

Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Program P&A Grant Fact Sheet

NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

Disabilities Rights Center, Inc.

NH P&A's Grant History

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

Grant Objectives

1. Encourage the right to choice, self-determine and freedom from coercion and other harm such as undue control, abuse/neglect and inappropriate restraint/seclusion.
2. Address discrimination in public services, public accommodations and government funded services.
3. Facilitate access to necessary supports and services in the least restrictive, most integrated settings, including access to affordable transportation.
4. Provide access to quality education and other comprehensive and coordinated services to enable children with disabilities to lead healthy, independent and productive lives.
5. Advance the rights of people with disabilities to obtain employment and housing opportunities of their choice.

Progress

- Took the lead in the passage of SB 396 which restricts the use of restraint practices in schools and treatment facilities and establishes certain notification requirements regarding the use of such practices.
- Is conducting an ongoing investigation into a neuro rehabilitation facility.
- Legal Director is on the Board of BIA of NH
- Member of SB 112 Commission which produced recommendations leading to legislation to address individuals with brain injuries with complex behavioral challenges
- Reduced exclusionary practices of schools and ensured equal educational opportunities for students with disabilities.

Continuing Effort

Disabilities Rights Center, Inc. will continue to implement its grant objective 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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<http://www.hrsa.gov/gethealthcare/conditions/traumaticbraininjury/>

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