

# ADVOCACY DAY 2018

## MARCH 20, 2018 | ALBANY, N.Y



### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 10:00 a.m.** Check-in
- 11:00 a.m.** Rally/Speaking Program
- 12:00 p.m.** Lunch
- 1:00 p.m.** Meetings/Networking
- 4:00 p.m.** Conclusion of Advocacy Day

### FAQs

#### What is Advocacy Day?

Advocacy Day is the day that brain injury community members gather at the New York State Legislature to raise awareness of brain injury and advocate for public policy initiatives.

#### What do I do at Advocacy Day?

- Attend the rally with other brain injury community members. This is a wonderful way to show your support for brain injury causes and increase our visibility. There is truly strength in numbers!
- Make appointments with your Assembly member and Senator.
- At meetings with your representatives, tell them about your personal journey. BIANYS will provide talking points to discuss pertinent policy issues, but it is just as important that the legislators hear about how brain injury has impacted you and the needs of your local community.
- Network with other members of the New York State brain injury community.
- Meet BIANYS staff members and learn about BIANYS activities and initiatives.

#### How can I get involved?

- Register to attend Advocacy Day at [BIANYS.org](http://BIANYS.org)
- Speak with others in your community about attending

#### Where is Advocacy Day?

Advocacy Day is located at the Legislative Office Building on State Street in Albany. It is part of the New York State Capitol Complex. Activities will commence in the Well, the main area on the ground floor of the building.

#### Does BIANYS provide transportation to Advocacy Day in Albany?

- No, attendees are responsible for their own transportation.
- We encourage groups to travel together. BIANYS can help spread the word if there is an organized group attending that can accommodate additional attendees.

#### Is lunch provided?

Yes, Lunch is provided for all attendees.



#### How do I prepare for Advocacy Day?

- Before March 20, look up your State representatives in the Assembly and Senate.
- Contact their offices and request a meeting. Suggested language: I am a constituent of the Senator/Assembly member and I am attending Brain Injury Advocacy Day on March 20, 2018. I would like to make an appointment to speak with the Senator/Assembly member on Advocacy Day to speak about my experience with brain injury and the needs of the community.
- BIANYS will share talking points and calls to action to discuss at meetings with legislators. These will be emailed to all registrants and provided in-person on Advocacy Day.
- Review the talking points and material before Advocacy Day to familiarize yourself with the issues.
- Prepare some brief remarks about your story and how brain injury impacted your life. This will help you keep the conversation brief, as legislators may not have much time in the meeting. It also ensures that you touch upon all the points you want to make in the meeting.
- Practice your remarks before your visit, to familiarize yourself so that you will be more comfortable sharing them.

#### How do I register?

Visit [bianys.org](http://bianys.org) to register for Advocacy Day

#### Have more questions or need special accommodations?

If you require special accommodations, please contact BIANYS to discuss your needs and we will do our best to address them.



**The Brain Injury Association of New York State is honored to once again organize a Advocacy Day where hundreds will join us in Albany to be the voice for thousands of New Yorkers who are in need of vital services.**

BIANYS Executive Director Eileen Reardon