

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOYOTA SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE HEAD INJURY ADMINISTRATORS AND UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN CONCUSSION NAVIGATOR APP

The National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA) is pleased to announce a significant grant from Toyota Motor North America through its Way Forward Fund. This multi-year initiative, launched by Toyota, is dedicated to strengthening access to care and injury recovery support for individuals and their families, with an initial emphasis on children with traumatic brain injuries (TBI).

[NASHIA](#) is partnering with the University of Michigan (U-M) Concussion Center and Injury Prevention Center, Brain Injury Educational Consulting, LLC, Brain Injury Association of Michigan, and EdTechables to develop the Concussion Navigator App. This innovative digital tool aims to provide evidence-based concussion management resources for recovery, catering to parents, guardians, and students. The app will incorporate a digital version of [REAP®](#), a community-based model for Concussion Management, authored by Dr. Karen McAvoy of Brain Injury Educational Consulting. It will also include an interactive map of concussion resources and specialty care clinics in Michigan developed by the [University of Michigan](#). The [Brain Injury Association of Michigan](#) (BIAMI) will help ensure that the app considers the needs of Michiganders. [EdTechables](#) will develop the app. The effort will be in coordination with the Center on Brain Injury Research and Training who is also developing app-based content for long-term recovery of pediatric brain injury in Texas, to ensure the content of both efforts meets the collective needs of the communities served.

Key features of the proposed Concussion Navigator App include:

1. **Comprehensive Education:** The app will incorporate evidence-based practices to deliver comprehensive and plain language education about concussion. It will provide step-by-step guidance for youth and parents/guardians to successfully navigate the concussion and return to school/learn and return to play processes through REAP.
2. **Interactive Geo Map:** The app will feature an interactive geographic map displaying healthcare clinics providing concussion care across the state of Michigan. This will include information about the catastrophic & concussion insurance provided by the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) to ensure accessibility to resources for underserved communities.

Expected outcomes of the Concussion Navigator App:

- **Improved Recognition and Early Care Seeking:** Enhancing recognition and early care seeking for pediatric children/youth with concussion.
- **Increased Confidence:** Boosting the confidence of parents/guardians and youth to facilitate concussion management and empowering them to seek specialty care as needed.

- **Enhanced Resource Locating:** Improving individuals' ability to locate current state-wide resources, specialty concussion facilities, and self-identified concussion providers if specialty care is needed.

This digital platform will be developed with the capacity to scale nationally, allowing each state to provide specific information and resources tailored to its unique needs.

This collaboration represents a significant step forward in improving concussion care and recovery support for individuals and families, and NASHIA thanks Toyota's Way Forward Fund for its generous contribution to move this project forward.

For further information, please see Toyota's [press release](#) or contact Zaida Ricker at zricker@nashia.org.