



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT FOR AGING AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

KATHRYN A. HAYFIELD
Commissioner

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January 5, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Janet D. Howell
Chair, Finance and Appropriations Committee

The Honorable Luke E. Torian
Chair, House Appropriations Committee

FROM: Kathryn A. Hayfield 
Commissioner, Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

RE: DARS Brain Injury Services 2020 Annual Report

As the lead state agency for brain injury in the Commonwealth, the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) is pleased to submit this 2020 annual report. When the 2004 General Assembly appropriated new funding for brain injury services for State Fiscal Years (SFY) 2005-06 in Item 327.4 of the Appropriations Act, it also directed that

*"...the Department of Rehabilitative Services 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.**"*

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the report.

CM/KAH

BRAIN INJURY SERVICES 2020 Annual Report



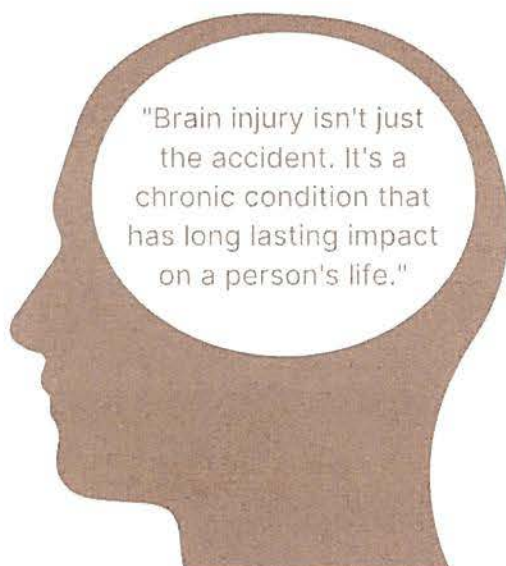
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR AGING
AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

A NATIONAL LEADER IN BRAIN INJURY SERVICES

Virginia has been a leader in supporting the needs of people living with brain injury and their families.



- The first state to establish a brain injury state registry in legislation (1984).
- One of the first states to establish a state brain injury advisory board (1986).
- One of the first states to designate a "lead agency" (DARS) to coordinate services for people with traumatic brain injury (1992 General Assembly).
- Home to one of the longest standing Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems program in the country which is based at Virginia Commonwealth University.
- Identified as one of the "Core 16" state traumatic brain injury grantees by the Federal Administration for Community Living (ACL) in 2016 and currently one of 10 Mentor State grantees.



2212 VIRGINIANS SERVED

(Unduplicated Count)

CASE MANAGEMENT

1327

Determine individual & family needs and wants, develop an individualized service plan with personal goals, and identify supports and resources needed to reach identified goals. Services may include in-home consultation and intervention, education planning, and oversight of services provided to the individual.

CLUBHOUSE/DAY SUPPORT

279

Work-related and socialization activities in a supportive, therapeutic environment. These programs provide a venue for survivors to participate meaningfully while benefiting from an educational, vocational, and therapeutic social environment.

PERSONAL ASSISTANCE

15

Assist individuals with a brain injury who do not qualify for personal assistance from any other source to perform daily living activities.

RESOURCE COORDINATION

1786

Outreach to Virginians hospitalized due to brain injury; information and referral; education / training; public awareness; and technical assistance for survivors, family members / caregivers, and professionals

