SECTION 1

PROGRAMS & RESOURCES YOU NEED TO KNOW
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Use the links below to jump to a specific section.

Tennessee Programs

Tennessee Programs Financial

National Brain Injury Resources

We want to hear from you!
Complete our short survey to let us know how we’re doing.
Tennessee Programs

**Tennessee Traumatic Brain Injury Program:**
The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program was established by the Tennessee General Assembly to address the needs of those individuals who have sustained a brain injury, their families, and caregivers. TBI Program staff are available to respond to questions, make referrals and provide education and training. Initial contact with the TBI Program can be the first link in a chain of support for people with brain injury and their families.

- **TN Traumatic Brain Injury Service Coordination Program:** There are currently eight Service Coordinators located in various non-profit agencies across the state. The Service Coordinator's role is to work with persons with brain injury and their family to assess current needs. Service Coordination services are provided free of charge.
  - To learn more about service coordination please reach out to your local TBI Service Coordinator or call the TBI Hotline at 1-800-882-0611.
  - [https://www.braininjurytenn.org/services/service-coordinators](https://www.braininjurytenn.org/services/service-coordinators)

- **Tennessee Virtual Traumatic Brain Injury Support Group:** For more information about the virtual support group or meetings in your area, call the TBI Program at 800-882-0611.

- **Traumatic Brain Injury Resources Directory and Resource Information Guide, Tennessee Department of Health:** The guide "...was designed to assist in locating programs, organizations, agencies, and services available across the state of Tennessee and the nation." Note that not all resources are in this guide. Also, check your local area for practitioners who work with people with TBI and/or check with your regional Service Coordinator (see resource above).

- **Tennessee Brain Injury Listserv:** "The state of Tennessee Brain Injury Listserv provides state and national information on traumatic brain injury, resources, services and supports. If you would like to join the free listserv please reach out to Ashley.N.Bridgman@tn.gov to be added."

**Brain Injury Association of Tennessee (BIA of TN)**
BIA of TN is committed to improving the quality of life of individuals, families, caregivers, and healthcare professionals impacted by brain injury by providing critical information, education, support, prevention, and advocacy through community-based, state, and national resources.
**Chattanooga Area Brain Injury Association of Tennessee (CABIA)**

CABIA is dedicated to providing the highest quality services in order to prevent and increase the awareness of brain injuries and to achieve optimal outcomes for brain injury survivors. Further, we are committed to advocating on behalf of brain injury survivors and their family members in order for them to achieve the highest quality of life.

**Disability Rights Tennessee:**

Disability Rights Tennessee (DRT) is a nonprofit legal services organization that provides free legal advocacy services to protect the rights of Tennesseans with disabilities." They have limited areas of focus each year. See website to learn more.

**Statewide Independent Living Council:**

The Statewide Independent Living Council of Tennessee’s mission is to promote Independent Living philosophies, practices and values and expand IL services across the state.

**Tennessee Disability Pathfinder:**

Tennessee Disability Pathfinder ("Pathfinder") helps people with disabilities, their family members, educators, and other professionals find and access resources, support, and services available to meet their needs.

**Tennessee Technology Access Program (TTAP)**

The Tennessee Technology Access Program (TTAP) is a statewide program designed to increase access to, and acquisition of, assistive technology devices and services. Through its four core programs: Funding Assistance, Device Demonstration, Device Loan, and Device Reutilization, TTAP and a network of assistive technology centers help people with disabilities and their families find and get the tools that they need to live independent, productive lives where and how they choose.

- **Office Locator:** this link takes you to both community Tennessee Rehabilitation Centers and to Assistive Technology Centers by location.

**Tennessee Vocational Rehabilitation:**

Employment-focused supports for individuals with disabilities..."Individuals determined eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services work closely with a VR Counselor to develop an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) which outlines a program of services that leads to successful employment."
**Family Voices of TN (FVTN):**
Family Voices connects families with each other and community resources, provides experienced parent mentors, tools to navigate complex systems in healthcare and insurance and more. Serves families and children across all diagnoses and all ages. Call or email: 615-383-9442 familyvoices@tndisability.org

**Tennessee Respite Coalition:**
The Tennessee Respite Coalition’s mission is to enhance the quality of life for family caregivers through respite. They provide resources that enable caregivers to reclaim a little piece of themselves and restore balance to their lives and relationships. FAQs 615-269-8687.

