

**Tennessee Department of Health
Traumatic Brain Injury Program
Annual Report**



July 2014 – June 2015

Traumatic Brain Injury Program 2014-2015 Annual Report EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1993, the Tennessee General Assembly passed legislation establishing the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program in the Department of Health. The TBI Program staff, with guidance from a nine-member, governor-appointed Advisory Council is charged with expanding and revising existing state plans and services for persons with traumatic brain injuries. The program has achieved many accomplishments since its inception. This report contains specific information concerning the progress made from July 2014 through June 2015 in each of the major components of the Traumatic Brain Injury Program.

In Tennessee, approximately 8,000 people per year are injured and admitted to the hospital with traumatic brain injury, a rate of 125 injuries per 100,000 people. TBI survivors can experience impairments that affect their physical, cognitive and behavioral functioning which in turn impacts their ability to return to home, school and work. Whether the injury is the result of a car crash, a fall, assault or sports activity, there can be an economic and emotional toll on the survivor and the family. The focus of the TBI Program is to improve services available to survivors of TBI and their families.

Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Council

The nine-member governor appointed Advisory Council has met quarterly since 1994. The Council is composed of individuals dedicated to improving the lives of TBI survivors across Tennessee. Their guidance and recommendations have been invaluable to the development of the TBI program.

Federal Grant

Beginning in 2000, the Traumatic Brain Injury Program was awarded a grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The TBI Program used the funding to develop an education and training program for school personnel. Entitled Project BRAIN, the overall goal of the grant project is to improve educational outcomes for children with brain injuries in Tennessee. Since the original grant award in 2000, the TBI Program has received a total of \$2,591,000 in federal funding, and \$900,000 from the Department of Education for matching funds.

Case Management

Service Coordinators are established in eight locations and cover all 95 counties, providing case management services to TBI survivors and their families. Services for children and adults include: providing information; making referrals to services and agencies; assisting consumers in applying for and accessing services; advocacy; support group development; and developing new programs and activities. The role of the Service Coordinator is to assess an individual survivor and to coordinate available resources within the community. The eight service coordinators are serving an average case load of fifty-four survivors. During FY15, the service coordinators collectively provided information on TBI to over 13,000 callers.

Directory of Program and Services

A comprehensive resource directory, *Traumatic Brain Injury Services Directory and Resource Information Guide* has been distributed statewide to health care facilities and TBI professionals and has served to increase awareness of the TBI program. The directory is also available on the program web site: <http://tn.gov/health/topic/tbi>

Traumatic Brain Injury Registry

Hospitals are mandated to provide information to the department and all are in compliance. Data is available starting from the first quarter of 1996. Analysis of the data allows staff to pinpoint where and how injuries are occurring, what age groups are affected, and enables the development of prevention programs. During 2014, the number of persons in Tennessee admitted to the hospital with at least one brain injury diagnostic code was 7,324 (provisional data). All Tennessee residents listed on the registry receive a letter and program brochure to inform them of the services available through the TBI program.

Clearinghouse

The TBI clearinghouse with a toll-free 800 number has been operational since 1994. Information is constantly updated on available programs and services across the state. A TBI brochure has been broadly distributed. The Program has a web page on the department website:

<http://tn.gov/health/topic/tbi>

Education and Prevention

The TBI program collaborates each year with the Brain Injury Association of Tennessee to present an annual statewide conference. The TBI Coordinator also participates on the Injury Control and Prevention committee which is currently developing a state plan for fall prevention.

Traumatic Brain Injury trust fund

The fund has been established by the Department's Bureau of Administrative Services and revenues have been deposited into the fund as they have been received.

Grant Program

The TBI Program is authorized to award grants for home and community based programs to address the needs of TBI survivors in Tennessee. The majority of the program revenues of \$1 million are allocated for grants. In FY15, services provided through grants included:

- The eight TBI service coordinators served an average case load of fifty-four survivors, assisting them with accessing local resources and programs.
- The eight TBI service coordinators collectively made 122 educational presentations to a total of 3,060 persons. They also provided 51 exhibits on brain injury that were seen by 25,684 participants.
- Supportive living services were available to nine survivors living in two affordable and accessible apartment facilities in Memphis. In addition, personal care services were available to 14 residents of Crumley House Brain Injury Rehab Center.
- Forty adult and youth survivors of brain injury attended camp sessions.
- Project BRAIN transition liaisons in three children's hospitals have assisted over 1,050 families in their transition from hospital to home to school.

