



TBI SPP
Traumatic Brain Injury
State Partnership Program

Grantee Profile 2021-2026: Rhode Island

The Rhode Island Program is managed by the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) in conjunction with the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) (lead agency), and in partnership with the Rhode Island Governors Permanent Advisory Commission on Traumatic Brain Injury and the Traumatic Brain Injury Partnership Project Advisory Board.

Main Grant Aim: To promote a person-centered statewide system of services and supports that maximizes the independence, well-being, and health of Rhode Islanders affected by TBI.

Additional Aims

- Maintain the Rhode Island TBI Person-Centered Partnership Project (PCPP) infrastructure.
- Improve the Rhode Island TBI Registry.
- Explore the use of emergency medical services data for surveillance, as well as additional surveillance opportunities.
- Enhance the current State TBI Advisory Board.
- Update TBI State Action Plan.
- Develop a TBI Infrastructure Sustainability plan.
- Strengthen adherence with return to learn protocols.
- Conduct public outreach and awareness on TBI to provide support services for those affected by TBI.

Accomplishments/Outcomes

- Developed a Rhode Island Traumatic Brain Injury State Action Plan, Traumatic Brain Injury in Rhode Island Data Brief, and handout on "Resources for People Who Have A Concussion."
- Updated TBI Registry and onboarded one hospital system with four hospitals.
- Collaborated routinely with other state agencies regarding TBI.
- Funded a Part-time Brain Injury Navigator.
- Utilized Return to Learn, Remove/Reduce Educate Adjust/Accommodate Pace (REAP) Manual, and IMPACT testing statewide.

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Partners

- ❖ EOHHS 1115 waiver which includes services for Brain Injury
- ❖ Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island
- ❖ Rhode Island Office of Rehabilitation Services Vocational Rehabilitation Program
- ❖ Rhode Island Office of Healthy Aging



Advisory Council

The Governor’s Permanent Advisory Commission on Traumatic Brain Injury was established in 2005 and is located within RI’s Department of Health and Human Services. The council advises the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals, and RIDOH regarding the development of priorities and criteria for the disbursement of money in response to both individual requests and grant-seeking entities from the Traumatic Brain Injury Fund. The commission developed a report for the Governor and General Assembly on all matters relating to TBI in Rhode Island on March 28, 2023, a new report was sent to the Governor and heads of state agencies. The commission wrote a letter to Rhode Island hospital organizations about being in compliance with the TBI Registry.

Registry and Data

Rhode Island’s registry is managed by the RIDOH and maintains records related to TBI and Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) within 14 days of diagnosis. The registry:



- Describes the occurrence of TBI and SCI among Rhode Islanders.
- Detects trends of morbidity and mortality.
- Stimulates epidemiological research.
- Diminishes the impact of these injuries.
- Identifies survivors of these injuries in order to intervene on a timely basis for treatment.

A navigator provides supports, education, and resources to the individuals and to hospital discharge staff.

Service Delivery

Based on community members with TBI experience, family members, and agencies supporting them identify the following service gaps:

- Short-term homes/beds are needed as a step-down from inpatient rehabilitation to one's primary residence.
- Supported living services and residential services, Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy.
- Day treatment rehabilitation programs for adults, day centers for individuals with brain injury, to receive support from professionals (PT, speech, OTs, and SLPs) and to work on social skills, and respite care.
- Family counseling, housing, transportation, and neurology services for individuals diagnosed with brain injury.

Revenue for TBI-Specific Programs/Services

Fiscal Year	General Revenue Allocation
2018	\$115,000
2019	\$115,000
2020	\$115,000

Promising Practices

Using Public Health Workforce Funds, RI is partnering with the Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island to hire a resources navigator to support case management activities focused on brain injury. Activities include:

- Assessment of clients’ needs: physical, mental, emotional, and the development of a case plan to improve individual outcomes, including identifying immediate and long-term needs, options, and goal setting.
- Working with clients, family, friends, caregiver support networks, and health care professionals to carry out the plan.
- Facilitate group activities, individual sessions, including support group meetings.
- Provide crisis intervention, advocacy, and other support.
- Provide resources, information, and referrals as necessary.
- Develop collaborative relationships with interested parties.
- Create and distribute activity-specific education materials and collaboration with the education manager.
- Maintain accurate and timely records, demographic information, and prepare reports for compliance with contractual requirements.

