

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
Brain Injury & Spinal Cord Injury Services**

For State Fiscal Year 2007-08
(July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008)

When the 2004 General Assembly appropriated funds for brain injury services for State Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006 in Item 327.4 of the Appropriations Act, it also directed that

“...the Department of Rehabilitative Services (DRS) shall submit an annual report to the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees documenting the number of individuals served, services provided, and success in attracting non-state resources.”

The information contained herein constitutes the **2008 Annual Report** from the Department of Rehabilitative Services (DRS) to the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2008 General Assembly appropriated an increase of \$200,000 for brain injury services for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2009 (as well as an additional \$200,000 for SFY 2010). Since the early 1980's when it was designated in the Code of Virginia as the “lead agency” for coordinating services for people with brain injury, the Department of Rehabilitative Services (DRS) has recognized the need to develop, improve, and expand community-based rehabilitation services for Virginians with brain injuries, particularly in unserved and underserved areas of the state. The first appropriation of General Assembly funding designated specifically for brain injury services was made in 1989, when \$235,000 was awarded to Fairfax County. As funding for brain injury services began to increase in the 1990s as the result of increased advocacy on the part of the Brain Injury Association of Virginia (BIAV) and the Virginia Alliance of Brain Injury Services Providers (VABISP), the Division of Legislative Services (DLS) requested in 2004 that DRS describe a foundation or “footprint” of services that could be funded and established in unserved and underserved communities. These “core services” would serve as the initial infrastructure for a developing network of brain injury programs statewide. DRS worked collaboratively with the Virginia Brain Injury Council (VBIC) and the Virginia Alliance of Brain Injury Services Providers to achieve consensus on a footprint comprised of three core services: case management services for adults and children, clubhouse / day program, and regional resource coordination. General costs associated with these services were *conservatively* estimated at that time to be a minimum of \$150,000 for a clubhouse/day program model, and \$75,000 each for a case manager or a regional resource coordinator. Specific information about the “core services” is available through the DRS Brain Injury Services Coordination (BISC) Unit or on the DRS website. A link to the October 2007 report by the Joint Legislative and Audit Review Commission on “access to brain injury services in the Commonwealth” (discussed later in this document) is also available on the DRS website.

Through a SFY 2006 budget amendment, DRS was required to “consider the recommendations of the Virginia Brain Injury Council when disseminating new funds for brain injury services.” The Council has served as the advisory group to the DRS Commissioner since the late 1980s and also agreed to serve as the “official” advisory body for Virginia’s federal Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Planning Grant (1998-2000) and subsequent TBI Act Implementation Grants (2001-present). A statewide advisory group for brain injury is a requirement under the federal TBI Act funding. Through the 2004 budget amendment, the Council was given added authority to provide a recommendation or plan for dissemination of funding allocated by the General Assembly for brain injury services. Although DRS has always striven to work collaboratively with the Council in identifying effective approaches for dissemination of General Assembly funding, this relationship is now formalized.

No new programs were funded in SFY 2008 with the \$200,000 allocated by the General Assembly; however, funding was used to support and strengthen the state's infrastructure for the delivery of brain injury services. The plan submitted by the Council for dissemination of the SFY 2008 funding was approved by DRS with only minor changes. Funds were awarded to the nine (9) existing organizations which operate a total of (13) brain injury services programs statewide, using a formula based primarily on longevity of program funding and other considerations. Over 5,000 individuals with brain injury, family members, and professionals received services supported by state funding during SFY 2008. This includes 3,888 people with brain injury who received case management, clubhouse/day program, and regional resource coordination services, as well as 800 consumers and family members served through brain injury support groups statewide. Additionally, 2,600 people received Consultation, Education/Training & Information/Referral services through the state-funded programs (all state-funded programs are required to conduct and report these "community impact" activities). Note that these numbers do not reflect an additional 9,200 people who received the Brain Injury Association of Virginia newsletter and the 200,000 "hits" on the Association's website. These numbers reflect a breadth and depth of direct service, education/training, and consultation/information/referral that encompasses survivors, family members, and professionals across the state, resulting in enhanced quality of life for survivors and their families.