Youth Sport-Related Injuries

In April 2013, the Tennessee General Assembly passed legislation aimed at reducing youth sports concussion and increasing awareness of traumatic brain injury. Both public and private school sports and recreational leagues are affected by the new law which covers all sports. The required educational materials are free of charge and readily available from the Tennessee Department of Health website: <http://tn.gov/health/article/tbi-concussion>

Conclusion

Although much has been accomplished, injuries persist. Work must continue to address the needs of all survivors in the state. The TBI Advisory Council extends their gratitude to the General Assembly for the opportunity to improve the lives of TBI survivors statewide.

**Tennessee Department of Health
Traumatic Brain Injury Program
ANNUAL REPORT
July 2014– June 2015**

In 1992, survivors of traumatic brain injury from across the state petitioned the Tennessee General Assembly to create a brain injury program within state government. In response to their eloquent testimony, the legislature established the Traumatic Brain Injury Program to address the special needs of survivors of brain injuries and their families.

In Tennessee, approximately 8,000 people per year are injured and admitted to the hospital with traumatic brain injury, a rate of 125 injuries per 100,000 people. An additional 50,262 emergency department visits were related to a TBI during 2013. TBI survivors can experience impairments that affect their physical, cognitive and behavioral functioning which in turn impacts their ability to return to home, school and work. Whether the injury is the result of a car crash, a fall, an assault or sports activity, there can be an economic and emotional toll on the survivor and the family. The focus of the TBI Program is to improve services available to survivors of TBI and their families.

This report contains specific information concerning progress made from July 2014 through June 2015 in each of the major components of the TBI Program as well as pertinent historical information. The TBI Program is housed in the Department of Health, Division of Community Health Services. Currently staff is comprised of a Program Director, A Statistical Analyst that oversees the TBI registry is housed in the division of Policy Planning and Assessment.

The enabling legislation calls for the establishment of a state TBI registry, a TBI trust fund and describes a number of duties for the Coordinator. Each of these areas is addressed by first citing the Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) followed by a description of activities and progress.

T.C.A. 68-55-102 & 103. Advisory Council established – Duties



The TBI Advisory Council was organized in accordance with the legislation to provide advice and guidance to the TBI program staff. The nine-member Council is appointed by the Governor and includes representatives from the Departments of Education, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Human Services and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. An additional member represents the Tennessee Hospital Association. Five of the nine members represent the category of TBI survivor, family member or primary care giver. The Council was organized in 1994 and has met quarterly since then.

During 2014-2015, the TBI Advisory Council was comprised of the following members:

Avis Easley, Chair, Departments of Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities
Lana Bennett, Survivor
Alicia Fitts, Family member
Wanda Gardner-Slater, Primary Care Giver
Alison Gauld, Department of Education
Mark Heydt, Tennessee Hospital Association
JoAnne Morris, Department of Human Services
Brian Potter, Primary Care Giver
Michelle Stanton, Survivor and Primary Care Giver

The duties of the advisory council are to advise the TBI coordinator, to make recommendations and perform other duties as necessary for the implementation of a state-wide plan to assist TBI persons and their families. The Advisory Council is composed of individuals dedicated to improving the lives of TBI survivors in Tennessee. Their advice and recommendations have been invaluable to the development of the TBI program. In 2014, Council members assisted in the development and implementation of a TBI Needs Assessment consisting of two survey tools. The final report is under study and will be used to develop a plan to address needs identified in the assessment.

T.C.A. 68-55-201. TBI Coordinator to be designated.

