

Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Program P&A Grant Fact Sheet

PENNSYLVANIA

Protection and Advocacy Grant: 10/01/09-09/30/13

<http://www.drnpa.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 Network of PA (DRN)

PA P&A's Grant History

Since 2002, Pennsylvania has received ten Federal TBI Protection and Advocacy Grants for an average of \$71,248 each, for a total of approximately \$712,481.

Grant Objectives

1. Protect and advocate for persons with TBI who are victims of abuse, neglect and rights violations.
2. Provide I&R, technical assistance or case services to individuals with TBI and, as appropriate, to their families.
3. Promote an array of quality consumer-controlled and/or consumer driven services to enable individuals with TBI to live and thrive in their own homes, schools, workplaces, and communities.
4. Provide outreach to at least 50 veterans with TBI, their families and VAMC staff who work with veterans with TBI in order to educate them about community based services for people with TBI.
5. Attend monthly meetings of PA CARES to educate attendees about PATBI services and other community based civilian services for persons with TBI.
6. Provide outreach to un-served and underserved communities.

7. Continue collaborations with other stakeholders serving the TBI Population in PA.
8. Create and use a cognitively accessible evaluation form for each outreach and self-advocacy presentation.

Recent Progress

Currently serving as Chair of PA CARES (PA Americans showing Compassion, Assistance and Reaching out with Empathy for Service members), working to identify services for veterans and their families.

Continuing Effort

DRN will continue to provide information on rights, resources and self-advocacy to individuals with TBI, their family members and interested professionals where appropriate. DRN will also collaborate with other stakeholders and other external advocacy organizations to ensure inclusion of TBI service issues in all planning processes and program designs.

For Further Information

P&A TBI Program

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

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