

Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Program P&A Grant Fact Sheet

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

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

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

Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc (NMPASI)

MP P&A's Grant History

Since 2002, the Northern Mariana Islands has received ten Federal TBI Protection and Advocacy Grants of approximately \$20,000 each, for a total of \$200,000.

Grant Objectives

1. Refer 100 percent of individuals with disabilities, including those with TBI, to appropriate agencies and/or programs to receive necessary services and will represent 100 percent of those eligible for protection and advocacy services.
2. Train personnel on the issues surrounding the needs of individuals with TBI.
3. Develop a brochure describing the TBI Protection and Advocacy program and other information relevant to issues surrounding the needs of individuals with TBI.
4. Compile, develop, and disseminate a comprehensive report with data regarding individuals with TBI in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Progress

- Assisted individuals in securing housing with appropriate accessibility features.
- Advocated for the renovation of private establishments to remove architectural barriers for individuals with TBI.
- Compiled data and developed a Needs and Resources Assessment through collaboration with the TBI Lead Agency with Federal TBI Program State Grant funding.
- Conducted workshops on TBI to increase awareness.

Continuing Effort

NMPASI will continue to implement the grant objectives and provide advocacy for individuals with TBI and their families in accessing services and supports to meet their needs. Public awareness presentations and workshops are scheduled in collaboration with the Department of Public Health.

For Further Information

P&A TBI Program

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Federal TBI Program

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

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