The commissioner shall create a full-time position within the department and designate a person as the TBI coordinator to supervise and coordinate the development, implementation and enhancement of a registry and services system for persons with TBIs and provide sufficient staff to accomplish the effect and intent of this chapter. The TBI coordinator shall, to the fullest extent possible, utilize the services of the advisory council in fulfilling the duties and responsibilities required by this chapter.

The current TBI coordinator (program director) has been in place since 1994, supervising and directing the program as described in this report. The program director consults with Advisory Council members on a regular basis to secure their advice and guidance.

T.C.A. 68-55-202. Duties. –

(a) The TBI coordinator shall:

(1) Aggressively seek and obtain funding, on an ongoing basis, from all available sources, including but not limited to Medicaid waivers and for expansion of the Medicaid program, private and federal funds needed to implement new state plans and services, and to expand and revise existing state plans and services for persons with traumatic brain injuries, including case management;

The TBI Coordinator continuously seeks additional funding from all available sources.

Medicaid Waiver: The TBI community continues to promote the idea of a TBI specific Medicaid waiver. The administration has indicated that TBI survivors may be eligible to participate in existing waivers for the elderly and disabled or through the TennCare Choices program.

Federal Grant award: Beginning in 2000, the Traumatic Brain Injury Program was awarded a grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The original three-year grant had as its focus the provision of education and training for educators, families and health professionals who support students with TBI. The grant project, entitled Project BRAIN, has the overall goal of improving educational outcomes for children with brain injuries in

Tennessee. In June 2014, the TBI Program was awarded a new four-year, \$241,000 per year grant to continue and expand the work of Project BRAIN. In June 2015, the grant award was increased to the anticipated \$250,000 level. Since the original grant award in 2000, the TBI Program has received a total of \$2,591,000 in federal funding, and \$900,000 from the Department of Education for matching funds.

Expansion of services: The expansion of services for TBI survivors is accomplished through the grants program as outlined in Section 68-55-402 below. In addition, program staff collaborate with other relevant agencies such as the Tennessee Disability Coalition, the Brain injury Association of Tennessee and the Epilepsy Foundation to improve services for all persons with disabilities in the state.

Project BRAIN has expanded their services by funding a transition liaison program in three children's hospitals across the state. The Brain Injury Transition Liaisons (BITLs) work in Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt in Nashville, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital in Memphis and Children's Hospital at Erlanger in Chattanooga.

TC Thompson BITL with hospital staff

A BITL follows up with families after they leave the hospital emergency department if their child has been treated for TBI. When families consent to receive follow up calls, they can also be supported by the Department of Education. During FY15, the BITLs served over 1,050 families.



Case management: There are currently eight Service Coordinators assisting TBI survivors and their families in all 95 counties through contract arrangements with various non-profit agencies. Each agency has established a Family Support Center in their respective area for the purpose of providing service coordination for children and adults with TBI. These services include: providing information, referring consumers to appropriate services and agencies, assisting consumers in applying for and accessing services, advocacy, support group development and the development of new programs and activities.



Service Coordinator secures grant for ramp



Service Coordinator Resource Center

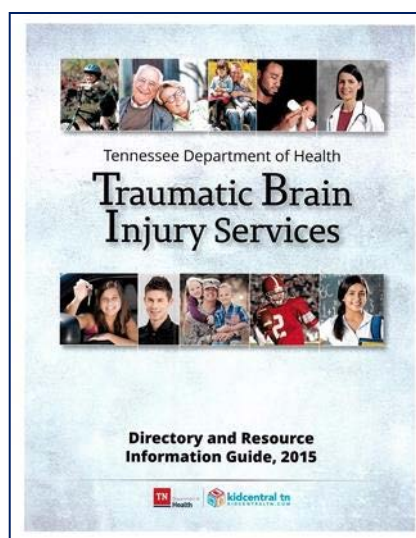
The role of the Service Coordinator is to work with the individual survivor to assess needs and to collaborate and coordinate resources within the community on behalf of the client. The eight service coordinators are serving an average case load of fifty-four survivors and families. During FY15, the service coordinators collectively provided information on TBI to over 13,000 callers.

