

Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Program P&A Grant Fact Sheet

UTAH

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

<http://www.disabilitylawcenter.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 Law Center

UT P&A's Grant History

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

Grant Objectives

1. Receive continuous feedback from the TBI community in the needs assessment and planning process through focus groups and collaboration with the TBI State Grant.
2. Invite participation of individuals with TBI in the governance of the Disability Law Center.
3. Provide high quality information, referral, and short-term assistance services to persons with brain injury.
4. Provide high quality legal services using the Issue Team structure.
5. Conduct case finding activities at the Utah State Hospital.
6. Conduct legislative advocacy.
7. Increase awareness of Disability Law Center services and legal rights among persons with brain injuries and the legal profession.

Recent Progress

- Assisted over 2072 clients with TBI since the inception of the program.
- Helped establish a state Traumatic Brain Injury Fund, after three years of sustained advocacy.
- Worked with the Utah Traumatic Brain Injury Fund Advisory Committee Board in awarding grants to three organizations that provide resource facilitation services to individuals with TBI and their families and helped establish a project that enables people with TBI to access neuropsychiatric evaluation at no cost.
- Participated in a taskforce of key individuals to discuss opportunities for Veterans and their families.
- Participated in the 2nd Annual TBI Task Force Resource Conference.
- Presented to approximately 250 professionals from rural and urban areas throughout the state.

Continuing Effort

The Disability Law Center continues to be an active member of Utah's Brain Injury Committee.

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.