The purpose of this two-day conference is to provide state-of-the art information about brain injury treatment and therapies, which will foster maximal rehabilitation and a better quality of life.

This conference is designed to benefit persons engaged in therapies with persons recovering from injury as well as caregivers and persons with brain injury. Learning will occur with discussion, case studies, exhibits, practicum, and lectures. The audience is intended to include all those interested in issues and trends in brain injury rehabilitation.

JOIN BIAMI FOR OUR Annual Fall Conference!

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Amy Blankson - Thursday, Sept 13 • 8:30am-9:30am

Amy Blankson, bestselling author of The Future of Happiness, is the only person to receive a Point of Light from two sitting US Presidents. After graduating from Harvard College and Yale School of Management, she has focused her work on understanding how to cultivate happiness in a digital era.

She is a member of the UN Global Happiness Council, a Fellow of the World Innovation Organization, and is currently working with the IEEE to create standards for well-being in the creation of artificial intelligence and emotion awareness.

Most recently, Amy has shared her thought leadership as a speaker at TEDx, as a regular contributor for Forbes on Women, Technology, and Leadership, and as a featured professor in Oprah's Happiness course.

Chris Ulmer - Friday, Sept 14 • 8:30am-9:30am

Chris Ulmer is the guiding force behind the Special Books by the Special Kids (SBSK) blog. A Penn State grad, Chris was student teaching and fell in love with the intelligence and humor displayed by his special ed students. After six months of sharing Facebook videos featuring those students, SBSK had gained 150,000 followers. That led to neurodiverse people around the world asking to be interviewed, and soon SBSK demanded Chris’s full-time effort.

Now an internationally renowned speaker, Chris is proud that the Special Books by Special Kids community has surpassed 2.5 million members and is the world’s leading neurodiversity movement.

Questions? Contact Allie Weston at aweston@biami.org
# Conference at a Glance

## Main Conference Schedule of Events

**Thursday, September 13**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:45-7:30am</td>
<td>Free Morning Tai Chi (<a href="#">see pg. 11</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:15am</td>
<td>Registration &amp; Exhibits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15-8:30am</td>
<td>Welcome - Tom Constand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:30am</td>
<td>Keynote – Amy Blankson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30-10:15am</td>
<td>Break with Exhibitors in Exhibit Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15-11:15am</td>
<td>Session I - Breakouts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15-11:45am</td>
<td>Break with Exhibitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45-12:45pm</td>
<td>Session II - Breakouts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45-1:45pm</td>
<td>Lunch &amp; Break in Exhibit Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45-2:45pm</td>
<td>Session III - Breakouts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:45-3:15pm</td>
<td>Break with Exhibitors in Exhibit Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15-4:15pm</td>
<td>Session IV - Breakouts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30-10:30pm</td>
<td>Annual Dinner Banquet, Radisson Hotel Lansing</td>
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## Family & Survivor Schedule

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<tr>
<td>1:45 –2:45pm</td>
<td>New this Year: “Voting Rights, Access &amp; Responsibilities for People with Disabilities” (Lansing Center) <em>Does not include lunch. All members of BIAMI are invited to attend.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 –3:45pm</td>
<td>Annual Members’ Meeting (Lansing Center) <em>Does not include lunch. All members of BIAMI are invited to attend.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45 – 4:15pm</td>
<td>Exhibit Hall Access (Lansing Center) <em>Badges are required for admittance into the Exhibit Hall. Name badges are available at the Members Meeting.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 – 6:30pm</td>
<td>Reception for Annual Dinner (Radisson Hotel - 2nd Floor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Annual Dinner Banquet (Radisson Hotel - 2nd Floor)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Catch-A-Ride**

*A free transportation service to and from the conference will be available within the Michigan Transportation service area for persons with brain injury or family members with transportation difficulties. Reservations must be made directly through Michigan Transportation (877) 777-7900. Space is limited. Please register early.*

Questions? Contact Allie Weston at aweston@biami.org
TH-01
TBI in the School Setting: Strategies and Considerations for Assistive Technology

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is one of the leading causes of disability among children. This session will focus on assistive technology solutions for cognitive disabilities which may result in reduced educational performance. These difficulties may include issues with memory, organization, concentration, reading and writing, processing information, ability to initiate and/or complete tasks, and time management. The session will also focus on how the IEP team is legally required to consider the need for assistive technology in the school setting.