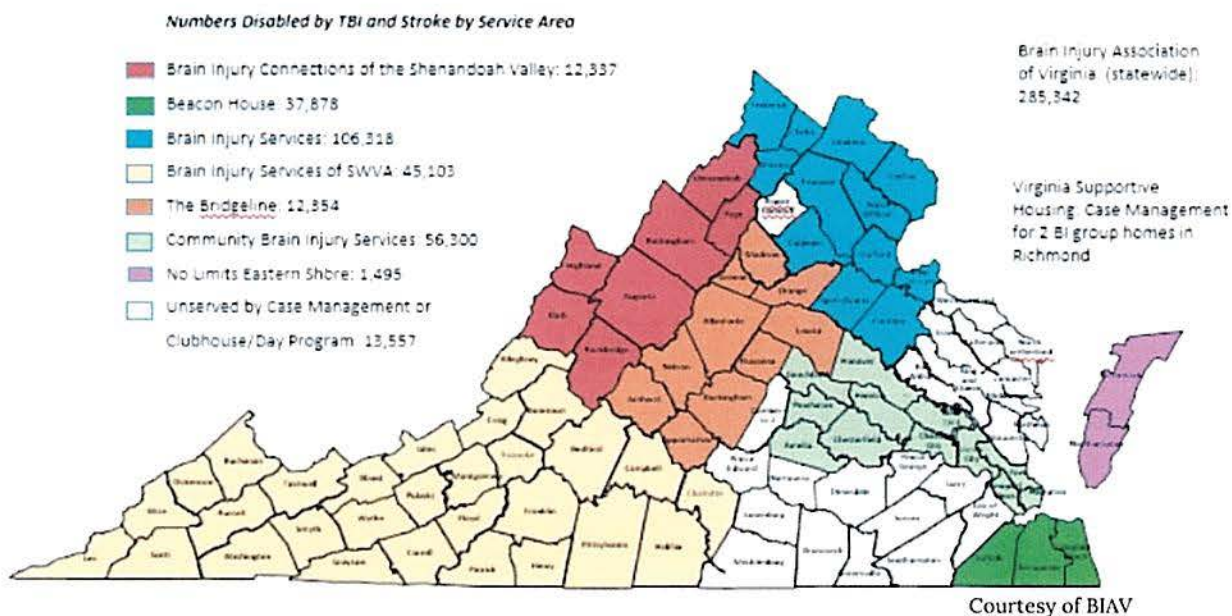
CONSULTATION & REFERRAL

963

Short term assistance provided to individuals with brain injury and/or their families seeking services and assistance without admission to one of Virginia's core services above.

SERVICE AVAILABILITY ACROSS VIRGINIA

Service Areas of State Funded Brain Injury Programs: Regions Served & Unserved



19%

of Virginia Counties
do not have access to
brain injury services

56

individuals with a
brain injury are
waiting for services

10

individuals received
residential traumatic
brain injury services
out of state

33%

of those served are
Medicaid eligible

426

new referrals to TBI
services in SFY20

40%

of those served are
people of color

COVID RESPONSE

Like other community based services, brain injury providers had to quickly adjust their services due to COVID-19.

By April, 2020, all programs had implemented virtual services and were providing them regularly.

As a group, the Alliance of Brain Injury Providers developed a risk assessment form to identify the needs of brain injury survivors and make sure no one was left without supports.

They distributed food, funds, gift cards, PPE, assistive technology, and tablets and hotspots to connect people to services. They talked to people through windows, on porches and in a variety of creative ways.

By late spring more than half of the programs had adapted their physical spaces to provide in person services in a safe manner, continuing to provide virtual services as well.

2643

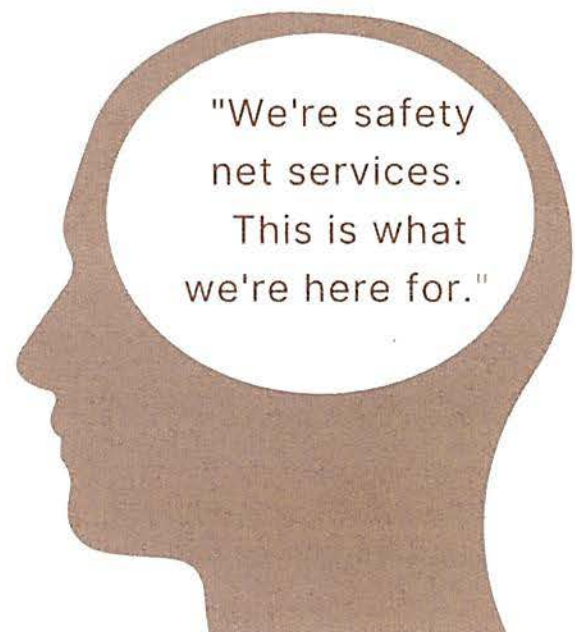
risk assessments
completed

2789

virtual services provided

149

people received PPE &
safety packages



STATE FUNDING FOR BRAIN INJURY SERVICES

Total State Funding	\$5,921,612
Core Services	\$5,596,612
Direct Services Fund	\$ 200,000
Personal Assistance	\$ 125,000

Direct Service Providers contributed
\$1,941,816
in local funds including service fees, donations,
fundraising, grants, and in-kind contributions.