Coordinator duties (continued)

(2) Seek funding, on an ongoing basis, and, in conjunction with other state agencies, prepare, coordinate, and advocate for state appropriations needed to fund and to develop services to implement the state plan:

The TBI Program Director and the Advisory Council seek funding on an ongoing basis. The composition of the Council, which includes representatives from the other state departments that also serve persons with brain injury - Education, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Human Services and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities - provides an opportunity for cooperation and collaboration.

(3) Identify available programs and services and compile a comprehensive directory of identified programs and services:



A comprehensive resource directory, *Traumatic Brain Injury Services Directory and Resource Information Guide, 2015* has been distributed statewide to health care facilities and TBI professionals and has served to increase awareness of the TBI program. The directory is also available on the program web site: <http://tn.gov/health/topic/tbi> The Directory underwent an extensive update this year that includes a new format.

(4) Provide technical assistance and define gaps in service delivery and spearhead the development of those services needed for a comprehensive system of service delivery;

In 2014, the Traumatic Brain Injury Program, working in collaboration with the TBI Advisory Council, planned, developed and distributed a Needs Assessment Survey of TBI services in Tennessee. The assessment was comprised of two survey instruments, one for survivors of brain injury and their families and one for providers of services in the state. The purpose of a survey was to define and measure the quality of services and to identify the gaps between minimum, desired and perceived service levels. The results of the needs assessment will provide a basis for Council recommendations to develop or enhance needed programs and services across the state.

The TBI office provides technical assistance as requested by consumers, families and providers. Examples include providing information on services and programs, referrals to rehabilitation programs and other types of facilities and making connections to support groups. The TBI office also conducts annual technical assistance site visits with all TBI contractors.

The Service Coordination project described above [TCA 68-55-202 (a)(1)] is designed to assist survivors and their families overcome the gaps in services in their communities.

(5) Implement, oversee and receive surveillance data from the Tennessee Brain Trauma Registry to use in developing and revising the state plan to meet the changing needs of this population:

The TBI registry data has been a valuable tool in documenting the need for TBI services and in program planning. Using data from the TBI registry made the critical difference in securing the original and most recent federal grant award that resulted in Project BRAIN. According to the registry, in 2012, there were 1,071 children and youth ages 3-21 in Tennessee who were admitted to the hospital as a result of a TBI. That same year, the Department of Education classified 307 students in the category of TBI. The discrepancy in the number of children identified through the TBI Registry in comparison to the number of children classified by DOE indicated a need for correct identification of students with TBI. Project BRAIN is designed to address that need.

The TBI Coordinator serves on the Department's Council on Injury Prevention and Control and is currently participating in the development of a state plan for fall prevention. The project is funded by a grant from the CDC. The TBI registry data is one of the data sources being used to develop the plan.

(6) Evaluate surveillance data regarding the quality of services provided and outcome and impact on the quality of life of this population, including reintegration and productivity in the community;

As noted in TCA 68-55-202(a)(5) above, surveillance data is limited. The type of information being collected in the registry does not include the quality of services provided. The TBI program at the Tennessee Rehabilitation Center provides reports on the outcome and impact of the quality of life of this population, particularly in community reintegration and productivity.

(7) Promote research on the causes, effects, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of head trauma injuries;

Service Coordinator exhibit



The development of the state registry and the resulting availability of statistics are directed toward encouraging research on the causes, effects and treatment of brain trauma injuries. The collection of all types of information on TBI through the clearinghouse will further identify areas for research development. Education and injury prevention activities for health care providers and the public provide baseline data for pursuing further investigations.

(8) Serve as a clearinghouse for the collection and dissemination of information collected on available programs and services. A statewide, toll-free telephone line shall be established and operated during normal business hours for the express purpose of providing such information to callers.