Eric Bourque MAT, CBIS, ATP- Oakland Schools and Jan Ashcraft, Ed.S., CBIS- Oakland Schools

TH-02
Chronic Pain

A presentation is made of the difficulties in treatment of chronic pain, the mistreatment in the last several decades. Treatment options and their outcomes are presented and a viable evidence based wholistic treatment approach using cognitive behavioral and functional restoration methods is outlined.

Maury Ellenberg MD FACP- Rehabilitation Physicians PC and Olga Slavin-Spenny PhD- Team Rehabilitation

TH-03
Clinical Strategies for Sport Concussion Management: Maximizing Safe and Healthy Participation

Concussion in sport continues to be a significant public health issue and the need for neurological expertise in this area has never been greater. Dr. Kutcher, one of the world’s leading experts, will present the latest research and consensus regarding the recognition and management of sports concussion. He will also discuss the comprehensive clinical approach to safe sport participation.

Jeffrey Kutcher, MD, FAAN- The Sports Neurology Clinic, PLLC

TH-04
Fake News and Alternative Facts: Being an Informed Consumer of Medical Science

Drs. Spencer and Pangilinan spoke at the 2016 BIAMI Annual Conference. This year they will discuss how providers, caregivers, and patients can evaluate medical research and how to place claims of cure into perspective. They expect that the attendees will leave with some guidelines to help delineate which research could affect clinical care or make unrealistic claims.

Robert J. Spencer, PhD- VA Ann Arbor and Percival Pangilinan Jr., MD- University of Michigan Hospital and Health Systems Department of PM&R
**Breakout Session II — 11:45am - 12:45pm**

**TH-05**
Panel Discussion on The Flint Water Crisis: Looking to the Future
This panel, comprised of leading experts, will discuss how and why the lead crisis occurred in Flint, Michigan; the long term health impacts of lead exposure, especially in children; what practitioners are currently seeing and what they can expect to see in the future; and how the brain injury provider community can best assist those impacted.

**Leading Experts in Lead Poisoning**

**TH-06**
Advancing the Plot: Cognition and Mental State
Anxiety, worry, depression, memory loss, difficulty concentrating—As professionals, we often wonder, what is brain injury and what is emotional state? This presentation will describe the interaction between the frontal lobe and limbic system, help health care professionals identify emotional barriers to therapy and learn when to adjunct psychological services. This discussion will also provide effective strategies to assist patients in working through emotional response in order to make greater gains in therapy.

Jaimie Farrington, M.A., CCC-SLP, CBIS and Kimberly McGowan, M.A., LLP, CBIS- Both with Hope Network Neurorehabilitation

**TH-07**
Risk of Dementia Following Traumatic Brain Injury: A review of the literature
The presentation will cover research relating to TBI and dementia risk, including the long-term outcomes of TBI, moderating/mediating risk factors, and possible mechanisms of how TBI increases dementia risk. Limitations of the current research will be presented, and important future directions will be reviewed.

Carlos Marquez de la Plata, Ph.D.- Pate Rehabilitation and Jeff Schaffert, M.S.- UT Southwestern Medical Center

**TH-08**
An Introduction to Brain Injury
Individuals with brain injury and their family, friends, and caregivers will learn more about how brain injury affects multiple systems of the body as well as social relationships and functional activities. Brain injury as a public health issue will be addressed and recommendations for where to obtain more information will be provided.

