



**Brain Injury
Alliance**
CONNECTICUT

**2021
ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE**

**A MONTH-LONG VIRTUAL
EXPERIENCE BEGINNING APRIL 1**

**Earn up to 13.5
continuing
education credits for
as little as \$11 per
credit.**

FEATURING:

**Lilly Velez-Herrera
Founder, *Lilly Sin Barreras*
& Brain Injury Survivor**



About the Conference

While we wish we could meet in person for our Annual Conference, based on the public health crisis we are still facing, we have decided the 2021 Annual Professional Conference will be held virtually. Don't worry though, **you can still earn up to 13.5 continuing education hours, for as little as \$11 per credit.**

On-Demand Workshops – We know your time is valuable, so we will be providing up to 13.5 continuing education hours by offering 9 pre-recorded workshops that you will complete on-demand any time between April 1 and April 30, 2021.

Browse through this registration brochure to learn more about our fantastic keynote and workshop presenters. Then register to attend!

See you in April 2021!



SCHEDULE & INFORMATION

Keynote Presentation

Can You See Me, Can You Hear Me?

Lilly Velez-Herrera, CEO/Founder of Lilly Sin Barreras, LLC

As Lydia's presentation title suggests, she and her organization are driven by the motto, "I Can See You, I Can You Hear You", as they aim to provide resources to those who don't have them or don't know where to find them. During her talk, Lydia will describe how she was moved by her own experiences with TBI. Through them, she came to understand that sometimes all a person needs is an extended hand. On her search for healthcare providers, she learned that sometimes it takes people that are completely different from you to help you and that it's important to be patient with, and stand up for, people with neurological disorders. Though Lydia's TBI contributed to her struggle physically, socially, and emotionally, she expresses how, because of it, she grew stronger—especially in the fact that she never gave up on her own growth/improvement and refused to ever be anybody but herself. In having this experience, Lydia now aims to be a source of help and support to all of those in need—whether it be by providing them with information, legal help, or a general helping hand.



On-Demand, Pre-Recorded Workshops

A. Aging with Brain Injury

Tina Trudel, PhD, CBIST, ABDA, Founder and Co-Principal at Northeast Evaluation Specialists

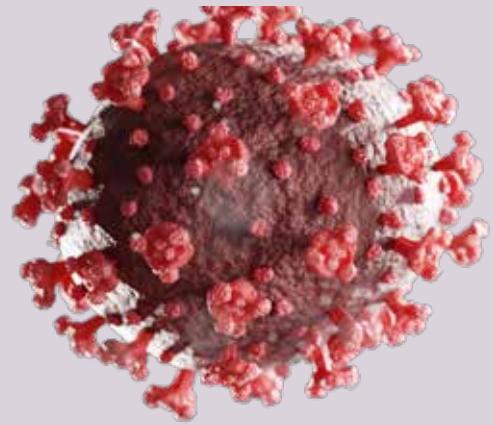
While brain injury can have a significant impact on day to day functioning in areas of cognition, behavior and physical health, relatively little is known about the long-term effect as an individual ages. How does brain injury impact the aging process, and how does the aging process impact brain injury? This workshop will discuss the aging process and issues that arise, when one is living with an acquired brain injury.



B. Covid Related Brain Injury? From the ICU to Rehabilitation

Timothy Belliveau, PhD, ABPP, Director of Post-Doctoral Training & Research at Hospital for Special Care & Alaina Breitberg Hammond, PsyD, Rehabilitation Psychologist at Hospital for Special Care

This presentation will provide a brief overview of COVID-19 infection among individuals who require a hospital level of care, with particular interest in neurological symptoms during the acute phase of illness. There will be a review of the characteristics of a small cohort of patients who participated in long-term acute care, including their risk factors, cognitive status, emotional adjustment, and the extent of their recovery of physical functioning while in the hospital. The presentation will also address the question of brain injury due to COVID-19 infection by distinguishing specific factors from nonspecific factors, along with a discussion of the scientific literature on cognitive deficits associated with Post Intensive Care Unit Syndrome.