This report also does not include the "in house" programs administered directly by DRS (i.e., Brain Injury Discretionary Services Fund, Community Rehabilitation Case Management Services, Personal Assistance Services for People with Brain Injury, Vocational Rehabilitation Program and the Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center), which served approximately 1,200 people with brain injury during SFY 2008 (note that numbers served may be duplicated, as consumers sometimes receive services from more than one "in house" program, a contracted program, or a combination of internal and external DRS programs).

Table 1, below, shows the distribution of the total amount of funding (this includes pre-existing and new SFY 2008 funding in the amount of \$200,000 from the General Assembly appropriation) – as well as areas of the state served – during SFY 2007-08 (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008).

TABLE 1. Areas served and funding allocations for state-funded brain injury services in SFY 2008*

STATE-FUNDED PROGRAM	AREAS SERVED	SERVICES PROVIDED	EXISTING FY '08 FUNDING	NEW FY '08 FUNDING	TOTAL FY '08 FUNDING
Brain Injury Association of Virginia (BIAV)	Statewide; Tidewater; Harrisonburg; and Northern Neck	Regional Resource Coordination	\$284,693	\$10,786	\$295,479
Brain Injury Services, Inc. (BIS INC)	Northern Virginia	Adult Case Management, Supported Living	\$1,080,675	\$94,527	\$1,175,202
	Northern Virginia	Pediatric Case Management	\$140,000	\$9,095	\$149,095
	Fredericksburg	Clubhouse Program	\$183,999	\$11,901	\$195,900
Brain Injury Services of Southwest Virginia (BISSWVA)	Roanoke, New River Valley, Abingdon;	Adult and Pediatric Case Management	\$567,350	\$17,521	\$584,871
Community Futures Foundation (CFF)	Richmond	Clubhouse Program	\$150,000	\$9,745	\$159,745
	Newport News	Clubhouse Program	\$150,000	\$9,745	\$159,745
	Richmond / Newport News	Case Management	\$134,700	\$1,011	\$135,711
Commonwealth Support Systems, Inc. (CSS) / Didlake, Inc. [Didlake, Inc. purchased CSS on 1/1/08.]	Virginia Beach	Day Program	\$255,000	\$22,162	\$277,162
	Eastern Shore	Day Program			
Crossroads to Brain Injury Recovery (CBIR)	Harrisonburg / Shenandoah Valley (new program FY'07)	Case Management	\$134,700	\$1,403	\$136,103
MARC Workshop (MWS / BIS)	Martinsville / Danville (new program FY '07)	Case Management	\$134,700	\$1,403	\$136,103
Virginia NeuroCare (VANC)	Charlottesville	Clubhouse Program	\$150,000	\$9,745	\$159,745
Virginia Supportive Housing (VSH)	Richmond (Bliley Manor, new program, open FY '08)	Case Management (residential)	\$55,182	\$956	\$56,138
TOTAL:			\$3,420,999	\$200,000	\$3,620,999

**Primary use of SFY 2008 funding was to strengthen Virginia's infrastructure for delivery of brain injury services.*

HISTORY OF FUNDING OF BRAIN INJURY SERVICES

In 1989, the Department of Rehabilitative Services (DRS) was designated in the Code of Virginia as the “lead agency to coordinate services” for people with physical and sensory disabilities, including people with brain injury and/or spinal cord injury. The 1989 General Assembly also appropriated the first funding specifically designated for brain injury services: \$235,000 to Fairfax County for the development of a nonprofit organization that would provide contracted brain injury case management services in Northern Virginia. This resulted in the establishment of Head Injury Services Partnership (HISP), a nonprofit in Springfield, Virginia now called Brain Injury Services, Inc. The **DRS Brain Injury Services Coordination (BISC) Unit**, which manages specialized programs, services, grants and contracts for people with brain injury, was established by the agency in 1992.

