

Brochures to Print or Order from the Website

- ABIN-PA Services
- Brain Injury Basics
- Building New Lives
- Changes in Your Loved One
- Children Require Rehabilitation
- Criminal Justice
- Customer Service
- Definitions
- Discharge Planning
- Domestic Violence
- Everybody Knows Somebody
- Families
- Financial Planning
- Healing Strategies
- Law Officers: Info & Strategies
- Medication Record
- Partnering with Professionals
- Planning Your Recovery
- Professionals You May Meet
- Public Benefits
- Rehabilitation
- Seniors
- Sports
- Suicide Prevention
- Telephone Book
- Veterans

Brain Injury Resources

- ABIN-PA InfoLine 800-516-8052
www.abin-pa.org
- Area Agency on Aging (phone book)
- BIAA Help Line 800-444-6443
www.biausa.org
- BIAPA Resource Line 866-635-7097
- Brain Injury Help Line 866-412-4755
(PA DOH free literature, books)
- CHIP 484-477-2948
(Children's Health Insurance Program)
- Disability RightsNetwork
(SpEd,TBI,SS) 800-692-7443
- Elks Nurses (PA) 814-781-7860
(care plan if disabled before 22)
- Head Injury Program 717-772-2762
(1 year of rehab, \$100,000 max)
- Health Law Project 800-274-3258
(help with public benefits)
- Legal Aid (PA) 800-322-7572
- Meals on Wheels www.mealcall.org
- Medicaid Waivers 877-550-4227
(Help at home, COMMCARE)
- Medical Assistance 866-542-3015
(some adults, all disabled children)
- Medicare Coverage 800-633-4227
(24/7 line, A & B in-home services)
- Medicare Denials 800-322-1914
- Social Security 800-772-1213
(survivors, disability, low income)
- Special Ed Consult Line 800-879-2301
- Special Needs Help 800-521-6860
(Medicaid rehab for children)
- Vocational Rehab www.dli.state.pa.us

STATUS OF BRAIN INJURY IN PUBLIC PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS



ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY
NETWORK OF PENNSYLVANIA
Office: 1-215-699-2139
Messages: 1-800-516-8052
Fax: 1-215-699-5139
Email: info@abin-pa.org
Website: www.abin-pa.org

General Guidance

Use the brochure “Arranging Rehabilitation for Children and Adults” as a guide for discussion and rehabilitation planning. Provide free copies of brain injury materials from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov.

Behavioral Health

When brain injury behavior mimics mental illness, misdiagnosis may result. A §302 leads to mental health treatment so arrange diversion to a brain injury facility for rehabilitation. Insist on medication by a neuropsychiatrist.

CHIP for children

For all children where family income exceeds Medical Assistance (MA) guidelines. A disabled child can have CHIP or MA (ignores family income).

Criminal Justice

25-87% of those in prison have had a brain injury—see www.cdc.gov. Incarceration does not reverse brain injury. Re-offending is inevitable if the cause is not addressed. Arrange diversion into a brain injury rehabilitation program or require accommodations under the ADA

Head Injury Program

Call 717-772-2762 to apply. Must be 21. Provides rehabilitation for one year or \$100,000. Those in Waiver Programs cannot apply.

Intellectual Disabilities

Those with an IQ below 70 prior to age 22 are eligible for two mental retardation waivers at age 3. If the cause was an accident, illness, or poisoning, brain injury rehabilitation is required to maximize recovery.

Juvenile Justice

Police contact should trigger a careful screening for a pre-existing brain injury. Impulsive behavior, inability to follow rules, and poor choices are characteristic of brain injury. See CHIP and Medical Assistance for brain injury rehabilitation.

Medical Assistance-MA

Disabled children, those on Social Security Survivors Benefits, and low income adults may qualify for MA. The Special Needs Unit at 800-521-6860 will help with children’s rehabilitation planning. Federal Medicaid law requires states to cover rehabilitation for children under 21 in §1396 D(r)(5). Parents must secure & appeal denials.

School

§504 accommodations, special education and related services up to age 21. Contact BrainSTEPS to assist your school: 724-944-6542.

Social Security

Includes SSD for workers, SSI for low income, Survivors Benefits. Medicare starts 2 years after SSD.

Substance Abuse

Those with brain injury are more likely to be or become substance abusers. Public substance abuse programs in the Department of Drug & Alcohol Programs and the Office of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services must accommodate the limitations of those with brain injury under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Waiver—COMMCARE

COMMCARE begins at age 21, requires a traumatic brain injury and provides brain rehabilitation but must re-open.

Waiver—OBRA

The OBRA Waiver serves those 18 or older if disabled prior to age 22 and provides brain injury rehabilitation but admission may still be suspended.