

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

## NORTH DAKOTA

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

<http://www.ndpanda.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**

Protection and Advocacy Project

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

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

### **Grant Objectives**

1. People with TBI are at reduced risk of abuse, neglect & exploitation.
2. People with TBI live in the least restrictive community setting with appropriate supports, assistive technology, and services.
3. People with TBI who are involved in the criminal justice system will have appropriate supports and services to meet their disability-related needs.
4. Students with TBI will receive services consistent with their disability-related rights.
5. People with TBI have opportunities for meaningful employment, in their chosen field, at a fair wage.
6. People with TBI have the health care necessary for their disability related-needs.
7. People with TBI will have a voting system that is accessible in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access & participation as other voters.

### **Progress**

- Identified gaps in services and updated partner agencies on resources and activities during attendance at TBI Systems meetings.

- In collaboration with other TBI providers in ND, drafted legislation requesting training for educators and resource facilitation services for individuals with TBI and family members.
- Participated in quarterly meetings of the Interservice Family Assistance Committee designed to strengthen ties between military and civilian service providers.
- Distributed materials to County Veterans Services Officers throughout ND.
- Provided advocacy services to nine people during FY 2010. Seven cases were closed and resulted in positive outcomes for the client.
- Collaborated with public libraries to provide displays of materials related to TBI during Head Injury Awareness month in March.
- Dispersed "Elvin the Forgetful Elephant", a children's book about TBI to public libraries & elementary schools in ND, in collaboration with the Department of Public Instruction, the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, the Head Injury Association in ND and the Dakota Medical Foundation.

### **Continuing Effort**

ND P&A will continue to implement the grant objectives and advocate 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.