

Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Program P&A Grant Fact Sheet

VIRGIN ISLANDS

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

<http://www.drcvi.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

Virgin Islands Advocacy, Inc. d/b/a
Disability Rights Center of the Virgin Islands

VI P&A's Grant History

Since 2002, the Virgin Islands has received nine Federal TBI Protection and Advocacy Grants of approximately \$20,000 each, for a total of \$180,000.

Grant Objectives

1. Train staff on TBI issues.
2. Interview health care and service providers to understand the services provided and their perception of the service barriers and issues for persons with TBI.
3. Conduct training on TBI and self-advocacy skills throughout the Territory using different media and popular community forums.
4. Support a consumer health advocacy group that supports to improve the quality of life for those with TBI.

Recent Progress

- Trained staff on TBI.
- Developed and disseminated TBI informational materials.
- Conducted training workshops with the Department of Health.
- Aired a TBI public service announcement.
- Held health education workshops at numerous community forums.

Continuing Effort

The Disability Rights Center of the Virgin Islands (DRCVI) will continue to implement the grant objectives 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.