

August 2, 2016

Daniel P. McCoy
Albany County Executive
112 State Street
Room 900
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mr. McCoy,

The Brain Injury Association of New York State congratulates Albany County for the effort to increase concussion awareness and distribute concussion information and resources to residents. We applaud the Office of the Albany County Executive for publishing the Concussion Management guide to address this important issue.

Brain injury is a serious concern impacting many New Yorkers, one that has been historically underestimated. The New York State Concussion Management and Awareness Act of 2011, which required schools to implement standards of care, was a step in the right direction. However, more remains to be done to ensure proper concussive care. The Concussion Management guide from Albany County aides this effort by offering recommendations for response to concussion and providing resources for concussion management.

We at the Brain Injury Association know that brain injuries have a serious impact on the lives of those affected and that proper management is key to successful outcomes. We are undertaking efforts for a statewide Concussion Initiative to promote awareness, proper identification, individualized management of concussion, and increase understanding of concussion and its effects. As we increase attention to concussions and traumatic brain injuries, it is imperative that we establish the best practices to prevent and diagnose injury, ensure proper treatment, and provide accommodations to support a full return to life. By taking the time and effort to research this topic by reaching out to resources such as the Amateur Athletic Union and brain injury experts, Albany County has chosen to stand up as a leader in our community's fight against youth brain injuries.

Albany County's efforts in developing the Concussion Management guide and providing resources to educate the public is admirable. This is the level of attention that the Brain Injury Association wants shared amongst all local governments across New York State. We look forward to increasing our collaboration with Albany County. Together, we will ensure that our youth will grow, play, and learn to their greatest potential.

Sincerely,



Eileen Reardon
Executive Director