The TBI clearinghouse with a toll-free 800 number has been operational since 1994. Information is constantly updated on available programs and services across the state. Information is

available on service coordination, rehabilitation facilities, day programs, respite care, transportation and financial issues. To publicize the clearinghouse, a TBI program brochure has been broadly distributed. The Program has a web page on the department website: <http://tn.gov/health/topic/tbi>

(b) Utilizing the services and expertise of the advisory council to the greatest extent possible and in cooperation with the advisory council, the TBI coordinator shall:

(1) Develop a coordinated case management system, a short-term state plan, a long-term state plan, affordable and accessible home and community based services, and criteria to identify training needs and priorities for all persons serving TBI clients;

The case management system, known as Service Coordination and described in TCA 68-55-202 (a)(1) covers all 95 counties in the state. The Advisory Council and TBI coordinator have developed short term and long term goals and objectives for the program following the outline of the legislation. Efforts to provide affordable and accessible home and community-based services are on-going through the TennCare Choices program. Currently, the TBI program is providing personal care services on a limited basis through a contract arrangement in select facilities in Memphis and Johnson City. Training needs of persons serving TBI clients are identified and addressed at the annual statewide conference.

(2) Establish and provide for the centralized organization of a statewide family clearinghouse of information, including availability of services, education and referral to survivors, professionals, and family members during the early stages of injury in the acute hospital setting.

Through the development of the TBI Resource Directory and in establishing the TBI registry, contacts have been made in the hospitals where acute care is provided. The service coordinators have also developed referral relationships with their local hospitals. Copies of the updated Resource Directory are distributed to facilities statewide and awareness of the TBI Clearinghouse continues to increase. With the improved system of reporting to the registry and letters being sent to survivors, coupled with service coordinators in place across the state, information and assistance is available to survivors and family members in the early stages of injury.

(3) Assure statewide compliance with licensure, if any, and performance standards through regular service monitoring, site visitation, and self-appraisal;

(4) If licensure is required, monitor and update licensure requirements specific to this population;

The Department of Health oversees certification and licensure of health care facilities in Tennessee. The TBI Program coordinator works with appropriate staff to ensure licensure compliance and to monitor and update licensure requirements specific to this population.

(5) Seek funding and other resources to assure that state personnel working with this disability group are properly trained and provided, at least annually, an opportunity to attend formal or informal education programs through colleges, workshops, seminars, or conferences;



The TBI program collaborates with the Brain Injury Association of Tennessee in the planning and presentation of an annual statewide conference. In March 2015 at the 26th annual conference, keynote speaker Chris Nowinski,

author, co-founder and executive director of the Sports Legacy Institute and a former professional wrestler with World Wrestling Entertainment engaged the audience with his compelling presentation. A line-up of excellent speakers and a room full of informative exhibitors provided current information on brain injury issues for professionals, brain injury survivors and their families. Vocational Rehabilitation counselors are offered a discounted registration fee to encourage their attendance.

The TBI coordinator also participates on the Council on Injury Prevention and has planned and presented at the annual Injury Prevention Symposium. The TBI staff and service coordinators, as well as the Project BRAIN staff, regularly present at seminars and workshops, enhancing the ability of state personnel to meet the needs of survivors. During FY15, the TBI service coordinators collectively made 122 educational presentations to a total of 3,060 persons. They also provided 51 exhibits on brain injury that were seen by 25,684 participants.

(6) Ensure updates and compliance standards from the National Head Injury Foundation's quality standards committee are made available to professionals and providers, on a timely basis, to help educate providers and professionals regarding the latest technology available to this disability group;

In addition to regularly scheduled trainings and the annual conference, the TBI program has developed a TBI Community Listserv to provide information on the latest technology available for the TBI community.

(7) Oversee efforts to better educate the general public concerning the need for head injury prevention programs and the need for early intervention, including but not limited to, developing plans and programs for affordable post-acute rehabilitation services, long-term care programs, respite services, and day treatment programs to deal with those who have lifelong disabilities, as well as developing plans and programs to deal effectively with TBI students in the educational system;

The TBI Program collaborates with the Brain Injury Association of Tennessee to present an annual conference focusing on current topics including prevention and the need for early intervention. In addition, the TBI Service Coordinators provide prevention programs in their respective service areas. Project BRAIN, the HRSA funded grant project, is a program designed specifically to deal effectively with TBI students in the educational system.