C. Mindfulness-Based Approaches to Traumatic Brain Injury Rehabilitation

Tracey Meyers (Sondik), PsyD, Psychologist at Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers

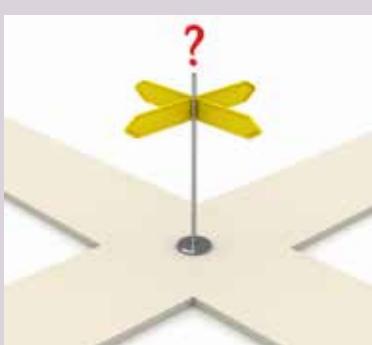
Recent research has demonstrated the benefits of using mindfulness-based techniques with individuals with traumatic brain injury. These benefits include increased quality of life, better emotional regulation, improved problem solving, attention and working memory, and better coping skills to manage psychological and physiological pain. This workshop will review current research findings, describe specific mindfulness-practices that can be effective for individuals with TBI, and will demonstrate and practice mindfulness-based strategies with participants that can be used during everyday life.



D. Managing Dysphagia in Patients with Traumatic Brain Injury

Beth Bouchard, MA, CCC-SLP, Speech Language Pathologist at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center/Trinity Health of New England

Managing patients with brain injury can be challenging. Each individual comes with their own set of issues and rules, from cognitive-linguistic deficits, communication challenges, behavior problems, and often dysphagia. The assessment and treatment of dysphagia in this population is critical as the patient moves through levels of care. This workshop will provide an overview of assessment and treatment specific to managing dysphagia in those with brain injury.



E. Brain Injury Resources: Helping Individuals and Families Navigate Their Way

René Carfi, LMSW, CBIST, Senior Brain Injury Specialist ; Cassandra Riley, MS, CBIS, Manager of Brain Injury Navigation Services; and Devon Julien, Brain Injury Specialist at Brain Injury Alliance of Connecticut

Brain injury is a sudden and drastic life altering event that often leaves individuals and families feeling that they do not know where to go for help. This workshop will provide an overview of various resources that individuals, families and professionals can explore. It will also review commonly asked questions from families and individuals following brain injury, including those new to brain injury or several years post injury.



F. Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) for Individuals with Brain Injury

Tim Feeney, PhD, Chief Knowledge Officer, Belvedere Health Services and The Mill School

“Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports” (PBIS) refers to an environmental, antecedent, support-oriented approach to helping individuals with problem behavior. This presentation will provide a review of a context sensitive framework for developing positive supports for individuals struggling with life after brain injury.

Within this framework, intervention plans are developed to integrate cognitive and communicative approaches, focus on the inclusion of meaningful activities in an individual’s daily routine, and, most importantly, are developed with the goal of helping individuals with multiple challenges learn to regulate themselves.

G. Lifespan Traumatic Brain Injury Practice From a Cultural Humility and Social Justice Framework

David Lechuga, PhD, ABPP, Director of the Neurobehavioral Clinic & Counseling Center & Christine Salinas, PsyD, Instructor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and Neuropsychologist at Boston Children’s Hospital Epilepsy Division

Diverse populations can face increased risk for brain injury, combined with reduced access to healthcare related to insurance barriers, transportation barriers, and culturally and linguistically appropriate providers. This workshop will provide an overview of existing healthcare disparities for diverse populations, along with tools and strategies for creating a more equitable environment that serves people with brain injury.



I. Use of Telehealth in Patients with Traumatic Brain Injury

Naheed Asad-Van de Walle, MD, Attending Physiatrist of Record TBI Unit, Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital/Trinity Health of New England

This presentation will discuss uses of telehealth for screening, evaluation and treatment focusing on special needs of patients with TBI. Focusing on the increased need for use of telemedicine during COVID-19, social distancing and pros and cons of the use of telemedicine versus in-person appointments.

EXHIBITING & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

A virtual exhibit hall will be available with opportunities to connect with attendees throughout the month. In addition, conference sponsors will be recognized throughout the virtual conference. For more information, visit www.biact.org/annualconference, or contact Lori Shield, Director of Marketing & Development, at lshield@biact.org or 860-219-0291, ext. 303.



