

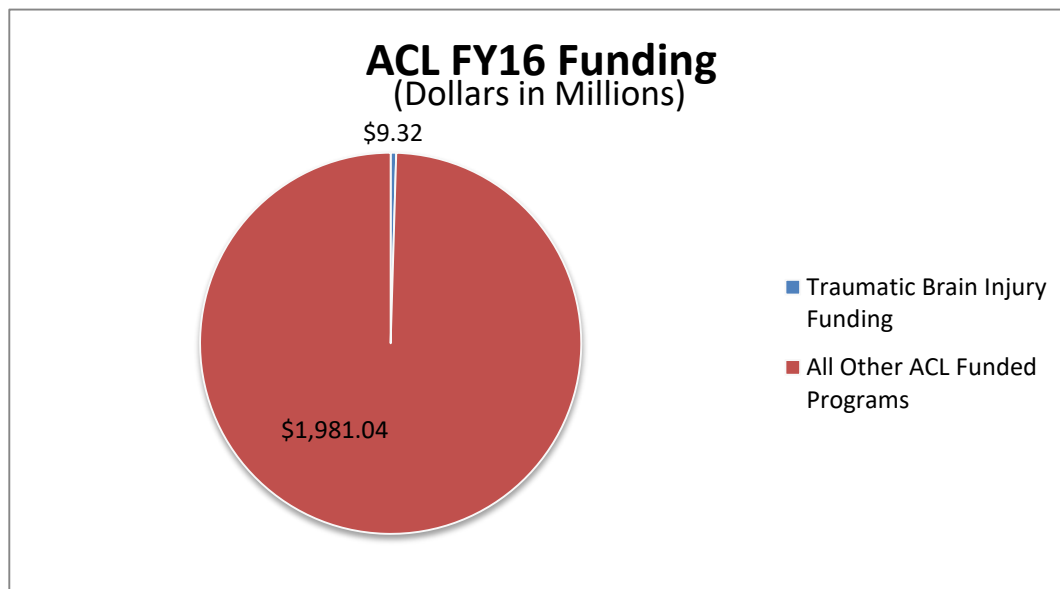
## Federal Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) State Grant Program: FY 2018 Appropriations Recommendations

Department of Health and Human Services	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017 Projected	FY 2018 Recommendations
<b>Administration for Community Living Administration on Disabilities</b>				
<b>AIDD P&amp;A TBI Grant Program*</b>	\$3M	\$3M	\$3M	\$ 6M
<b>ILA State Grant Program*</b>	\$6M	\$6M	\$6M	<b>\$11M</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9.321M*</b>	<b>\$9.321M*</b>	<b>\$9.321M</b>	<b>\$17M*</b>

*\*Historically, approximately 60% has been used for 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) Act of 1996, as amended, 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. The Administration for Community Living (ACL), Administration on Disabilities' Independent Living Administration administers the Federal TBI State Grant Program. The program funds 19 States at approximately \$250,000 annually for four years to target young children, youth, older adults or veterans through screening; professional training; Information & Referral (I&R) services; and resource facilitation, which may be identified as service coordination or case management in the State.

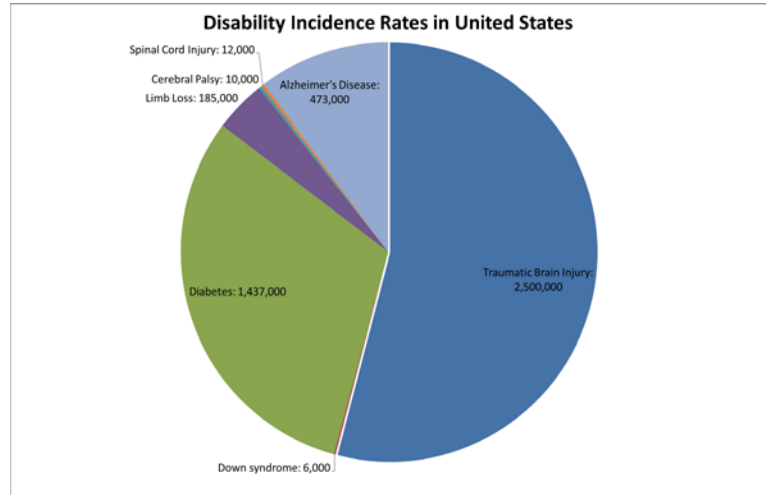


The Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA) and the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA) support **increased funding** in the amount of **\$5 million** for an **additional 20 State grants**, which would expand the total number of State grants to 39, for the following reasons.

