





Brain Injury Awareness Day Tuesday, October 17, 2023

The purpose of our Brain Injury Awareness Day is to educate members of the PA General Assembly on the needs of Brain Injury Survivors. The past four years, we averaged over 80 participants and met with Legislators in both the House of Representatives and Senate. As a member of the PA Brain Injury Coalition we work diligently in bipartisan with all four Co-Chairs of the Brain Injury Caucus.

We have a full day planned with several experienced brain injury survivors to share their testimony. Drew Nagele, Neuropsychologist will explain the difference between an ABI and TBI, behaviors that can be associated with brain injury and cognitive dysfunctional. At the Main Rotunda, Tim Briggs (D), House of Representatives, 149th District will speak on the NEW Legislation, House Bill 1682, coverage for post-acute Neurorehabilitation for individuals who sustained a brain injury.

Ann Flood (R), House of Representatives, 138th District will talk on how she built from the ground up a foundation to enhance the quality of life for brain-injured children and offer support for their families. Ann founded Hope Foundation in 2008 in memory of her daughter, Lauren, who was only four years old when she passed away sustaining an Acquired Brain Injury. Senator Tim Kearney (D), 26th District and Senator Ryan Aument (R), 36th District will speak at the Reception.

Kevin McDonald and Melissa Carmen will give an inspirational testimony on recovery after brain injury.

Agenda for the day

Brain Injury Briefing, Main Rotunda 10:30am – 11:30am

Schedule your own Legislative Meetings 11:40am – 12:50pm

Reception 1:00 – 2:00pm (Rm 8E-B)

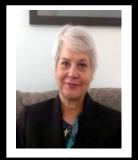
Brain Injury Panel 2:00pm – 3:00pm (Rm 8E-B)

Kevin McDonald, Founder of RESTART Your Life / RENEW Your Mind and Melissa Carmen, Pennsylvania Brain Injury Coalition who are both survivors of a severe TBI and are at the forefront of our 5th annual Brain Injury Awareness Day at the Pennsylvania State Capitol, Harrisburg.



At our Brain Injury Panel Welcome....

Mary K Mutschler, LCSW, BCPCC, CBIS, CCTP EMDR, LCP, Brain Injury Specialist, Psychotherapist, Elizabethtown. Mary is a Mother to an adult son who sustained a brain injury.



AND



Welcome Shawn Holmes a tech educator, entrepreneur, and passionate advocate for veterans. As a United States Army veteran who sustained a traumatic brain injury during deployment to Irag in 2004, Shawn has embarked on a journey of healing, recovery, and reconnection. Combining his IT expertise with personal experiences in overcoming multiple brain injuries, he has gained a profound understanding of the pressing need for more comprehensive supportive services for both veterans and marginalized communities.

In addition to his professional pursuits, Shawn is a dedicated father of four and an active member of the Dauphin County Veterans Coalition.

If attending please contact: Melissa Carmen at <u>sunshineblu18@aol.com</u> Write in subject line: BIAD or call: 717-361-2854