



**Acquired
Brain Injury
Network**

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Hilton Toronto • Toronto

Conference Presentation Abstract ~ Poster

Abstract ID: 20

Title:

A Student Who Never Stopped Learning - A Journey of Faith, A Future for a Better Life

Author:

Grazia Murdoch

Presenter:

Grazia Murdoch, Family member of brain injury survivor
Matthew Murdoch, Brain injury survivor

Summary:

This presentation focuses on the power of determination, perseverance and faith. A young man who has sustained severe brain injuries as a result of a motor vehicle collision in 1995, has demonstrated through his journey of the past 12 years, as presented by his mother Grazia Murdoch-Riolo, that he never stopped learning to become a better person, or [striving] for a better life.

Matthew's journey shows, step-by-step, how this young man who was declared by doctors "a vegetable" became alive again — a person who, today, truly enjoys music, loves playing piano and records CDs.

This young man constantly seeks new challenges. Matthew just returned from a cruise in the Caribbean with a group of people from the March of Dimes organization, where he accomplished yet another new challenge: swimming in the ocean off Coco Cay Island in the Bahamas.

Dreams are possible if you allow yourself to believe that they can happen.

Outcomes/Objectives:

"Hope Never Dies"