



TBI SPP
Traumatic Brain Injury
State Partnership Program

Grantee Profile 2018-2021: Colorado

The **Department of Human Services** is the lead agency responsible for administering the MINDSOURCE Brain Injury Network. The **Department of Health Care Policy** is responsible for administering the Brain Injury Medicaid Home and Community-based Services (HCBS) waiver program. And the **Department of Public Health and Environment** administers the trauma registry and surveillance system.

Main Grant Aim: Increase cross-system collaboration and improve the delivery of person-centered, well-coordinated services with input from individuals with TBI

Additional Aims

- Increase cross-system collaboration reflecting person-centered and culturally competent approaches through a statewide Advisory Board and state TBI plan.
- Improve linkage to services and supports for individuals with TBI by way of a TBI registry.
- Increase infrastructure/capacity of ACL partner states through mentorship/technical assistance.
- Improve state and service provider capacity through curricula and training materials.
- Enhance the criminal justice system to better identify and support individuals with TBI through judicial TBI training and a consultation model.



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Additional Aims (cont.)

- Increase service delivery options through a new comprehensive peer support program.
- Improve case management experiences for individuals with TBI through enhanced, person-centered approaches.
- Expand support for individuals with TBI through the Independent Living Centers.
- Sustain grant activities and enhance state capacity through increased revenue for the brain injury trust fund program by improving the collection of surcharges for traffic-related offenses by municipalities.

Accomplishments/Outcomes

- Initiated a new Advisory Board in July 2018 and produced an updated state plan in January 2020.
- Developed a partnership with the Office of Probation, resulting in the training of brain-injury specialists among probation staff in four judicial districts.
- Developed a peer mentorship program in varied regions of the state.
- Revised brain injury case management policies and procedures to incorporate more person-centered approaches.
- Conducted cross-training with the Centers for Independent Living and the brain injury case management program.

Advisory Council



The Colorado Advisory Board was initially established in 1998 and was mandated by executive order in 2000. In 2018 the advisory board was revitalized as a result of the ACL SPP grant. This board focuses on the development and implementation of the state plan on brain injury. This board continues today, composed of at least 50% individuals with lived experience.

Colorado also has a statutorily mandated Trust Fund Board that was established in 2002. This board has Governor-appointed and Senate-confirmed members, including at least two individuals with lived experience. The focus of this board is to advise the implementation of the Colorado Brain Injury Trust Fund.

Registry and Data



The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment administers the trauma registry and surveillance system. In general, the MINDSOURCE program uses the discharge data and prevalence data from research done by Craig Hospital to estimate that approximately 1 million Coloradans are living with a history of brain injury.

Legislative Accomplishments

In 2021, Colorado's Governor signed:

- S.B. 138, which permits the Department of Corrections to create a brain injury pilot program to determine whether a comprehensive brain injury program improves outcomes for offenders. The bill created a Department of Human Services task force – the [Brain Injury Criminal Justice System Task Force](#), which developed a plan to integrate into the criminal justice system a model to identify and support individuals with a brain injury who are in the criminal justice system.
- H.B. 1211, which directs local jails to use an adequate screening tool to complete a health screening, which would include serious neurocognitive issues, including TBI or dementia.

Service Delivery

Services, supports and resources specific to the needs of individuals with brain injury and their families are provided by the Colorado Brain Injury Trust Fund Program (MINDSOURCE Brain Injury Network) and the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Brain Injury HCBS Medicaid Waiver program, which started in 1995; both programs have since expanded eligibility to include individuals with non-TBI. The Department of Education, Office of Special Education offers resources, training, a website, and supports for educators and parents of school-aged children with TBI in collaboration with the MINDSOURCE Brain Injury Network, Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado (BIAC), and school districts.

Promising Practices

Screening and brain injury supports protocol have been implemented with multiple judicial district/probation offices and jails throughout Colorado. A Symptoms Questionnaire (SQ) has been developed and automated to use with people screening positive for lifetime history of brain injury. A completed SQ results in a set of tailored tips for people with brain injuries and strategies for criminal justice and community mental health practitioners.

MINDSOURCE has benefitted from a new partnership in the area of behavioral health supported employment as a result of a 7-month pilot involving screens of applicants for Individual Placement and Support (IPS) services. Findings from the pilot may open more vocational programming doors for increased screening of brain injury: the program demonstrated that one in three IPS clients have previously undetected brain injury.

Revenue for TBI-Specific Programs/Services

Fiscal Year	General Revenue* Allocation	Trust Fund** Allocation
2018	\$450,000	\$2,484,987
2019	\$450,000	\$2,262,746
2020		\$2,255,559

* Expand services to non-TBI.

** Includes funding for research; services, information & referral and care coordination; and administration/staff.

