

NEW YORK CITY MARATHON

For the ninth year, the Brain Injury Association of New York State has been chosen as an Official Charity Partner of the TCS New York City Marathon. Please meet the incredible runners on the BIANYS team!



Kelly Corley: This will be my second time running the New York City Marathon in support of the Brain Injury Association of New York State, and I could not be more excited. I am a lifelong athlete and have had a passion for running since childhood. However, having suffered multiple concussions myself, this has made me no stranger to the importance of supporting those who have sustained brain injuries. My most recent concussion took place in August of 2022 and as a result of this and past head traumas, I began having

focal seizures. Though controlled with medicine now, it was a long road to recovery in which I was not able to run for a while. I am grateful to be running again for such an important and deeply personal cause. You can support Kelly here.



Brianna Daniel: 2024 has been a year of firsts for me. I am thrilled to be running my first ever marathon in support of the Brain Injury Association of New York State (BIANYS). During my first year working as a speech-language pathologist at an inpatient rehab hospital, I have witnessed firsthand the effects that brain injury can have on individuals and their families. In my role, I have seen the strength and dedication of people re-learning to say their first word, take their first step, and return to their communities for the first-time

post-injury. Despite all of the incredible firsts this year will bring, I am grateful to be collaborating with BIANYS in order to make an impact that will last. You can support Brianna here.



John Gibson: This will be my first time running the New York City Marathon and I am super excited! I grew up playing several sports and have been an avid runner over the last several years. I had a concussion three years ago that led to an 8-month hiatus from running and required significant effort to get back to full mental and physical strength. I was lucky to have some wonderful friends and family in place to help me improve and know firsthand how crucial support in all forms is to achieving the best outcomes to brain injuries. I am thrilled to run on behalf of the Brain Injury Association of

New York State in hopes to support others with similar struggles related to concussions and appreciate any generosity and support! You can support John here.





Victoria Loving: I am running the New York City Marathon for the first time and it is also my first world major marathon! I am so excited to be racing this year to support the Brain Injury Association of New York State. I first found my passion for running as a way to cope with stress in my last year of Physical Therapy school. I carried this passion with me as I dove into my new career as a Doctor of Physical Therapy working in brain injury rehabilitation. Over the last 4.5 years working in brain injury there have been countless patients and families who have shown me the highest form of

love, commitment, and gratitude for life and the Brain Injury Association only amplified that, by helping those same families throughout the entire process, which I so admired. Running the New York City Marathon to support the Brain Injury Association of New York State is my way of combining my passion for running and my goal to give back to the brain injury community who have continuously shown me the beauty of life and how to live it to the fullest. You can support Victoria <u>here</u>.



Natalie Radino: I am an Adult Nurse Practitioner and sustained a traumatic brain injury at the age of 25. Life-altering, I did not let it break my spirit. I fought my way back and returned to nursing school. As I completed my studies, I overcame incredible obstacles with determination and perseverance. After obtaining my nursing degree, I worked as a registered nurse, dedicating myself to my patients and constantly looked for ways to improve their care. My personal experience with brain injury offered me a unique perspective and

empathy that I brought to work every day. I am committed to raising awareness about brain injury and the Brain Injury Association of New York State is a cause close to my heart. I am excited to run to support their work as a way to give back to the systems and people who supported me during my time of need. You can support Natalie <u>here</u>.



Jenna Sperling: As an avid runner for over a decade and as someone who grew up watching the New York City Marathon, I have always wanted to run the marathon and could not be more excited to run my first marathon in support of the Brain Injury Association of New York State. In the past 2 years, two of my best friends (both young and healthy) have sustained traumatic brain injuries, seemingly out of nowhere. Thanks to amazing medical teams and rehabilitation, both my friends are on the long road to recovery. Not a day

goes by that I do not feel extra grateful for them. Unfortunately, brain injuries are all too common and the aftermath persists, often, long after the external wounds have healed. I am running for Casey and Perry and all the other individuals affected by brain injuries and their loved ones. I am honored to be able to run on behalf of the Brain Injury Association of New York State to raise awareness of the needs of survivors and their supporters. You can support Jenna <u>here</u>.





Claudia Wilkin: A UK citizen based in London, I am incredibly excited and thankful for the opportunity to run the New York City Marathon for the first time in support of the Brain Injury Association. I am running for the association because of all the support and services they provide for people living with brain injury. A brain injury can challenge every aspect of your life, and the losses can be severe and permanent. It's a cause close to my heart as 12 years ago, I lost my mum to a brain hemorrhage. Although she didn't survive, I've since focused my grief by raising money for charities that offer

support, education, and advocate for people and families impacted by brain injury. I run for Mum, and all those who have suffered.

You can support Claudia here.

THE VOICE OF BRAIN INJURY