Collaborations

- Brain injury service providers & DARS Vocational Rehabilitation staff to increase employment outcomes for brain injury survivors
- Brain injury service providers on the Peninsula and in Virginia Beach & the Eastern State Hospital Discharge Transition Team to provide consultation and services for individuals with TBI on the ready for discharge list.
- DARS Brain Injury Unit & DBHDS to provide training for 10 substance use clinicians in adapting services for individuals with brain injury.
- Brain Injury services providers and local Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT's) to provide training and consultation.
- Community Brain Injury Services and the Brain Injury Association of Virginia with the Virginia Dept. of Health as presenters in Project Echo.

VIRGINIA BRAIN INJURY COUNCIL

"The vision of the Virginia Brain Injury Council is that Virginians with brain injury and their families will build a quality of life of their choosing."

<https://www.vadars.org/vbic.htm>

The Brain Injury Council advises DARS and the Commonwealth on the needs of Virginians with brain injury. The council makes recommendations to the DARS Commissioner regarding the development / delivery of brain injury services in Virginia, and carries out other duties and activities related to brain injury as requested or approved by the DARS Commissioner.

SFY2021 Priorities

The Brain Injury Council submits an annual letter to the Commissioner of the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services identifying its priorities for the coming year.

Current priorities:

1. Develop or facilitate the development of programs and policies that are needed by brain injury survivors and their caregivers. Priority services include Case Management, Community Based Crisis Services, Housing/Residential Support, and Caregiver Supports.
2. Address disparities across the Commonwealth that result in waiting lists for services and the absence of services in some areas.
3. Work actively and collaboratively with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) to improve data sharing and program planning between the agencies.

FEDERAL TBI GRANT

Virginia's current grant (June 2018 through May 2021) focuses on strengthening and expanding the system of services and supports that maximize the health, wellness, and independence of people with traumatic brain injury (TBI), family members, and support networks.

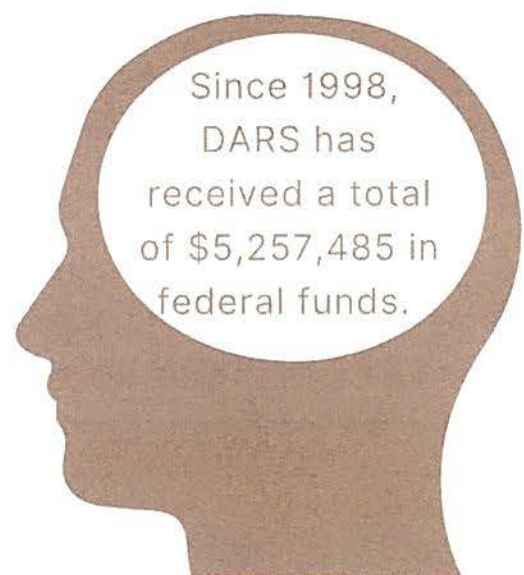
Federal TBI Grant Focus:

- Increase access to comprehensive and coordinated services / supports, with an emphasis on those with co-occurring TBI and behavioral health disorders
- Expand data collection and analysis efforts to support program decisions and increase access to services
- Increase the engagement and empowerment of Virginians with TBI and their families



Specific grant activities include:

- Strengthen the state TBI advisory council
- Improve community outreach to and involvement of brain injury survivors
- Provide survivor and family caregiver education and support
- Enhance the capacity of the brain injury service network
- Maximize access to and exchange of state level brain injury data



VIRGINIA'S BRAIN INJURY STAFF & PROGRAMS

DARS Staff
Kathryn Hayfield
Commissioner

Marcia DuBois
Deputy Commissioner, Division for Community Living

Carolyn Turner
Director for Disability Programs

Brain Injury Services Coordination Unit

Chris Miller
Director

Donna Cantrell
Federal TBI Grant
Specialist

Wanda Allen
CNI Trust Fund
Specialist

State Funded Providers

Brain Injury
Association
of Virginia

State Wide

Brain Injury
Services of
South West VA

South West VA

No Limits
Eastern
Shore

Eastern Shore

Brain Injury
Connections

Shenandoah
Valley

Community
Brain Injury
Services

Richmond Metro &
Peninsula

The Bridge
Line

Charlottesville
Area

Brain Injury
Services

Northern VA

Eggleston

Virginia Beach

Virginia
Supportive
Housing

Richmond