Although funding for brain injury services has increased steadily – albeit slowly - since 1989, the most dramatic increases occurred during SFY 2004 and SFY 2005. SFY 2005 was an historic year for funding of brain injury services in Virginia, with a total biennial appropriation of \$1.9 million, representing the single largest allocation of state funding designated specifically for services to people with brain injury. Prior to the SFY 2008 appropriation of \$200,000, state funding of brain injury services increased an average of \$190,000 per year (from the initial allocation of \$235,000 in 1989 to a total allocation of \$3,620,690 in 2008). Although this report is for State Fiscal Year 2007-08, it is important to note that the General Assembly’s biennial appropriation also included an additional \$200,000 for SFY 2009 (a total of \$400,000 for the two-year period). Funding is intended to support the infrastructure of existing state-funded brain injury services programs. These recent increases are testament to the growing effectiveness of collaborative advocacy activities during recent years as well as increasing awareness of the critical unmet needs of Virginians with brain injury.

As a result of the SFY 2005 increase in funding (\$825,000), the DRS Brain Injury Services Coordination Unit managed a total of \$2,011,000 in programs/services for Virginians with brain injury, and a total of \$2,291,000 in SFY 2006 (this includes state general funds allocated by the General Assembly which are contracted out by DRS, but does not include state-funded programs administered “in house” by DRS). The SFY 2006 funding supported six organizations operating ten programs that provided direct services to approximately 3,300+ consumers with brain injury (this does *not* include indirect services such as information / referral; newsletters; and websites “hits”).

In SFY 2007, the total amount of funding increased to \$3,420,690 (again, this excludes state-funded programs administered directly by DRS). The SFY 2007 funding supported nine organizations operating a total of thirteen (13) programs statewide that provide direct services to approximately 5,145+ consumers with brain injury (this does *not* include indirect services such as information/referral, newsletters, and websites “hits”). Three new service programs were established during SFY 2007: one organization was newly *established* (Crossroads to Brain Injury Services in Harrisonburg), and two organizations *expanded* their existing programs to include services to people with brain injury (MARC Workshop in Martinsville and Virginia Supportive Housing in Richmond).

The SFY 2008 increase of \$200,000 supports nine (9) organizations operating a total of thirteen (13) programs statewide, ranging from the Eastern Shore, Middle Peninsula, and Tidewater to Central Virginia to Northern Virginia to Southwest and far Southwest Virginia. Table 1, above, lists the nine organizations and includes the area of the state served by the thirteen programs. Table 2 provides information on the number of people served, as well as the specific counties and cities served by the programs.

Again this year we were extremely pleased with the remarkable success of our state-funded programs in attracting “nonstate funds and resources.” This information, shown in Table 2 below, was of particular interest to the General Assembly and is a required section of this report. Note that even the programs newly funded in SFY 2007 achieved a level of success in their SFY 2008 efforts to increase nonstate resources for operation of their programs. As always, the smaller programs with less staff face a bigger challenge in working to attract nonstate funds and resources. They often struggle simply to operate their programs on a day to day basis, with not much time or resources to devote to fundraising or grant activities. Although programs are required to seek nonstate funds/resources through such activities, DRS recognizes that it takes time to develop staff and outside relationships that can provide needed skills and support to bring in needed donations, run fundraisers, write grants, etc.

During SFY 2007, the Joint Legislative and Audit Review Commission (JLARC) was directed to conduct a study on “access to brain injury services in the Commonwealth.” The findings in the JLARC report, released in October 2007, confirmed what brain injury advocates in Virginia have been saying for years: there is an ongoing need for services for people with brain injury in the Commonwealth, particularly for those with the most significant impairments living in unserved and underserved areas. The JLARC recommendations reinforce the legislative agenda of the Virginia Alliance of Brain Injury Service Providers, as well as many similar concerns expressed to DRS by the Virginia Brain Injury Council. Several issues highlighted in the report include the need for intensive, residential and community-based neurobehavioral treatment services for people with challenging behaviors which place them at risk of entering the criminal justice and mental health systems, as well as the need for a Brain Injury Medicaid Waiver (and the feasibility of targeting Virginia’s proposed Brain Injury Waiver to provide the neurobehavioral services just described). Several of the JLARC recommendations have been addressed. For example, JLARC recommended that the DRS Central Registry for Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury be eliminated and that DRS and the Department of Health work collaboratively to share information from the Virginia Statewide Trauma Registry (VSTR) on patients treated for brain injury and spinal cord injury. The DRS Registry was eliminated through a Code of Virginia change, effective July 1, 2008. The Code also mandated that Department of Health share any VSTR information on brain injury and spinal cord injury patients with DRS. During the past year, testing to accomplish this was completed successfully, and DRS is currently studying the most effective methods of outreach for individuals reported to the VSTR.

