

# Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Program P&A Grant Fact Sheet

## ARIZONA

Protection and Advocacy Grant: 10/1/09 – 9/30/13

<http://www.azdisabilitylaw.org>

### **Federal TBI Program**

More than 3.17 million Americans live with a disability as a result of a traumatic brain injury (TBI). Many of these individuals and their families are confronted with inadequate or unavailable TBI services and supports. Passage of the Traumatic Brain Injury Act of 1996 (PL 104-166) signaled a national recognition of the need to improve state TBI service systems. The Act authorized the Health Resources and Services Administration to award grants to State Protection and Advocacy (P&A) Systems for the purpose of planning and assessing the States' P&A responsiveness to TBI issues to ensure that P&A services will be delivered appropriately to individuals with TBI and their families.

### **P&A System**

Arizona Center for Disability Law

### **AZ P&A's Grant History**

Since 2002, Arizona has received ten Federal TBI Protection and Advocacy Grants of approximately \$50,000+ each, for a total of \$515,184.

### **Grant Objectives**

1. Provide materials, both in English and Spanish, so that individuals with TBI have better access to information on their rights to services.
2. Conduct trainings and outreach events on the rights of individuals with TBI.
3. Collaborate with State and local agencies to disseminate materials on services to individuals with TBI and their families.
4. Advocate for systemic change that increases access to medically necessary services for individuals with TBI.
5. Challenge the actions of local educational agencies that result in ongoing or systemic failure to provide appropriate related services for children with TBI.
6. Challenge unlawful unemployment practices against individuals with TBI.

### **Progress**

- Provided training to more than 200 individuals during the past fiscal year
- Provided outreach and training to 2058 individuals with TBI and their families, and service providers during fiscal year 2010, including the Rays of Hope Conference in April 2010.
- Conducted an online survey to gather input into the project's goals and objectives for fiscal year 2011. Response rate was more than 50 percent.
- On January 26, 2010, conducting training on alternative guardianship to more than 100 participants, including 70 family members of children with TBI.

### **Continuing Effort**

Arizona Center for Disability Law will continue to implement its grant objectives and provide advocacy for individuals with TBI and their families in accessing services and supports to meet their needs.

### **For Further Information**

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<http://www.hrsa.gov/gethealthcare/conditions/traumaticbraininjury/>

Go to <https://tbitac.norc.org> for information on additional P&A TBI activities.