

Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Program P&A Grant Fact Sheet

MAINE

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

Disability Rights Center of Maine

ME P&A's Grant History

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

Grant Objectives

1. Conduct outreach efforts to Maine citizens in at least four facilities.
2. Implement training and necessary policy, procedure, and practice changes in facilities where abuse, neglect, or personal rights violations are found.
3. Train the staff on consumer perspectives on treatment and on rights in at least one facility.
4. Include people with TBI in Olmstead planning to assure that individuals with TBI receive necessary supports in integrated settings.
5. Obtain housing in an inclusive setting in the community of choice for those who are forced to enter or remain in a living situation that is more restrictive than what the client wants and needs.
6. Develop a sustainable, interactive workshop to train people with TBI, their families, and guardians on self-advocacy skills and rights.
7. Develop and collect state-of-the-art training materials, resource information, and information on best practices to be made available to individuals with TBI and their families.

Progress

- Worked on Medicaid Waivers and other funding streams to expand capacity.
- Completed several trainings for multiple audiences, including support groups, in-home service providers, hospital ER staff and social workers, and the long-term ombudsman program.
- Started an ABI Council (Corrections and Transportation representation) last year.
- Handled and currently handling several abuse and neglect cases.

Continuing Effort

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