

# 2017 Speakers Series

## Joyce Beers Community Center

San Diego Brain Injury Foundation  
Saturdays, 10:00 am—noon

January 21, 2017: The ABC's of Special Needs Planning Made Easy—What will future caregivers need know to look after a loved one? A volunteer from the Special Needs Education and Advocacy Project will be discussing the government benefits you are entitled to plus the California ABLE Act.

February 18, 2017: Finding Employment with Assistance from the Department of Rehab—Esther Bazalaki, M.S. in Vocational Rehab Counseling, Department of Rehab. Esther will be discussing the process of working with the Department of Rehab from the intake session to closure in finding a job after a brain injury.

March 18, 2017: **Survive HEADSTRONG WALK FOR RECOVERY** To Register, visit [www.sdbif.org/walk](http://www.sdbif.org/walk).

April 15, 2017: Vision and Brain Injury: Self Help Techniques to Aid Recovery— Dr. Karen Love, OD, FCOVD, Daniel and Davis Optometry. Impaired vision is frequently a problem after a brain injury. Dr. Love will discuss how vision is involved in our daily recovery from brain injury and specific tools and techniques that can be used at home to improve vision function and overall recovery.

May 20, 2017: The ABI Program —Brandi Behringer, Counselor, S.D. Community College District. What are the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Programs? Brandi, the intake counselor for the Mesa Program, will provide a brief description of each of the three programs in our San Diego community. Find out if one of these programs would be helpful to you in your recovery.

June 17, 2017: How Positive Energy Can Heal—Mark Hamlet, Reiki Practitioner, Sages Now. Mark suffered a brain injury and will be sharing his story of how positive energy healed his brain using Reiki, affirmations and positive thoughts. He will explain some of the techniques he used.

July, 2017: **THERE WILL BE NO MEETING THIS MONTH.**

August 19, 2017: Bridging the Communication Gap—Debra Rogers, Southern California Outreach Coordinator, Hamilton Relay. Through California Relay Service, Speech-to-Speech (STS) relay service enables people whose speech is difficult for others to understand to communicate by telephone. With this free service, you can make calls by yourself, independent of the availability of your assistant or caregiver.

September, 2017: **THERE WILL BE NO MEETING THIS MONTH**

October 21, 2017: Get Answers to Your Questions—Pedro Leon, Medical Advocate & Rehab Specialist. Everyone's brain injury is different and everyone's recovery is different. Pedro will personally answer your individual questions to help with day to day problem solving in your recovery. Questions may be submitted ahead of time.

November 18, 2017: Brain Injury: Creative Approach to Recovery— Queency Mateo, MBA HCM RN, Clinical Director and Eldercare Consultant, Lifeline. New approaches and strategies will be discussed focusing on client's strengths vs. impairments while moving through the recovery process.

December 16, 2017: Holiday Party —Come join the fun and celebrate the holidays. Entertainment will be provided along with raffle prizes, festive food and FUN! Special recognition will be given to all our great SDBIF volunteers.

Location : We meet at the Joyce Beers Community Center in Hillcrest, 3900 Vermont St., which is part of the Uptown District Shopping Center (Ralphs & Trader Joes) near 163, north of University Avenue in San Diego, 92103. If you get lost and need additional directions call the Uptown District Shopping security guard at 619-419-4787.