Service Coordinator and helmet promotion



Information on post-acute rehabilitation services, respite services, and day programs are included in the TBI clearinghouse and the TBI Resource Directory.

Project BRAIN staff at conference



Project BRAIN seeks to link hospital and community health providers with school professionals for identifying and addressing the needs of students with brain injuries. A specially designed TBI curriculum, *Brain Injury 101*, is used to train educators, health professionals and families. Project BRAIN provides training in any school system in the state upon request.

(8) Work with vocational rehabilitation and other state agencies to offer incentives and to obtain cooperation of private industries to initiate on-the-job training and supported employment for TBI persons;

The TBI staff maintains a close working relationship with Voc-Rehab counselors and the TBI program at the Tennessee Rehabilitation Center in Smyrna. The comprehensive program provides job skills training and placement for approximately 45 students a year. The Voc-Rehab TBI program staff work with VR counselors located throughout the state. This helps promote incentives and obtain cooperation of private industry to initiate on-the-job training and supported employment opportunities for persons with traumatic brain injury. TBI staff is available to provide technical assistance as requested.

(9) Assist in obtaining grant funding and provide technical assistance for the Tennessee Head Injury Association (THIA) to develop policies and procedures to maximize self-determination and self-advocacy of a person suffering a TBI.

The TBI program is fortunate to have established an excellent working relationship with the staff and board of the Brain Injury Association of Tennessee (BIAT)(formerly THIA). In FY14 the TBI Program continued to support BIAT's work with survivors and their families. A grant from the TBI program funded a part-time executive director who acts as an advocate to improve funding for services benefiting TBI survivors. In addition, the Nashville Area Service coordinator is housed at BIAT. Having the service coordinator at the BIAT office allows a direct connection for BIAT callers, resulting in the survivors receiving services more efficiently.

The TBI Service Coordinators facilitate brain injury support groups across the state. These monthly meetings of the support groups provide a way to meet educational, social and emotional needs of survivors and families.

T.C.A. 68-55-203. Brain Trauma Registry -- The commissioner shall establish and maintain a central registry of persons who sustain traumatic brain injury. The purpose of the registry is to: (1) collect information to facilitate the development of injury prevention, treatment and rehabilitation programs; and (2) ensure the provision to persons with traumatic brain injury of information regarding appropriate public or private agencies

that provide rehabilitation services so that injured person may obtain needed services to alleviate injuries and avoid secondary problems.

The TBI registry is supported by a Statistical Programming Specialist in the Policy Planning and Assessment section. Data collection officially began with patients discharged during 1996. The hospitals complete a questionnaire for inpatients with specific ICD-9 diagnosis codes whose admission and discharge dates are different and for those individuals who died. Hospitals are required to report within six weeks of the end of the quarter. Patients seen in emergency rooms who were sent home the same day are not included in the registry. All hospitals in the state are currently in compliance with this legislation. The data enables staff to pinpoint the population being affected by brain injury and are used for injury prevention and health care planning. [See also TCA 68-55-202(a)(5)]

All Tennessee residents listed on the registry receive a letter and program brochure to inform them of the services available through the TBI program. In FY15, 5,174 letters were mailed. For many, the letter is the first link to information regarding needed rehabilitation services and programs.

According to 2014 provisional data, the number of persons in Tennessee admitted to the hospital with at least one head injury diagnostic code was 7,324. Accidental falls were the leading cause at 49% of all causes. A summary of registry data for 2013 is included as Attachment 1.

T.C.A. 68-55-401. Traumatic Brain Injury fund. -- There is hereby established a general fund reserve to be allocated by the General Appropriations Act which shall be known as the "traumatic brain injury fund" hereafter referred to as the fund. Money from the fund may be expended to fund the registry, the TBI coordinator position, and additional staff requirements and other expenditures and grants under the provisions of this chapter.

The fund has been established in the Department of Health and revenues have been deposited into the fund as they have been received. The Fund Balance as of June 30, 2014 was \$969,596.92. Funds are used appropriately to cover staff positions and to fund grants. The TBI Advisory Council is currently investigating additional options to utilize available resources to the benefit of TBI survivors.