JLARC also identified as priorities the needs of returning soldiers and veterans, the incidence and needs of people with brain injury in the correctional system, and improving program evaluation for existing state contractors of brain injury services. DRS has been an effective member of a team led by the Department of Veterans Services (DVS) which launched Virginia’s Wounded Warrior program, funded by the General Assembly for SFY 2008 to address veterans’ mental health and brain injury issues. Regional services will be provided collaboratively among state and community service providers, including state-funded brain injury services programs. In addition, DRS has been working closely with the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and will be providing staff and financial resources through the Commonwealth Neurotrauma Initiative Trust Fund to conduct a study to identify the incidence of brain injury among juvenile offenders, as well as develop training for DJJ staff in appropriate treatment and intervention strategies.

Another important area identified by JLARC, program evaluation, continues to be addressed by DRS staff, through a web-based reporting and monitoring system (i.e., the Brain Injury Services

Programs SCORECARD). This reporting system is now being used successfully by all nine state-funded contractors since it went “live” in SFY 2007. Following a year of field-testing, additional changes and enhancements have been added so that the SCORECARD will become a truly effective tool for both DRS and the Brain Injury Services Programs. Finally, DRS is finalizing details for the development of a web-based case management software system for contractors which will promote consistent in service delivery and reporting. DRS will continue to work on implementation of the JLARC recommendations, as appropriate, during SFY 2008 and we look forward to reporting on our progress in the next year.

This has been a busy and productive year for brain injury service delivery in the Commonwealth. Funding for “infrastructure support” for existing state-funded programs not only increased in SFY 2008 by \$200,000, but the General Assembly approved another increase for SFY 2010. This reflects the growing knowledge and awareness of the critical needs of Virginians with brain injuries. The 2007 study by JLARC noted several recommendations for improving service delivery, but also found that services being provided were, for the most part, effective in assisting Virginians with brain injury.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that approximately 2% of the population nationally is living with the effects of a brain injury. It is estimated that over 150,000 people in Virginia may have a need for some level of support and assistance due to a brain injury. These figures show us that even at the current funding level of \$3,620,999 (which does not include the “in house” programs administered by DRS), there remains a large number of unserved survivors and family members across the Commonwealth. We look forward to working with our community partners to continue improving services in SFY 2009.

TABLE 2.
DRS Report for Fiscal Year '08 (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008)*

Geographic Location Served	Program Providing Service	Services Provided	FY '08 State Funding	FY '08 Number Served and Consultation, Education/Training, & Information/Referral	FY '08 Success in Attracting Non-State Resources
Statewide	Brain Injury Association of Virginia (BIAV)	Regional Resource Coordination <i>(Central Office Staff: education, awareness, support; annual conference; central resource library; information / referral)</i>	\$67,960 (23% of total funding of \$295,479)	800 served through support groups; <u>1,847</u> through Education / Training: (workshops, public awareness events, presentations); <u>168</u> through Consultation & Information / Referral; (this does <i>not</i> include <u>9,200</u> newsletters; and <u>203,099</u> website "hits")	Success Achieved <u>\$191,290</u> Donations/Contributions: \$150,853; Volunteer/In-Kind Services \$31,669; Donation of Equipment/Supplies \$8,768; (does <i>not</i> include DRS Federal Grant Subcontract \$118,600)
Region 10 - City of Charlottesville; Counties of Albemarle, Nelson, Fluvanna, Louisa, and Greene; surrounding areas with transportation	NeuroCare, Inc. (VANC)	High Street Clubhouse: <i>Clubhouse (5-day/week vocational, therapeutic social environment; daily attendance varies)</i>	\$159,745	<u>34</u> total Clubhouse Members served (<u>6</u> average daily census, though <u>8</u> were scheduled; total of <u>6,150</u> member hours); <u>96</u> Consultation, Education/Training, & Information/Referral	Success Achieved <u>\$7,113</u> Donations/Contributions \$406; Member Fees \$6,087; Volunteer /In-Kind Services \$620;
Fredericksburg and surrounding areas with transportation	Brain Injury Services, Inc. (BIS INC)	Westwood Clubhouse: <i>Clubhouse (5-day/week vocational, therapeutic social environment; daily attendance varies)</i>	\$177,900	<u>40</u> total active Clubhouse Members served (<u>15</u> average daily census)	Success Achieved <u>\$2,345</u> Member Fees / Billable Services \$2,345