Carolyn A. Scott, Ph.D., L.P., CBIST- Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers and Ellynn S. Brouwers, M.S., CRC, CBIST- Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers

**Breakout Session III — 1:45pm - 2:45pm**

**TH-09**
Postconcussion Syndrome
This talk will provide an overview on the diagnosis and management postconcussion syndrome and the difference between postconcussion syndrome and concussion. There will also be an emphasis on active treatment and rehabilitation of PCS, including physical therapy approaches. Finally, this talk will cover the complex issue of chronic traumatic encephalopathy and other long-term consequences of sports-participation on brain health.

Matthew McCarthy, MD and Eric Neal PT, DPT, SCS- Both with The Sports Neurology Clinic, PLLC

**TH-10**
Using Behavioral Modification Strategies to Develop an Effective Self Care Plan for Every Team Member
During our busy lives, sometimes the work we do becomes another item to check off our to-do list. Our clients and loved ones deserve better, but so do you. This seminar explores the brain's connection with stress and how it can resemble cognitive impairments. We will delve into understanding how physical and emotional stress impacts our ability to serve our clients. Each attendee will take a self evaluation and develop a self care plan.

Dr. Michele White, PhD, LLP, LPC- White Behavioral Consultants, P.C.

**TH-11**
“The Lesser of Two Evils” Ethical Challenges for Clinicians; Creating an Ethical Environment
Clinicians in rehabilitation settings cite pressure from payers, conflicts among the teams/family/persons served, and difficulty in assessing decision making capacity as their 3 top ethical concern areas. Learn how to create an ethical environment of care which can help to lessen a clinician's stress, improve satisfaction of the team and patient/family, and reduce patient and organizational risk.

Ellynn S. Brouwers, M.S., CRC, CBIST- Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers

**TH-12**
Effective Vocational Counseling as a Path to Long Term Vocational Success
Examine vocational rehabilitation to unlock endless vocational possibilities for individuals with disabilities as they embark on a path of self-exploration and move towards reaching their highest level of independence. We will review proven techniques and provide tips for long term vocational stability that will lead to successful community placements. We will examine the vocational counseling process, proven job search techniques, advocating for those with disabilities, and how to build successful employer relationships.

Rene Dell, MA, LPC, NCC, CRC - Special Tree Rehabilitation System

Questions? Contact **Allie Weston at aweston@biami.org**
Breakout Session IV — 3:15pm - 4:15pm

**TH-13**
Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy- A Review of the Science
Drs. Stork and Pangilinan spoke at the 2017 BIAMI Annual Conference. This year they will discuss Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE): What is it? Why does it happen? How often does it occur? How do we detect it? And just as importantly, why is there any controversy regarding this topic? They will review the popular press presentation and then review the current scientific literature.

*Ryan Stork, MD and Percival Pangilinan Jr., MD- Both with University of Michigan Hospital and Health Systems Department of PM&R and Stork*

**TH-14**
Balance After Brain Injury
This session will give an overview of the physiological systems of balance, the components of a comprehensive balance assessment and common therapeutic interventions. Also included will be an overview of the vestibular system including its anatomy, function, common dysfunctions and treatment.

*Marissa L. Cruz PT, DPT, GCS, CBIS and Payal Desai, PT, CBIS, CKTP- Both with Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers*

**TH-15**
Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Management of Persons in a Minimally Conscious State
Examine physical therapy and occupational therapy management of persons in a minimally conscious state including: assessment, interventions, goal setting, and special considerations relevant to this population. Clinical outcomes and evidence regarding therapeutic intervention will be discussed.

*Sara Roach, PT, DPT, CBIS- Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital*

**TH-16**
Cultural Awareness: Let’s Talk! An interactive discussion about race, culture, and perceptions and the potential impact on rehabilitation.
This presentation will address the various perceptions of culture and their potential impact on therapeutic relationships, participation, and outcomes. In an interactive and informative format, presenters and attendees will discuss how to recognize potential issues and strategies to facilitate positive cultural interactions in their environment.