T.C.A. 68-55-402. Grant Programs. -- From the revenues deposited in the traumatic brain injury fund, the Department of Health is authorized to provide grants to county and municipal governments and/or not for profit organizations for home and community based programs to serve the needs of TBI persons and their families. The department is authorized to establish such grant programs and to develop criteria for eligible applicants.

In accordance with the legislation, the TBI program has awarded numerous grants for a variety of projects since 1995. Examples include:

- Crumley House Brain Injury Rehabilitation Program in Johnson City expanded their day program to provide recreation, transportation and respite care to TBI survivors and their families.
- Mid-South Head Injury Association in Memphis and Brain Injury Association of Tennessee used grant funds to develop a comprehensive proposal to build affordable, accessible, supportive housing for forty-eight TBI survivors using HUD Section 811 grant dollars in Memphis and Nashville.
- The Division of Rehabilitation Services, Tennessee Rehabilitation Center in Smyrna created a specialized rehabilitation program for TBI persons.

- The Tennessee Emergency Services for Children Project received funds to improve the capability of 54 rural hospitals in the early management of acutely injured children.
- Centerstone Community Mental Health Centers, Inc. provided intensive in-home counseling and behavioral intervention for TBI students in 24 counties of middle Tennessee.

In FY15, grant awards provided the following services:

- Meritan provided personal care services for individuals with TBI who live in two accessible, affordable apartment buildings in Memphis.
- Crumley House Brain Injury Rehab Center offered respite and personal care assistance to TBI survivors.
- Easter Seals Tennessee provided camp and recreational opportunities for adults and youth with TBI.
- The Brain Injury Association of Tennessee employed a part-time executive director.
- The Tennessee Disability Coalition managed and implemented the HRSA grant that funds Project BRAIN.
- Grants for service coordination were awarded to:
 - Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center
 - Brain Injury Association of Tennessee
 - Regional Medical Center at Memphis
 - Epilepsy Foundation of Middle Tennessee
 - Crumley House Brain Injury Rehab Center
 - Chattanooga Area Brain Injury Association
 - Jackson Madison County General Hospital District

Part 5 Youth Sport-Related Injuries [Effective January 1, 2014.]

Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-55-501 to 503 (2013)

In April 2013, Tennessee became the 44th state to pass legislation aimed at reducing youth sports concussion and increasing awareness of traumatic brain injury. Both public and private school sports and recreational leagues for children under 18 that require a fee are affected by the new law. The law covers all sports. The TBI Program staff led the effort to convene an interdisciplinary team of experts to review materials and make recommendations. The required educational materials are free of charge and readily available from the Tennessee Department of Health website: <http://health.tn.gov/TBI/concussion.htm> Additional training choices were made available on the website this year.

Conclusion

The TBI Program is authorized to award grants for home and community based programs to address the needs of TBI survivors in Tennessee. The majority of the program revenues of \$1 million are allocated for grants. In FY15, services provided through grants included:

- The eight TBI service coordinators served an average case load of fifty-four survivors, assisting them with accessing local resources and programs.
- The eight TBI service coordinators collectively made 122 educational presentations to a total of 3,060 persons. They also provided 51 exhibits on brain injury that were seen by 25,684 participants.
- Supportive living services were available to nine survivors living in two affordable and accessible apartment facilities in Memphis. In addition, personal care services were available to 14 residents of Crumley House Brain Injury Rehab Center.

- Forty adult and youth survivors of brain injury attended camp sessions.
- Project BRAIN transition liaisons in three children's hospitals have assisted over 1,050 families in their transition from hospital to home to school.

Recommendations

Although much has been accomplished, injuries persist. Work must continue to address the needs of all survivors in the state, particularly in the areas of day programs, housing, long-term care, and rehabilitation. The TBI Advisory Council recommends that the legislature continue to support making home and community-based services available as an alternative to institutional care.

The TBI Advisory Council extends their gratitude to the General Assembly for the opportunity to work to improve the lives of TBI survivors statewide.