!

[Participate in the survey.](#)

Call for Webinar Proposals

The Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa is looking for presenters to deliver webinars on topics related to brain injury treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and support. Presentations can target professionals or survivors and their loved ones.

[Submit proposal](#)



Brain Injury Resource Facilitation



Brain Injury Resource Facilitators are available to serve Iowans; to answer questions and connect those with a brain injury to resources and information. [Learn more about this program](#). BIAIA is one call away.

BIAIA Satisfaction Survey



Our mission at the Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa is to create a better future through brain injury prevention, advocacy, education, research and support. Join us on our platforms to obtain the latest and most relevant information pertaining to brain injury.