

FY2020 Recommendations for Federal Traumatic Brain Injury Act Programs:

| Department of Health and Human Services | FY 2017 | FY 2018 | FY 2019 | FY 2020 Recommendations |
|---|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Administration for Community Living Administration on Disabilities | | | | |
| AIDD P&A TBI Grant Program* | \$ 3 M | \$ 4M | \$ 4M | \$ 6M |
| ILA State Grant Program* | <u>\$ 6,321M</u> | <u>\$ 7,321M</u> | <u>\$ 7, 321M</u> | <u>\$19M</u> |
| Total | \$ 9.321M | \$11,321M* | \$11,321M* | \$25M |
| Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Center for Injury Prevention and Control | | | | |
| TBI Program | \$6.727M | \$6.727M | \$6.727M | \$ 6.727M |
| National Concussion Surveillance | -- 0 - | -- 0 -- | -- 0 -- | <u>\$ 5M</u> |
| Total | \$6.727M | \$6.727M | \$6.727M | \$11.727M |

*Historically, approximately 60% has been used for the State Grant Program, Technical Assistance Center and administrative costs for both grant programs, with the remainder awarded to State P&A services programs.

Background

The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program Reauthorization of 2018 (P.L. 115-377) authorizes funding to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for:

- State grants to improve access to rehabilitation and community services and supports;
- Protection and Advocacy (P&A) grants; and
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for surveillance, public education, and prevention activities.

The Administration for Community Living (ACL), Administration on Disabilities' Independent Living Administration administers the Federal TBI State Partnership Grant Program. ACL awards four-year grants to 24 States at either \$300,000 or \$150,000 annually to assist States in improving and expanding service delivery. The ACL Administration on Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities administers the TBI State Protection & Advocacy (PATBI) grant program, which awards grants to each State and Territory at a minimum of \$50,000.

The Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA) and the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA) support **\$19 million** to fund an **additional 22 State grants** for the following reasons.

1) ***TBI is the leading cause of death and disability in children and young adults in the United States.***

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that TBI is the leading cause of death and disability in children and young adults in the United States. Caused by a sudden jolt, blow or penetrating injury to the head, a TBI disrupts the normal function of the brain, resulting in problems with thinking, emotions, language, mobility, and sensory that affects how a person is able to work and live independently. Causes are attributed to motor vehicle crashes, falls, sports-related injuries, war-related injuries and violence.

2) Federal funding assists States in leveraging other resources to address the needs of individuals with TBI and their families, ***making the program a great investment.***

- Through its Federal TBI State Grant, Colorado assessed needs of individuals with TBI and available resources -- paving the way for legislation **establishing a brain injury trust fund**, largely through fines from traffic related offenses, **resulting in \$2.5M for services and supports**.
- Pennsylvania developed a **school re-entry program for children and youth with TBI**, which has continued by the **Department of Health and the Department of Education State**.
- Alabama developed the PASSAGES program, consisting of **service coordination for children and youth**, which has now continued through its Children's Rehabilitation Services program.
- North Carolina legislature provided **State match for a Brain Injury Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waiver**, developed as the result grant funding for assessing needs; obtaining data to support a waiver program; and educational awareness regarding the needs of individuals with TBI.

3) **As States undergo changes in their Medicaid long-term services and supports programs, individuals with TBI are at risk of being excluded from these State initiatives.** The Federal TBI State Partnership Grant Program helps States to focus on **the home and community needs of individuals with TBI and their families**.

Only 23 States administer 27 Brain Injury Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Programs, which range considerably in the number served and amount spent. In the Sept. 9, 2016 report, "Medicaid Expenditures for Section 1915(c) Waiver Programs in FY 2014," compiled for Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), **only 1.4% of total spending for the HCBS 1915(c) Waiver program is specifically for brain injury waivers**.

4) **States bear the costs of direct care and services, which many are experiencing revenue decline for services.** The Federal TBI State Partnership Grant Program is the **only federal resource to assist States** to develop "best practices" for administering public funded services and supports.

Almost half of the States have enacted legislation designating funding, usually associated with traffic fines and/or surcharges to vehicle registration and motor vehicle licenses, for an array of programs and services for individuals with TBI and their families. There is variability with regard to the amount generated and how the funds are used. And, at least two States do not have a fund generator. A few other States receive State appropriations to augment these funds or are the only funds that are appropriated.

5) **States need data to assist with planning for service needs and to address issues related to mild TBI (concussions).**

The National Concussion Surveillance System will be able to accurately determine how many Americans (children and adults) get a concussion each year, and determine what caused the injury. In addition, the results of a full-scale national system would inform and equip leaders within communities, States, and across America. This is keeping with the 2014 report and recommendations produced by the Institute of Medicine-National Research Council (IOM-NRC) Committee on Sports-Related Concussions in Youth.

The Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA) is the country's oldest and largest nationwide brain injury advocacy organization. The mission is to advance awareness, research, treatment and education and to improve the quality of life for all individuals impacted by brain injury.

The National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA) is a nonprofit organization comprised of State employees and others involved in service delivery to help individuals with TBI to live as independently as possible. NASHIA's mission is to assist States in promoting partnerships and building systems to meet the needs of individuals with brain injury and their families.

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