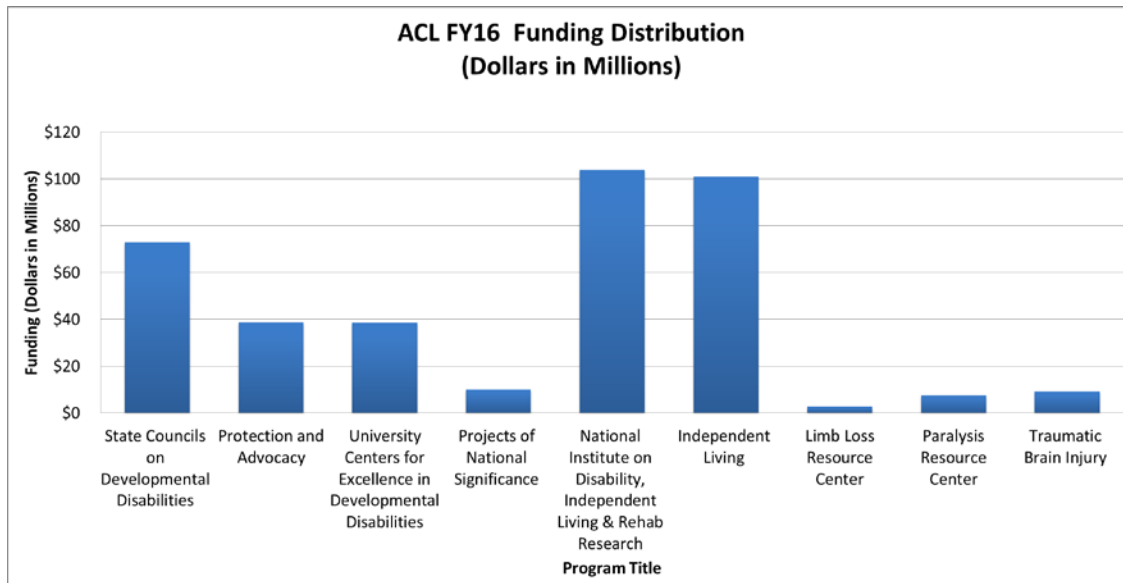
- 1) The program has continued to be level funded, yet **each year, an additional 2.5 million Americans sustain a TBI, including returning servicemembers, older adults and youth participating in sports.**

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.

<b>Down Syndrome:</b>	<b>6,000</b>
<b>Cerebral Palsy:</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>Spinal Cord:</b>	<b>12,000</b>
<b>Limb Loss:</b>	<b>185,000</b>
<b>Alzheimer's Disease:</b>	<b>473,000</b>
<b>Diabetes:</b>	<b>1,437,000</b>
<b>Traumatic Brain Injury:</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>



- 2) In comparison to other disability populations, **TBI is significantly underfunded in terms of the number of individuals each year who incur a TBI-related disability.**



- 3) 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 with **Department of Health and the Department of Education State funding**.
- Alabama developed the **PASSAGES program**, consisting of **service coordination for children and youth**, which has now continued through its **Children’s Rehabilitation Services program (Title V of the Social Security Act)**.
- North Carolina legislature approved and provided **State appropriations** for State match required for a **Brain Injury Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waiver**, developed as the result of the **Federal TBI State Grant** which provided funds for assessing needs; obtaining data to support a waiver program; and educational awareness regarding the needs of individuals with TBI.

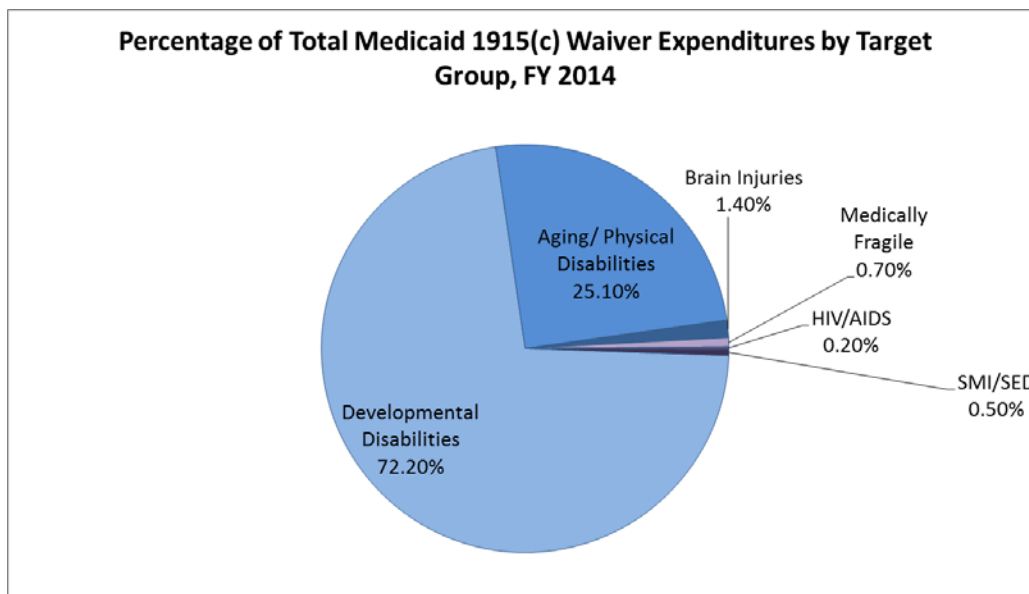
4) Conversely, States that **have had prior funding have been unable to sustain efforts**, especially those which have not received grant funding for several years.