**NAMI Tennessee (National Alliance on Mental Illness):**
NAMI Tennessee is a grassroots, non-profit, self-help organization made up of people with mental illness, their families and community members. We are dedicated to improving quality of life for people with mental illness and their families through support, education and advocacy.

**Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic Violence & Sexual Violence:**
The mission of the Coalition is to end domestic and sexual violence in the lives of Tennesseans and to change societal attitudes and institutions that promote and condone violence, through public policy advocacy, education and activities that increase the capacity of programs and communities to address such violence. For more information call 615-386-9406 or toll-free at 800-289-9018.

**Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services**

**Tennessee System of Care:**
“We help the child, youth, or young adult who: is between the ages of 0-21, is experiencing emotional or behavioral concerns that affect their daily life (i.e. having trouble in school, with their family, with peers or adults, with law enforcement, or children’s services), is having difficulty or is at risk of psychiatric hospitalization, residential placement, or DCS custody, is willing and interested in participating (if under age 16, includes family)”

Interested in learning more?
Visit Brain Links: [www.tndisability.org/brain](http://www.tndisability.org/brain)
TN TBI Program: [https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/fhw/vipp/tbi.html](https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/fhw/vipp/tbi.html)
Tennessee Programs
Financial

Tennessee Family Support Program:
Family Support funding may be available based on application and eligibility with a limit of up to $4,000. FAQs “Services are designed to be flexible and responsive to individual or family needs. Services might include but are not limited to: respite care, before/after care, day care, home/vehicle modifications, specialized equipment/repair/maintenance, nutrition/clothing/supplies, personal assistance, transportation, homemaker services, housing costs, health related costs, nursing, counseling, summer camp, and evaluation. The program funds services and needs that are not covered by traditional resources.”

Victim's Compensation Fund:
NOTE: you must apply for compensation WITHIN ONE YEAR after injury
Criminal Injuries Compensation (tn.gov)

Healing Heads Foundation:
Healing Heads Foundation’s mission is to provide match-grant funding to eligible Middle Tennessee brain injury survivors so that they can participate in rehabilitation.

Vista Points, Inc.
Vista Points, Inc. is a non-profit organization that acts as a trustee for special needs trusts. It also offers resources on establishing special needs trusts, educational programs, and referrals to attorneys to assist families with creating special needs trusts.

HelpHopeLive.org
We support community-based fundraising for people with unmet medical expenses and related costs due to cell and organ transplants or catastrophic injuries and illnesses.
National Brain Injury Resources:

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:**
Comprehensive site for Traumatic Brain Injury and Concussion resources: definitions, data, training and more.

**United States Brain Injury Alliance:**
Building state and national capacity to create a better future alongside individuals affected by brain injury. Currently 15 USBIA Chartered State Affiliates.

**Brain Injury Association of America:**
Comprehensive site with tools designed for people living with brain and service professionals, education and awareness, public policy, and more.

**Brainline:**
All about brain injury and PTSD with topics specifically for people with TBI, caregivers, professionals, military and veterans and children with TBI.

**Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey:**
Great resources (brain injury, concussion, sports concussion, living with brain injury, caregivers) for anyone including videos and webinars. BIANJ’s mission is to “improve the quality of life for anyone impacted by brain injury by providing support, advocacy, and information while promoting brain injury prevention.”

**Center for Brain Injury Resources and Training:**
Conducts research and training to improve the lives of children and adults with traumatic brain injury (TBI). CBIRT’s research focuses on developing interventions to improve outcomes related to education, employability, and quality of life. Our training activities promote the use of best practices among educators and other professionals who serve individuals with TBI.
Adverse Childhood Experiences, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
Adverse Childhood Experiences are not brain injuries, but they do result in developmental brain change. Having a number of ACEs make it more likely one will sustain a brain injury. The brain injury itself may have been an ACE.
Service Coordination Contact Information

CHATTANOOGA
Chattanooga Area Brain Injury Association
Contact: Lisa Morgan
(423) 602-7246
chattanoogabraininjury@gmail.com

MEMPHIS
Regional One Health
Contact: Carolyn Chambers
(901) 545-8487
cchambers@regionalonehealth.org

NASHVILLE
Brain Injury Association of Tennessee
Contact: Angela Pearson
(615) 955-0673
apearson.biat@gmail.com