CERTIFICATES

Please note: CEU and CME certificates for up to 13.5 credits will be provided to attendees for a processing fee of \$20.

CMEs Application for CME sponsorship has been submitted to Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center; approval of CME credit is pending.

CEUs Professional CEU's are pending for the following: CTPTA (physical therapists); CRC (rehabilitation counselors); NASW (social workers); SLP (speech language pathologists).

Certificates of Attendance: General certificates of attendance for up to 13.5 credits will be available, at no cost, for those needing proof of attendance.



The University of Connecticut, Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences Program is approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. **See course information for number of ASHA CEUs, instructional level and content area.** ASHA CE Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures.

This program is offered for 1.35 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional area). In compliance with ASHA's Continuing Education Board's requirements, BIAC has a policy of disclosing information regarding any relevant financial or non-financial relationships related to course content for all presenters - disclosure statements for all speakers can be found online at www.biact.org/annualconference.

BIAC MEMBERSHIP

BIAC member conference fees are 30% less than non-members!

Visit the BIAC membership page for complete information about membership benefits: www.biact.org/get-involved/membership.

- \$35 Individual Membership
- \$60 Family Membership (2 or more)
- \$100 Professional Membership

**JOIN
&
SAVE**

REFUND POLICY

REFUND POLICY: A \$50 fee will be assessed for reservations cancelled on or before February 15, 2021. No refunds will be issued after this date. Substitutions permitted with prior notification.

3 EASY WAYS TO REGISTER

- » Online at www.biact.org
- » Mail registration form on the next page with check (payable to BIAC)
to 200 Day Hill Rd., Suite 250, Windsor, CT 06095
- » By calling (860) 219-0291 x310 with registration and credit card information

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION SAVINGS

Early Bird Registration must be received online, by phone, or postmarked by February 12.

Attendee Name: _____

Address: Work or Home _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Employer: _____ Title/Position: _____

BIAC Member: Current New/Renewing Member, please add BIAC Membership fee, see below for rates

Individual Membership....\$35 Family (2 or more)....\$60 Professional....\$100

Not sure if you are already a member? CALL 860-219-0291 TO CONFIRM YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS

How did you hear about the Conference? Email Facebook Friend Work Other _____

| REGISTRATION FEES: | Early Bird (by 2/12) | Regular (by 3/31) |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|
| BIAC Member* | \$159* | \$189* |
| Non-Member | \$199 | \$229 |
| Brain Injury Survivor / Full-time Student | \$99 | \$119 |
| Group Rate** | \$149 | \$179 |

*Join BIAC for as little as \$35 and save on your registration!

**Per person for 5 or more from same organization. In order to receive the group rate ALL registrations MUST be submitted together. Group rate not accepted online, and must be completed by mail or phone.

BIAC MEMBERSHIP:

Individual Membership....\$35 Family (2 or more)....\$60 Professional....\$100

CALL 860-219-0291 TO CONFIRM YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS

CONFERENCE CEUs and CMEs: Please note there is a \$20 CEU and CME Processing fee. Check with your employer about payment responsibilities.

CEU and CME certificates will be provided to attendees for a processing fee of \$20 each.

All certificates will reflect hours attended. Please indicate CEUs* for which you are applying:

CRC (rehab counselors)* NASW (social workers)* SLP (speech language pathologists)*
 APA (psychologist)* CTPTA (physical therapists)* CME (medical)*

*Application pending

General attendance certificates will be available onsite for those needing a proof of attendance. As a supporter of the Brain Injury Alliance of Connecticut you will receive BIAC Buzz, a monthly e-newsletter providing up-to-date news and information about brain injury and BIAC events. If you prefer not to receive emails from BIAC, please check the box below.

Thank you, but I do not wish to receive the Brain Injury Alliance of CT's e-newsletter, BIAC Buzz.

REQUIRED

Registration \$ _____ New/Renewing Membership \$ _____ CEU/CME Fee \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT\$ _____