



TBI SPP
Traumatic Brain Injury
State Partnership Program

Grantee Profile 2021-2026: **North Dakota**

The **North Dakota Department of Human Services (DHS), Behavioral Health Division (BHD)** is the lead agency for brain injury services and is responsible for providing resources and assistance to individuals with TBI through Medicaid waiver programs and initiatives and through state appropriations. The North Dakota Department of Health (DOH) administers the state's trauma registry.

Main Grant Aim: An established, comprehensive system of support for people with TBI guided by a consumer driven state plan

Early Accomplishments

Passed legislation in 2021 increasing the survivor and family member representation on the state advisory council and was able to realign membership to have 50% voting representative be brain injury survivors.

Additional Aims

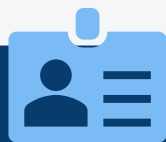
- Increase leadership role and person-centered engagement of the advisory council through training and facilitated council development.
- Establish a Brain Injury Voices program where individuals with brain injury and their family members are actively engaged in advocacy and outreach, providing their unique input across all aspects of the brain injury service system in North Dakota.
- Increase Native American referrals to the resource facilitation program and partner with tribal nations to enhance brain injury capacity and expertise through outreach and education and culturally specific materials.
- Partner with behavioral health and criminal justice providers to implement standardized screening and referral to resource facilitation protocols for brain injury and symptom management education.
- Expand access to brain injury educational materials and trainings to meet diverse needs of individuals, family members, and various technical levels of providers.

North Dakota Lead Agency Contact

Tami Conrad, Program Administrator
Behavioral Health Division
ND Department of Human Services
Phone: (701) 328-8733
Email: tconrad@nd.gov

Other Contact

Rebecca Quinn, Program Director
North Dakota Brain Injury Network
Center for Rural Health
Phone: (701) 777-5200
Email: Rebecca.quinn@und.edu



Advisory Council



The North Dakota Brain Injury Advisory Council was initially established in 2001 within the Division of Aging and, in 2017, was established in statute and assigned since to the Behavioral Health Division in DHS. The mission of the Advisory Council is to improve the quality of life for all individuals with brain injury and their families through brain injury identification, awareness, prevention, research, education, collaboration, support services, and advocacy.

Seventeen people serve on the council. Members are appointed by the Governor; one state representative is appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; one senator is appointed by the Senate President Pro Tempore; and several entities appoint non-voting members.

The council meets quarterly and advises DHS. The council also participates in activities to improve the quality of life for an individual with brain injury and the individual's family through brain injury awareness, prevention, research, education, collaboration, support services, and advocacy.

Service Delivery

Individuals with brain injury may be eligible for Medicaid and non-Medicaid services from DHS, which contracts with providers and other agencies for a range of services and supports that are funded with state appropriations or through the Medicaid program. Legislation passed in 2009 that directed DHS to provide outreach services and conduct public awareness efforts regarding the prevention and identification of brain injury and an array of services and supports. DHS contracts with the North Dakota Brain Injury Network (NDBIN) to provide information and support to individuals with brain injury and family members, and to assist them with navigating the service system.

During the 2019 legislative session, North Dakota lawmakers authorized the Department of Human Services (Department) to create a Medicaid 1915(i) State Plan Amendment. The amendment allows North Dakota Medicaid to pay for additional home and community-based services (HCBS) to support individuals with certain behavioral health conditions including youth and adults with brain injury. DHS also administers a Medicaid Waiver for HCBS for individuals who are elderly or have physical disabilities, including brain injury.

In December 2020, the State of North Dakota and the US Department of Justice reached a settlement agreement that outlines actions the state will take to expand access to home and community-based care services and enable individuals with physical disabilities, including brain injury, to live in the least restrictive setting possible.

Legislative and Other Accomplishments

- After 12 years, DHS was able to secure a new ACL TBI SPP grant
- NASHIA's Leading Practices Academy on Criminal and Juvenile Justice and Brain Injury (LPA CJ/JJ) establishing a state brain injury and criminal justice workgroup and screening process
- In 2018, established a Certified Brain Injury Specialist (CBIS) training program increasing the number of CBIS in the state from 4 to 75.
- Worked with state Aging Services Division service office to require 2 hours of online brain injury modules for direct care staff working with individuals with brain injury.

Revenue for TBI Information and Referral Programs/Services

Fiscal Year	General Revenue	Numbers Served
2018	\$276,747	172
2019	\$276,747	251
2020	\$276,747	269