*Aurelia J. Wiltshire, OTR/L, CBIS- Rainbow Rehabilitation*

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**Excellent conference that is a MUST for all brain injury victims. Thank you for caring about TBI victims and showing it so well!**

Quote from the 37th Annual Fall Conference attendee

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Questions? Contact **Allie Weston at aweston@biami.org**
DAY 2 - SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Welcome & Keynote Speaker — 8:15am - 9:30am
Welcome — Tom Constand - Brain Injury Association of Michigan President

Chris Ulmer
Engaging Neurodiverse Individuals: The Power of Acceptance and Positivity
We each have a profound power within us, that when harnessed can enable us to form meaningful relationships with anyone, neurodiverse or otherwise. In order to create a world of universal acceptance, we have to get past the fear of the unknown and our pre-disposition with labels. This session will show attendees how understanding, positivity, and acceptance can make a better world for all.

Breakout Session I — 10:15am - 11:15am

FR-01
Grief, Loss and Hope
This session will focus on understanding the meaning of grief and loss and the ways in which these emotions are expressed. Ambiguous loss will be defined and explored. Cultural differences and age differences in the expression of grief will be discussed. Hope, help and effective coping will conclude this presentation.
Mariann Young, Ph.D- Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers

FR-02
PseudoBulbar Affect
This talk will focus on emotional expression as an important form of non-verbal communication. It will highlight how in acquired or traumatic brain injury, pathways of emotional expression can be disrupted, which can lead to pseudoobulbar affect. Breakdown in non-verbal communication can lead to frustration and confusion for both the patient and caregiver. Audience members will leave with a greater understanding of the components of emotional expression, how brain injury can lead to the disruption in pathways controlling emotional expression, and the impact it can have on brain injury survivors.
Gregory Markley, DC, MS, DACO- Avanir Pharmaceuticals

FR-03
The Opioid Crisis: How it is Manifesting Itself in Pain Management
Opioids have long been the standard prescription for treating pain. There is rising concern in America about opioids and their addictive properties and their risk for addiction, falls, and other negative outcomes. Come discuss the opioid crisis and its impact on the patient population, and what this crisis means in terms of treatment planning to manage resident pain.
Robert Leffler, R.Ph- PCA Pharmacy

FR-04
Assessment and Intervention of Visual Perception and Cognition Following Brain Injury and the Impact on Everyday Functioning
Visual perceptual and cognitive changes often occur following brain injuries. Changes with these abilities greatly impact function in both adult and adolescent populations. Today’s discussion will outline how to objectively evaluate and treat these skill areas. Remedial and compensatory approaches will be covered, as well as, the impact of these abilities on ADLs, IADLs, school, work, and driving.
Kara Christy, MS, OTRL, CBIS and Natasha Huffine, MS, OTRL, CBIS- Both with Origami Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center and

Questions? Contact Allie Weston at aweston@biami.org
Breakout Session II — 11:45am - 12:45pm

**FR-05**
**Understanding Chronic Pain: The Mind-Body Connection**
Individuals with traumatic brain injuries often have co-morbid pain disorders. Brain science advances reveal that chronic pain is more than a symptom of another injury and is its own disease. The rehabilitation focus on the biomechanical often neglects the essential psychological component of chronic pain. Positive Psychology, Mindfulness, Trauma Psychology, Individual and Group Psychotherapy perspectives will be presented.

*James F. Zender, PhD - Zender Psychological Trauma Recovery Services*

**FR-06**
**Use of Humor in Therapeutic Settings for TBI Survivors**
The therapeutic value of humor can often be underrated in many clinical conditions, traumatic brain injury included. This session provides an overview of the physiological and psychological benefits of laughter and humor, as well as examples of their practical application in a TBI therapeutic workplace, and other clinical settings.

*Dave Uchalik BS, OTRL, CBIS - Cassell & Associates*

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**FR-07**
**Can Nutrition be Part of the Solution to Concussions and TBI’s?**
Dr. Garrett Wdowin will walk through a summary of the top research from the U.S. Military, Universities, and Dr’s in the field of head trauma and TBI’s and the nutritional compounds that are showing promise in aiding resiliency and recovery. Dr. Wdowin will also provide a simplified version of the internal mechanisms of the brain and how it is damaged and how it can repair.

