

# BRAIN POWER

2019, Volume I

## 37th Annual Conference

June 5 - 6, 2019  
Saratoga Springs Holiday Inn

Featuring Keynote Speaker

## Sharon Epperson

CNBC Senior Personal Finance Correspondent  
and Brain Injury Survivor



Registration is now open for this year's Annual Conference, taking place June 5-6 at the Holiday Inn Saratoga Springs. There will be a variety of workshops including professional presentations and panel discussions. Professional continuing education credits will be offered whenever possible.

Brain injury survivors, family members, caregivers, professionals and brain injury service providers from across New York State are invited to get a first look at industry trends and information to better support and serve people and families impacted by brain injury. Titles of scheduled workshops include:

- Social Deficits: Latest Research on Theory of Mind
- Sisu to a New You: Taking Action over Brain Injury
- Steady on Your Feet: Tips for Managing Dizziness and Imbalance
- Fighting the Invisible Opponent
- Taking Care of Business... and Yourself! Navigating TBI Caregiving
- Special Needs Estate Planning

This year's keynote, Sharon Epperson is CNBC's senior personal finance correspondent, covering the many facets of how people manage, grow and protect their money. Preparing your finances for the unexpected is a critical (and personal) aspect of her reporting. In September 2016, Sharon sustained a ruptured brain aneurysm and she nearly lost her life. She has become a staunch advocate for raising awareness about brain aneurysms and increasing funding for research, establishing "The Sharon Epperson Chair of Research" through the Brain Aneurysm Foundation to provide grants for research on early detection.

# 37th Annual Conference

June 5 - 6, 2019  
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## Schedule At-A-Glance

### Wednesday, June 5

10:00 am Registration Opens  
11:00 am Morning Workshops  
12:30 pm Lunch  
1:45 pm Afternoon Workshops I  
3:15 pm Afternoon Workshops II  
5:00 pm Dinner  
6:30 pm Optional Evening Activities

### Thursday, June 6

7:00 am Breakfast  
7:30 am Annual Meeting  
8:00 am Workshops I  
9:30 am Workshops II  
11:00 am Awards Ceremony  
11:30 am Keynote Address  
12:30 am Lunch

**Annual Conference Scholarships** are available for members. Visit [bianys.org](http://bianys.org) to download an application or contact Debbie Childandese for details at [dchilandese@bianys.org](mailto:dchilandese@bianys.org) or 518-459-7911. The deadline to apply is May 10.

Pricing:	Member	Non-member
2-Day Annual Conference	\$300	\$350

Packages are available to attend both the Professional Symposium and Annual Conference.

**Register Today at [bianys.org](http://bianys.org)**

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# 2019 Professional Symposium

## Legal

June 3, 2019

## Medical

June 4, 2019

## Saratoga Springs

Professionals and specialists in the fields of brain injury law, medicine and rehabilitation are invited to learn about advances in treatment, network with professionals and gain access to cutting-edge research and information. These events are held in conjunction with the Annual Conference.

### Legal Symposium At-A-Glance

We've cultivated presenters and session topics that will provide you with the information and skills you need to confidently handle brain injury cases, from the moment a brain injury client walks into your office to closing arguments. CLE credits are available.

#### Sessions Include:

- Traumatic Brain Injury 101
- Nuances of Successfully Litigating a Traumatic Brain Injury Case
- Summations and Ending Your Brain Injury Case Strong

...and so much more!

Register Today at  
[bianys.org](http://bianys.org)

### Medical Symposium At-A-Glance

These sessions have been curated to represent the full breadth of medical issues faced by the brain injury community, and are presented by top professionals from a broad range of disciplines.

#### Sessions Include:

- Neuropsychiatry of Traumatic Brain Injury
- Psychiatric Interventions / Disorders for the Traumatic Brain Injury Client with Substance Use
- Effects of Traumatic Brain Injury: Guiding Families through the Continuum

...and much, much more!

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June 3, 2019, Legal Symposium CLE credits are provided by Empire Justice Center, who has been certified by the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board as an accredited provider of continuing legal education in the State of New York. Financial hardship policy is available upon request.

# A Message from our Executive Director & Board President



Board President Barry Dain

Everyone at BIANYS has been very busy the last couple months, planning and plotting our course for the rest of the year. There's so much coming up, that it's hard to contain our excitement. But first, a recap: **March was Brain Injury Awareness Month, and we were humbled by the brain injury community's show of support.** You went blue, you raised funds for our Annual Conference Scholarship Program, you raised awareness – you showed up and made your voices heard.

Speaking of voices, yours were heard loud and clear at this year's Brain Injury Advocacy Day in Albany. At the rally, it was a sea of blue as you showed our elected officials our community's strength.

Looking forward, our staff will be hitting the road, bringing BIANYS to you. We have Meet & Greets scheduled for Cortland on April 16 and Plattsburgh on April 24. More information and how to RSVP can be found in the events section of our website [www.bianys.org](http://www.bianys.org). Our Professional Symposium and Annual Conference are June 3-6 in Saratoga Springs, and for the sixth year in a row, the March On for Brain Injury will be taking place at various locations around the state on September 14.

**We are stronger together, when we speak with one voice.** Join us on our mission and become a member today! For more information on membership, visit our website or call our Membership Coordinator, Allison Barna, at 518-459-7911.



Executive Director Eileen Reardon

**Eileen Reardon**  
Executive Director

**Barry Dain**  
President, Board of Directors

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## Upcoming Events

The 2019 Professional Symposium and Annual Conference will be returning to Saratoga Springs from June 3-5, with keynote speaker Sharon Epperson of CNBC. More information is available in this issue of Brain Power and on our website [www.bianys.org](http://www.bianys.org).

March On for Brain Injury returns September 14 in Rochester, the Hudson Valley and on Long Island. New this year, we'll be Marching On in New York City at Mt. Sinai Hospital! Registration links are available on the events page of our website.

The Journey of Hope Gala is on for November 7 at the Manhattan Penthouse in NYC. If you're interested in sponsorship opportunities for this or any other event, please contact Eileen Reardon, Executive Director, by email ([ereardon@bianys.org](mailto:ereardon@bianys.org)) or phone (518-459-7911).

# Advocacy Update: Brain Injury Advocacy Day 2019

Thank you to everyone that came to advocate for the brain Injury community at the Brain Injury Advocacy Day, March 26th in Albany! We had a great turn out with over 100 people wearing blue and showing support!

We were honored to have Assembly Member Phil Steck and Assembly Member Dick Gottfried address our group and provide their thoughts and efforts to support our community.

A special thank you to Tobie Shedrow, a Long Island mother caring for Ilana, who sustained a traumatic brain injury after a brief illness. **Tobie, your courage is astounding**, and we are grateful to you for sharing your experiences with us. Also, to Kelly Thune Sanjong, a Syracuse-area brain injury survivor that sustained two brain injuries and **continues to take action** over her injuries by sharing her passion in advocating for TBI survivors.

With the 2019 Legislative Session in full swing, we will continue to advocate for public policy that supports people and families impacted by brain injuries. Our number one advocacy priority is to secure funding to create a program that provides planning and care management for New Yorkers with a brain injury.

It's incredibly important to continue to have conversations with your legislators in their district offices and educate them on brain injury issues and your needs. You can locate your legislator by visiting the Advocacy page of our website at [www.bianys.org](http://www.bianys.org).





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## **BIANYS Staff and Leadership**

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\*\* Indicates District Board Members. Each of these Board Members is selected by BIANYS Members to represent one of the six districts in New York State.

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