Harrisonburg, Shenandoah Valley area	Brain Injury Association of Virginia (BIAV)	Regional Resource Coordination <i>(Regional Resource Coordinator: education, awareness, support, building coalitions, encouraging new services)</i>	\$50,231 (17% of total funding of \$295,479)	(See information under Statewide BIAV Regional Resource Coordination)	Success Achieved \$ <i>(See information under Statewide BIAV Regional Resource Coordination)</i>
	Crossroads to Brain Injury Recovery (CBIR)	Case Management <i>(Case Managers: adult/pediatric case management, consultation, school services, life skills, contract for services)</i>	\$136,103	<u>50</u> Case Management (<u>5</u> received Life Skills Training); <u>30</u> Consultation, Education/Training, & Information/Referral	Success Achieved <u>\$3,458</u> Donations/Contributions \$1,758; Volunteer/In-Kind Services \$1,700.
Lynchburg, Farmville, and surrounding areas	Brain Injury Association of Virginia (BIAV)	Regional Resource Coordination <i>(Regional Resource Coordinator: education, awareness, support, building coalitions, encouraging new services)</i>	\$59,096 (20% of total funding of \$295,479)	(See information under Statewide BIAV Regional Resource Coordination)	Success Achieved \$ <i>(See information under Statewide BIAV Regional Resource Coordination)</i>
Henry County, City of Martinsville, Patrick County, Pittsylvania County, City of Danville	MWS-BIS (independent department within MARC Workshop, Inc.)	Case Management <i>(Case Managers: adult/pediatric case management, consultation, school services, life skills, contract for services)</i>	\$136,103	<u>43</u> Case Management; <u>121</u> Consultation, Education/Training, & Information/Referral	Success Achieved <u>\$9,350</u> Donations/Contributions \$350; Volunteer/In-Kind Services; Donations of Equipment/Supplies \$6,500; Grants (local, pending) \$2,500

Newport News	Community Futures Foundation (CFF)	Denbigh House: <i>Clubhouse</i> (5-day/ week vocational, therapeutic social environment; daily attendance varies)	\$159,745	<u>36</u> total Clubhouse Members served (<u>13</u> average daily census)	Success Achieved <u>\$69,174</u> Local \$31,000; Fundraising \$5,200; Grants \$21,666; Member Fees \$3,500; Billable Services (Medicaid, DRS) \$7,808
Northern Neck, Middle Peninsula areas	Brain Injury Association of Virginia (BIAV)	Regional Resource Coordination <i>(Regional Resource Coordinator: education, awareness, support, building coalitions, encouraging new services)</i>	\$53,186 (18% of total funding \$295,479)	(See information under Statewide BIAV Regional Resource Coordination)	Success Achieved \$ <i>(See information under Statewide BIAV Regional Resource Coordination)</i>
Northern Virginia	Brain Injury Services, Inc. (BIS INC.)	Adult Case Management / ADAPT Clubhouse <i>(Case Managers / Clubhouse: case management, consultation, supported living, life skills, education / awareness, contract for services; clubhouse is 5 day/week vocational, therapeutic social environment; daily attendance varies))</i>	\$1,175,202	<u>406</u> Case Management; <u>37</u> total active Clubhouse Members; (<u>29</u> average daily census); <u>22</u> Supported Living; <u>238</u> Consultation, Education/Training, & Information/Referral	Success Achieved <u>\$617,031</u> Local Government \$295,725; Donations/Contributions \$9,997; Annual Campaign/Fundraising \$15,770; United Way \$24,262; Grants \$121,994; Member Fees/Billable Services \$26,116; Miscellaneous \$9,477; Volunteer /In-Kind Services \$113,690
		Pediatric Case Management <i>(Case Managers: case management, consultation, school services, life skills, education / awareness, contract for services)</i>	\$167,095	<u>77</u> Pediatric Case Management; <u>67</u> Consultation, Education/Training & Information/Referral	Success Achieved <u>\$15,970</u> Donations/Contributions \$15,000; Conference \$970