*Dr. Garrett Wdowin NMD, ABAHP, FAARM - Wdowin NMD*

**FR-08**
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Individuals with brain injury and their family, friends, and caregivers will learn more about how brain injury affects multiple systems of the body as well as social relationships and functional activities. Brain injury as a public health issue will be addressed and recommendations for where to obtain more information will be provided.

*Cindy Barrus, PT, MM, CBIST - Spectrum Health*

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**FR-09**
**Virtual Reality**
Learn about Virtual Reality (VR) and how it can be used as a new and innovative therapy modality for individuals with TBIs. Participants will learn about several VR devices, benefits and contraindications of using it with clients with TBI, and tips to developing a VR program within your facility.

*Courtney Fankhauser, CTRS, CBIS, ATP and Kristin Claerhout, CTRS, CBIS - Both with Special Tree Rehabilitation System*

**FR-10**
**Sexuality in Supportive Living Patients with Acquired Brain Injury**
Residing in a supported living program can be an adjustment for brain injury survivors and can create barriers to sexual activity and intimacy. We will be identifying myths that surround sexual function and intimacy. Education and training needed for direct care staff and interventions through counseling, medication and recommendations on physical positioning will be discussed. By identifying and addressing these areas with brain injury survivors, they can move towards resuming sexual activity and intimacy even in a supported living setting.

*Paige Salinas, LCSW, CBIS and Christine Nelson, M.Ed, MOT, CBIS, CDRS-Both with Pate Rehabilitation*

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**FR-11**
**Vestibular Rehabilitation**
Dizziness, imbalance, and disequilibrium can be debilitating for those who experience vestibular dysfunction. Vestibular rehabilitation can improve these symptoms through specific evaluation and treatment techniques aimed at improving the inner ear's functioning and improving overall balance and body awareness. This lecture will discuss vestibular anatomy and pathology, clients who may benefit from this type of rehab, vestibular diagnoses, and the assessment and treatment of vestibular dysfunction.

*Arika Button, PT, DPT, CBIS and Mariah Moncada, PT, DPT, CBIS - Both with Origami Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center*

**FR-12**
**Return to Work Following Concussion: an OT Approach**
Attendees will learn an Occupational Therapy approach to address Persistent Post Concussion Syndrome (PPCS). Speaker will discuss vision rehabilitation and return to work concerns to be addressed in therapy. Treatment ideas, goal planning and progression through a post concussion rehabilitation program will be discussed from an Occupational Therapy standpoint.

*Erika Chapman MOTRL, CBIS - Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital*

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Breakout Session III — 1:45pm - 2:45pm

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*Erika Chapman MOTRL, CBIS - Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital*
Breakout Session IV — 3:00pm - 4:00pm

FR-13
INVISIBLE BRUISES: INTERSECTION OF TBI AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
A cause of traumatic brain injury (TBI) that has been under-reported is intimate partner violence (IPV). Survivors of IPV typically do not seek health care after the assault or they are a part of the population, (prisoners, those living in shelters, homeless or transient people) who are less likely to be surveyed about TBI. This presentation will provide awareness and practical tools to use to facilitate discussion about IPV with individuals experiencing TBI.
Joyce Wright, Michigan Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Treatment Board

FR-14
Sensory Overload: Understanding and Treating Sensory Hyperresponsivity After Brain Injury
An overwhelming number of brain injury survivors suffer from sensory sensitivity which negatively impacts return to work, inhibits social engagement, and causes undue stress on the CNS. This lecture describes the neuroanatomical structures and neurophysiology of sensory processing, identifies symptoms of sensory processing dysfunction, and will provide explanation and demonstration of both compensatory and remediation treatment approaches to reduce sensory sensitivities and improve sensory processing, for improved functional outcomes, reintegration, and quality of life for the brain injury survivor.
Anna Keough, MOT, OTRL and Alysha Gillison, MS, OTRL - Both with Galaxy Brain and Therapy Center