SOUTH CENTRAL
Disability Rights Tennessee
Contact: Holland Camara
(629) 702-7729
HollandC@disabilityrightstn.org

UPPER CUMBERLAND
Disability Rights Tennessee
Contact: Rick Hall
(629) 702-7727
RickH@disabilityrightstn.org

KNOXVILLE
Patricia Neal Rehabilitation Center
Contact: Patty Cruze
(865) 331-1499
PCruze@CovHlth.com

JACKSON AREA
West Tennessee Rehabilitation Center
Contact: Jimmie Lee Morris
(731) 541-4941
Jimmie.Morris@WTH.org

JOHNSON CITY AREA
Crumely House
Contact: Fredda Roberts
(423) 257-3644 x 6
fredda@crumleyhouse.com

*Please note that service coordinators do not have access to your medical information.

Tennessee Traumatic Brain Injury
Service Coordination Program

Assisting people with brain injuries, their families and professionals

Tennessee Department of Health
Traumatic Brain Injury Program
710 James Robertson Pkwy, AJT
Nashville, TN 37243

1-800-882-0611

Tennessee Department of Health, Authorization No. 355600, 10,500 copies, January 2021. This public document was promulgated at a cost of $0.19 per copy.
What is Service Coordination?
The service coordinator’s role is to work with people with brain injury and their families to assess needs and coordinate resources and services within the community. Service coordinators have a clear understanding of brain injury and are knowledgeable of the resources available in their community. The service coordinator:

• develops a comprehensive plan of care;
• provides referrals to available resources;
• coordinates services for individual client advocacy; and
• bridges gaps in the service delivery system.

Professionals can receive technical assistance, resource information and education to better understand the unique needs of people with brain injuries.

Why is Service Coordination Needed?
Traumatic brain injury, or TBI, is a major cause of death and disability in the United States each year.

• Approximately 2.87 million TBI-related emergency department visits, hospitalizations and deaths occur each year.
• An average of 155 people in the United States die each day from injuries that include a TBI.
• Approximately 5.3 million Americans live with a TBI-related disability.
• Each year approximately 6,000 Tennesseans are hospitalized with a TBI.

Whether a brain injury is mild, moderate or severe, the effects can include a variety of cognitive, behavioral and emotional complications.

Those who survive a TBI can face effects that last a few days or a lifetime. The return home from a hospital or rehabilitation facility can result in a host of new challenges. Getting back to work or school, locating housing, securing transportation or even engaging in social activities may be difficult. Service coordinators collaborate and coordinate with available resources and services within the community and help to build a practical, community-oriented plan for a productive and independent life.

Scope of Services
All traumatic brain injury service coordinators provide the following services:

• offer information and education on traumatic brain injury;
• locate community-based resources;
• refer clients to qualified services;
• assist clients in applying for and accessing services;
• advocate in the area of individual/client rights and benefits;
• develop support groups; and
• assist or consult in the development of new programs and services.

Service Coordination Goal
The goal of service coordination is to improve the quality of life for people with brain injury and their families.
We are resolute in our vision that all persons with brain injury thrive within their communities.

**Support**
We connect brain injured individuals and their caregivers to available support resources in their community.

**Information**
Brain injury requires specialized care and individual services. We provide crucial information for informed decisions.

**Prevention**
Brain injury is often preventable. We provide education and opportunities to advocate for change.

**Sustainability**
We are committed to supporting the Tennessee brain injury population by accessing grants and donor development.

The voice of Help, Hope and Healing

Brain injury is not an event or an outcome. It is the start of a **misdiagnosed**, **misunderstood**, **under-funded** neurological disease.

Learn more at our website: BRAININJURYTENN.ORG
Service Coordinators

The journey of brain injury is life-altering. Tennessee TBI Service Coordinators can help find the resources for support you may need when returning to your community.

- Navigate and referrals to available resources
- Facilitate support groups
- Coordination of services
- Individual advocacy

This service is offered free of charge.

To connect with a Service Coordinator scan the QR code or visit BrainInjuryTenn.org
Thank You!

We’re here to help

Our mission is to bring together professionals to recognize the far-reaching and unique nature of brain injury and to improve services for survivors. If we can help you, please feel free to reach out!

Contact us:

tbi@tndisability.org

Check out out website:

www.tndisability.org/brain

Follow us on social media: