

Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Program P&A Grant Fact Sheet

ILLINOIS

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

<http://www.equipforequality.org/programs/tbi/>

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

Equip for Equality

IL P&A's Grant History

Since 2002, Illinois has received ten Federal TBI Protection and Advocacy Grants of an average of \$71,600 each, for a total of \$716,301.

Grant Objectives

1. Identify issues uniquely impacting people with TBI through outreach and EFE's Training Institute.
2. Provide information and referrals on TBI related issues.
3. Provide legal services and assistance in self-advocacy to eligible individuals with TBI in areas including employment discrimination, guardianship rights, community integration, special education, and protection from abuse and neglect.
4. Develop and provide trainings in disability rights to individuals with TBI, family members, and service providers in areas such as rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), special education, and voting.

Progress

- Continued to provide ongoing case related services for TBI matters.
- Continued to provide information and referrals addressing TBI inquires.
- Expanded outreach efforts and services to Illinois veterans with TBI, military families, and military/veteran service providers.
- Maintained a TBI web page on EFE's website.
- Maintained a successful collaborative relationship with EFE's TBI Advisory Council, a group consisting of individuals with TBI, family members, and service providers, who meet quarterly to collaborate on TBI related issues in Illinois.

Continuing Effort

Equip for Equality 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

P&A TBI Program

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Federal TBI Program

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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.