

Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Program P&A Grant Fact Sheet

LOUISIANA

Protection and Advocacy Grant: 10/1/09 – 9/30/13
<http://www.advocacyla.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

Advocacy Center

LA P&A's Grant History

Since 2002, Louisiana has received ten Federal TBI Protection and Advocacy Grants of approximately \$50,000 each, for a total of \$500,000.

Grant Objectives

1. Represent individuals with TBI in the areas of special education, abuse/neglect, financial benefits, rehabilitation, employment, self determination and community access.
2. Ensure that P&A services are known to individuals with TBI and their families.
3. Assess the needs of the TBI population and advocate for improved service delivery systems.
4. Participate in the continued growth of the chartered staff affiliate (BIALA).

Progress

- Continued leadership of the Brain Injury Alliance of Louisiana (BIALA) with a current membership of two hundred persons state-wide.
- Provided assistance to approximately two hundred fifty callers to the Brain Injury Hotline.
- Conducted outreach/training to four TBI support groups.
- Produced and disseminated quarterly newsletters to a combined audience of one thousand citizens with information about resources for persons with TBI in Louisiana.
- Provided I&R to forty individuals and direct representation to twenty four persons with TBI.
- Produced three annual TBI conferences in Louisiana with a combined audience of approximately five hundred consumers, family members and service providers.

Continuing Effort

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