

## *Traumatic Brain Injury*

Traumatic brain injury (TBI), sometimes referred to as head injury or closed head injury, is defined as damage to the brain caused by external physical force, including acceleration/deceleration injuries. This does not include brain injury caused by a congenital causation, degenerative diseases, surgical interventions, or anoxia.

Each year in Colorado, 3,500 people have TBI. In the United States approximately 1 to 2 million people sustain a TBI every year, and more than 50,000 die as a result of their brain injury. Over 5 million Americans are living with a disability as a result of a TBI.

Every person and every brain is different, so every brain injury is different. Some TBI survivors will have only a few mild post concussive symptoms, and may improve over a short period of time (days to weeks), while others will have many severe symptoms that last for months to years, or are permanent. Many of these symptoms or problems are difficult to measure or quantify, making the diagnosis and documentation of TBI somewhat difficult. This in turn makes it difficult for TBI survivors and their families to receive the help they need.

The mission of the TBI Trust Fund is to help navigate through this difficult process and help assure that TBI survivors and their families are able to receive the help and services they need.

Brain Injury Association of Colorado  
4200 W. Conejos Place, Suite 524  
Denver, CO 80204  
[www.biaincolorado.org](http://www.biaincolorado.org)

*Colorado Traumatic Brain Injury Trust Fund*

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COLORADO DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES

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**For more information, please call  
The Brain Injury Association  
of Colorado at  
(888) 331-3311**

**Or visit our website at:  
[www.biaincolorado.org](http://www.biaincolorado.org)**

## *History*

The Colorado Traumatic Brain Injury Trust Fund was created by a bill passed by the Colorado State Legislature in 2002 to provide services for traumatic brain injury survivors of all ages.

The Trust is overseen by a volunteer board appointed by the Governor of Colorado.

The Trust Fund and the money it will grant come from several different funding sources. The bulk of the money is expected to come from surcharges on fines. These fines include: Driving Under the Influence (DUI), Driving While Ability Impaired (DWAI) and speeding tickets. For each DUI/DWAI the Trust Fund will receive \$15, and for each speeding violation, the Trust Fund will receive \$10.

The Trust Fund may also collect money from gifts, grants and donations.

**The Trust Fund's vision  
is to see that all  
Coloradoans affected by TBI  
will have access to available  
services needed**

## *Fund Distribution*

Of the monies for the Trust Fund:

- 65% go directly to services for persons with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- 30% go towards research related to the treatment and understanding of TBI
- 5% are designated for education about TBI to assist family members and providers

Funds will be divided into two categories:

### **Children & Adolescents (ages 0–20)**

### **Adults (ages 21+)**

- Care coordination services will be provided initially
- Additional services will be added as revenues permit

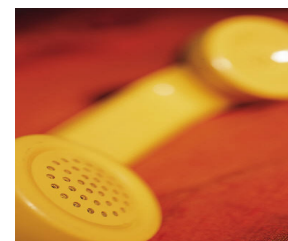
## *Eligibility Requirements*

1. Colorado resident.
2. Medical documentation of a Traumatic Brain Injury.
3. Ongoing impairment of cognitive or physical function as a result of a TBI.

## *Application Process*

If you meet the eligibility criteria and would like to apply for services:

- Call the Brain Injury Association of Colorado at **(888) 331-3311**  
OR  
Visit the BIAC website at [www.biacolorado.org](http://www.biacolorado.org)
- Applications for Children's services will be accepted beginning 6/1/04
- Applications for Adult services will be accepted beginning 9/1/04



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