



## What is a Brain Injury?

- Brain Injury (BI) is a serious public health problem in the United States. Each year, brain injuries contribute to a substantial number of deaths and cases of permanent disability.
- Based on Centers for Disease Control (CDC) data of emergency department visits, hospitalizations, or deaths associated with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), every 13 seconds, an individual sustains a TBI in the US. \*
- A brain injury is caused by an external force to the head (traumatic) or an internal incident, such as stroke, that disrupts the normal function of the brain.
- BI survivors can face effects lasting a few days to disabilities which may last the rest of their lives. Effects of injury can include impaired thinking or memory, movement, sensation (e.g., vision or hearing), or emotional functioning (e.g., personality changes, depression). These issues not only affect individuals but can have lasting effects on families and communities. (CDC) \*
- If you or a loved one has sustained a brain injury, the Brain Injury Association of New York State can help!

## About the Association:

- Brain Injury Association of New York State (BIANYS) is a statewide non-profit membership organization founded in 1982 and is comprised of individuals with brain injury, family members, professionals, providers, programs and advocates.
- BIANYS has a Volunteer Board of Directors and is the NYS affiliate of the Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA).
- BIANYS mission is to promote awareness, understanding and prevention of brain injury through education, advocacy, and community support services that lead toward reduced incidence and improved outcomes for children and adults with brain injuries and their families.
- The Association provides a variety of programs to New Yorkers including, but not limited to: Family Advocacy, Counseling, and Training Services; statewide education and training programs; professional symposia; conferences; public policy advocacy; Chapters; prevention programs; resources including the Family Helpline; support groups; and CBIS training and exams.



## Statistics

- In New York State more than 140,000 emergency room visits or hospitalizations occur with a diagnosis of TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury) annually.
- The leading cause of TBI in New Yorkers is falling. Motor vehicle–traffic injury is the leading cause of TBI-related death. Rates are highest for adults aged 20 to 24 years.
- More than 3.4 million incidents resulting in brain injury occur each year in the United States.
- 5.3 million U.S. Citizens lives with a disability because of a TBI.
- TBI is a factor in one third of all injury related deaths in United States.
- There are BIANYS support groups across New York, where individuals with brain injury and caregivers can connect and help one another heal.
- Every year about 4,000 New York children age 19 and younger are treated at hospitals for sports-related traumatic brain injuries.
- TBI is the leading cause of death and disability in children and adults from ages 1 to 44.
- Over 800,000 individuals experience a stroke each year.
- In NYS, fall-related injuries are the leading cause of injury hospitalizations among children ages 0-14 and adults 25 years and older.
- Exposure to blasts are a leading cause of TBI among active duty military personnel in war zones.
- Each year, TBIs result in more than 2,000 deaths, and 19,000 emergency department visits among New York State residents.