Richmond	Community Futures Foundation (CFF)	The Mill House: Clubhouse (5-day/week vocational, therapeutic social environment; daily attendance varies)	\$159,745	<u>45</u> Total Clubhouse Members (<u>17</u> average daily census)	Success Achieved <u>\$61,594</u> Local Government \$25,000; Grants \$10,000; Fundraising \$7,759; Member Fees: \$10,820; Billable Services (Medicaid, DRS) \$8,015
	Case Management (<i>Case Manager: case management, consultation, education/awareness, contract for services</i>)	\$135,711	<u>35</u> Case Management	Success Achieved <u>\$3,037</u> Fundraising \$3,037	
Virginia Supportive Housing (VSH)	Case Management (<i>Case Manager: case management to residents of two facilities, and an individual residence</i>)	\$56,138	<u>15</u> Case Management (Independent House residents: <u>6</u> ; Bliley Manor opened in FY '08: <u>8</u> residents; Individual in community: <u>1</u>)	Success Achieved <u>\$49,712</u> Donations/Contributions \$607; Rental income \$49,105	
Roanoke, New River Valley areas; far Southwest Virginia	Brain Injury Services of Southwest Virginia (BISSWVA)	Case Management (<i>Case Managers: adult/pediatric case management, consultation, school services, life skills, contract for services</i>)	\$584,871	<u>326</u> Case Management; <u>15</u> Volunteer Placements; <u>14</u> Life Skills Services; Consultation, Education/Training & Information/Referral: not reported.	Success Achieved <u>\$136,617</u> Local Government \$28,377; Donations/Contributions: \$25,470; Grants \$34,644; Fundraisers \$46,945; Miscellaneous \$1,181 Volunteer/In Kind Services: Not totaled as of July 30.

Tidewater (Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Eastern Shore, areas)	Commonwealth Support Systems, Inc. (CSS)	S.E.E.K.: <i>Day Program</i> (5- day/week educational, vocational, social activities: daily attendance varies)	\$139,775	<u>28</u> Total Active Day Program Members (<u>12</u> average daily census)	Success Achieved \$890 Donations/Contributions \$715; Donations of Equipment/Supplies \$175
		No Limits: <i>Day Program</i> (5- day/week educational, vocational, social activities, daily attendance varies)	\$137,387	<u>13</u> Total Active Day Program Members (<u>7</u> average daily census)	Success Achieved \$3,700 Donations/Contributions \$200; United Way \$1500; Donations of Equipment/ Supplies \$200; Volunteer /In-Kind Services \$1,800
	Brain Injury Association of Virginia (BIAV)	Regional Resource Coordination <i>(Regional Resource Coordination: education, awareness, support, building coalitions, encouraging new services)</i>	\$65,005 (22% of total funding \$295,479)	(See information under Statewide BIAV Regional Resource Coordination)	Success Achieved \$ <i>(See information under Statewide BIAV Regional Resource Coordination)</i>
SFY 2008 TOTAL STATE GENERAL FUNDS: \$3,620,999 ❖ SFY 2008 TOTAL NONSTATE RESOURCES: \$1,171,281					

* **Note:** The total amount of *new funding* for FY '08 allocated by the General Assembly for brain injury services was **\$200,000**.