In a 2015 NASHIA survey, States reported:

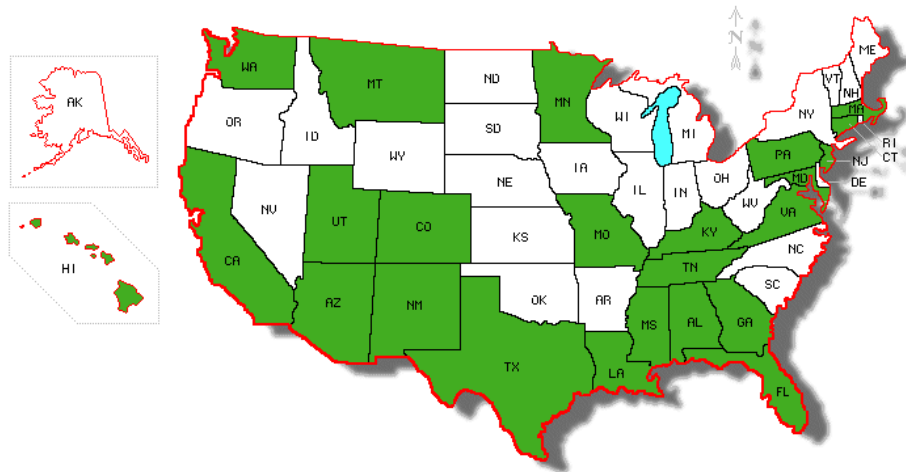
- Lack of grant funding has resulted in a loss of State leadership for TBI, collaboration and coordination among agencies to continue previous work – lack of assistance for individuals.
- Lack of grant funding has limited outreach to communities and the engagement with community leaders and residents to continue and expand efforts.
- Zero statewide work on pediatrics has since occurred.

5) **As States undergo changes in their long-term services and supports programs, individuals with TBI are at risk of being excluded from these State initiatives.** The Federal TBI State Grant Program provides the mechanism for States to focus on **the needs of individuals with TBI and their families** through the TBI Act requirement of an advisory board which conducts State planning and policy coordination.

**Only 23 States administer 27 Brain Injury Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Programs**, which range considerably in the number served and amount spent. States are now undergoing initiatives to collapse waiver programs and shifting the delivery of long-term services and supports to managed care corporations. 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 HCBS Waiver (1115(c) programs is specifically for brain injury waivers.**



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



Twenty-three (23) 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. At least \$86M is spent collectively for State administered programs using dedicated funding from trust funds, State revenue or both.

- 7) **States need coordinated resources to improve access to care, community living and supports in lieu of nursing home and institutional level of care!**

**BIAA and NASHIA support the Administration for Community Living (ACL) in developing a national plan to foster coordination and maximize federal resources** available through such programs as the ACL Lifespan Caregiver Program, home and community-based services (HCBS) initiatives, including the Aging and Disability Resource Centers, as well as in coordination with the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Defense, Education, Housing and Labor to assist with community living for both civilians and veterans. Without coordinated systems of care, individuals with TBI are often placed inappropriately into nursing homes, correctional facilities or become homeless. Families are the primary caretakers and when families are no longer able to care for these individuals, whether civilians or veterans, the families turn to the States for assistance.

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#### **About the Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA)**

The Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA) is the country’s oldest and largest nationwide brain injury advocacy organization. Our mission is to advance awareness, research, treatment and education and to improve the quality of life for all individuals impacted by brain injury. Through advocacy, we bring help, hope and healing to millions of persons living with brain injury, their families and the professionals who serve them.

#### **About the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA)**

The National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA) is a nonprofit organization comprised of State employees and other professionals, families and individuals with TBI 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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