FR-15
Exoskeletons and Their Role in Enhancing both Patient Experience and Functional Outcomes
Course will be an overview of 4 exoskeletons currently in use both clinically and for personal home use. Included will be discussion of different features of each device, inclusion / exclusion criteria, benefits of exoskeleton use and how to incorporate into a comprehensive treatment and wellness plan. Course will also include case studies and video examples of each device in use.
Diane Patzer, PT, MPT, NCS - Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan

FR-16
An Exploration into Tai Chi and Ai Chi – Benefits of an Ancient Practice in Modern Therapeutic Rehabilitation
This presentation will explore how the ancient exercises of Tai Chi and Ai Chi are being used today to help patients restore function, improve balance and mental well-being. Review of basic principles and adaptations to the exercises for those with physical limitations will be explored as will current evidence-based research. Attendees will have an opportunity to learn and perform some instructor-led Tai Chi movements and ways the beneficial practice can be applied in their own lives.
Kirk Howard, MS, ACSM-CEP, ATRIC, CBIS - Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers

“Unmasking Brain Injury”
2017 Display by BIAMI
MORE INFORMATION

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS & PARKING

Hotel Accommodations:
Registrants are responsible for making their own hotel arrangements. For information about the Lansing Area and Overflow Hotels visit: www.lansing.org/biami

Directions & Parking:
Conference Sessions will be held at the Lansing Center. Directions and parking maps are available for download at www.lansingcenter.com The Downtown Lansing area continues to have construction and parking spaces are limited on site.

PLEASE review the recommended parking options at www.lansing.org/biami and allow plenty of extra time for navigating downtown Lansing.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS – {CEU’s}

This activity has been submitted to the Ohio Nurses Association (OBN-001-91) for approval to award contact hours. The Ohio Nurses Association is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

Please call Allie Weston at (810) 229-5880 for more information about contact hours.

Thursday 5.0 hours, Friday 5.0 hours
Applications for Contact Hour Approval Have Also Been Submitted to the Following:

- Certification of Disability Management Specialists Commission (CDMSC)
- Academy of Certified Brain Injury Specialists (ACBIS)
- Commission for Case Manager Certification (CCMC)
- Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC)
- State of Michigan AFC
- State of Michigan Social Work

CEU SYSTEM
All attendees will have a bar code on their conference name badge. Attendees will be scanned in and out of sessions and all CE records will be kept electronically. In order to earn CE credit you MUST get scanned in and out of each session. Evaluations and certificates can be obtained online post-conference using a user name and password which will be provided to you.

To earn full credit you must attend a minimum of 50 minutes of all 60 minute sessions.

Questions? Contact Allie Weston at aweston@biami.org
WELLNESS MORNINGS

Morning Yoga Session with Yoga Medics
We are happy to, again, offer a FREE yoga session on Friday morning at The Radisson Hotel. This wellness event will take place in the morning on Friday, September 14. Spaces are limited, you must sign up to attend.

Registration Link: https://secure.biami.org/eventReg.jsp?event=765

Morning Tai Chi- NEW THIS YEAR
Join us for a FREE Tai Chi session. Experience the ancient exercises of Tai Chi and Ai Chi to start your busy day off right! This session will be held on Thursday morning, the 13th at The Radisson Hotel. Spaces are limited, you must sign up to attend.

Registration Link: https://secure.biami.org/eventReg.jsp?event=775

*If you do not have access to a computer; please contact the BIAMI office for assistance with online registration: 810-229-5880

Early bird registration ends on August 8, 2018
Registration closes on August 31, 2018

All attendees must be pre-registered, THERE ARE NO WALK IN REGISTRATIONS.
Confirmations will be emailed to all accepted pre-registrations.
Register before August 8 and save!

We look forward to seeing you all there!
The Brain Injury Association of Michigan wishes to thank our distinguished Diamond Sponsors for their generous support of this educational event.