

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

## NORTH CAROLINA

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

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

Since 2003, North Carolina has received nine Federal TBI Protection and Advocacy Grants of approximately \$66,737 each, for a total of \$545,557. In 2007 the P&A was re-designated to Disability Rights North Carolina.

### **Grant Objectives**

1. Ensure that people with traumatic brain injury have access to healthcare facilities, programs and services (including effective communication).
2. Articulate the obligations of places of public accommodation to provide equal access to services under the ADA and implementing regulations.
3. Preserve funding for supports and services which allows people with traumatic brain injuries to stay in their homes.
4. Assist people with traumatic brain injuries in moving from restrictive settings to less restrictive community based settings.
5. Keep people with traumatic brain injuries safe in settings where they live, learn, and work.

### **Progress**

- Monitored three different facilities serving people with Traumatic Brain Injury including a large rehab facility and two group homes on a monthly basis with the goals of keeping people safe and effective and timely discharge planning.
- Collaborated with BIANC's Peer Ombudsman Program, attended TBI support group meetings state wide, introduced support group members to resources including the peer ombudsman and Disability Rights NC as the State's P&A.
- Provided materials and information to group members regarding services provided by the P&A and their individual rights.
- Collected information from the groups regarding barriers they have encountered with NC's service delivery system.

### **Continuing Effort**

Disability Rights NC will continue to work with NC's Statewide TBI Advisory Council and BIANC to shape the service delivery system for NC's TBI population including the development of a TBI waiver.

### **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.