WHY IS THIS PROGRAM SO IMPORTANT? BECAUSE...
School is where children spend most of their time and their schools often provide a majority of their services.

Project BRAIN supports children & youth from hospital to home to school.

Building on a successful collaboration with TN Department of Education since 2000, Resource Specialists / Trainers (RST) provide brain injury education throughout our community.

Since 2010, Brain Injury Transition Liaisons (BITL) have been communicating between the hospital, home and school. BITLs provide education and supports for families and healthcare providers in the early identification of children with TBI

Connecting all school faculty and staff to evidence based resources and classroom materials

Raising awareness about TBI.

WHAT IS TBI?
The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act defines a traumatic brain injury (TBI) as an acquired brain injury caused by an external physical force, resulting in total or partial or functional disability or psychosocial impairment, or both, that adversely affects a child’s educational performance.

TBI is a primary cause of disability and death for children in the U.S. (CDC)

Each year, approximately 40% of TBIs in the U.S. happen to children. (CBIRT)

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- BITLs make individual phone calls to equip families with helpful tools.
- With the family’s permission, BITLs contact the student’s school.
- BITL communications open the door for the RST to offer additional supports and/ or trainings directly to the school.
- In hospital trainings, BITLs share the child’s experiences beyond the hospital doors and how “teachable moments” with the family could benefit their patients for a lifetime.

TDC has partnered with Comprehensive Regional Pediatric Centers in Tennessee: Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt in Nashville, Methodist Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital in Memphis and Children’s Hospital at Erlanger in Chattanooga.

Since this RTL process began, we have served over 6700 children!

WHAT IS PROJECT BRAIN?
BRAIN is a Resource & Information Network for educators, families and healthcare professionals who support students who have sustained a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

Thanks to a partnership between the TN TBI Program and the TN Disability Coalition (TDC), Project BRAIN (PB) receives federal grant funding from the Administration of Community Living (ACL), along with state funding from the TN Departments of Health & Education.

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BRAIN INJURY 101: SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH TBI IN THE CLASSROOM

Despite the high incidence among children and youth, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is sometimes thought to be a "low incidence disability" within educational settings. For that reason, Project BRAIN's training provides tools for everyone.

The primary objective of “Brain Injury 101” is to help people who support students with TBI understand the nature of brain injury and the unique needs of this group of children and young adults. Designed by experts in pediatric brain injury, "Brain Injury 101" includes:

- Definition of Traumatic Brain Injury/Concussion
- Considerations for planning of educational services, including information about local and national resources

During this interactive 90-minute session, participants will:

- Engage in problem solving activities
- Relate to examples of students experiences
- Visit user-friendly TBI/Concussion websites
- Prepare for teaching students with TBI/Concussion
- Connect to a network of ongoing supports for students and themselves

700,000 children ages 0-19 are seen for TBIs in hospital emergency rooms and released
60,000 children and adolescents are hospitalized annually with moderate to severe brain injuries
Approximately 145,000 children ages 0-19 are currently living with long-lasting, significant alterations in social, behavioral, physical, and cognitive functioning following TBI [https://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/pdf/tbi_report_to_congress_epi_and_rehab-a.pdf]

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: A Comprehensive HEADS UP Concussion site for Parents, Coaches, Medical Professionals, Schools and Students, that includes free and robust online training courses: [cdc.gov/headsup/index.html]

Returning to School After a Concussion: A Fact Sheet for School Professionals [cdc.gov/headsup/pdfs/schools/tbi_returning_to_school-a.pdf]

School-wide Concussion Management: Interactive site with downloadable resources for coaches, teachers, parents, and students: [brain101.orcasinc.com]

Get Schooled On Concussion: Written BY educators FOR educators focusing on one page fact sheets for teachers, administrators, school nurses, school mental health, counselors and parents: [getschooledonconcussions.com]

Tennessee Sports Concussion Law: TN Department of Health Concussion site with online training links, forms for coaches and parents/student athletes and link to the exact wording of the law: [tn.gov/health/article/tbi-concussion]

TENNESSEE TBI PROGRAM, TBI REGISTRY AND SERVICES
CALL TOLL FREE: 800.882.0611 [tn.gov/health/topic/tbi]

SCHEDULE A TRAINING FOR YOUR SCHOOL OR GROUP
CALL PROJECT BRAIN TOLL FREE: 888.643.7811

NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION? EMAIL US: tbi@tdisability.org
TO SCHEDULE A TIME TO CONNECT VIA PHONE, A SKYPE CALL OR SKYIKE VIDEO

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