

NASHIA's March 2021 Brain Injury Awareness Month Campaign: This week's Spotlight is on Brain Week Rhode Island.



## NASHIA: Working Together Promoting Brain Injury Awareness Month

### This Week's State Spotlight: Rhode Island

During March, the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA) has featured articles about brain injury, including State resources, services and initiatives promoting awareness and service delivery. This last week of March, NASHIA features activities conducted in **Rhode Island** to promote Brain Week.

Many State programs/advisory councils, state brain injury associations or alliances, brain injury networks, providers, national organizations, and federal agencies celebrated Brain Injury Awareness Month by conducting virtual conferences, webinars, and distributed videos and information via Facebook posts and other communications. State Governors issued proclamations and State legislatures passed resolutions. Thanks to those who have shared these activities with NASHIA and a special thanks to those who have contributed to the weekly *Spotlights*. All the *Spotlights* are posted on the NASHIA [website](#), should you wish to view these publications.

In addition, if you missed the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force Awareness Day Briefing (virtual) held on March 3, you may view the recording and supporting materials [here](#).

Meanwhile, one more "TBI Tuesday" hosted by the Administration for Community Living (ACL) will be held next week on April 6. Please [register](#) in advance.



Rhode Island Department of Health Partners with "Brain Week RI" to Promote Awareness

The Rhode Island Department of Health has partnered with [Brain Week Rhode Island](#) as the major sponsor to bring brain health and injury awareness programs across the State. Every year in March, they partner up with universities, institutions, organizations, hospitals, and service providers across the State to bring a week of events centered around the brain.

The events are fun, relevant, educational, and free. Brain Week Rhode Island has had one mission, to share the wealth of neuroscience research happening right here in the Ocean State. This includes everything from basic research, to understanding how genes and circuits operate in the brain, to cutting-edge clinical work restoring lost function in people with neuromuscular disorders. They bring together experts in many fields to make brain science and brain health accessible for everyone.

By combining this science with our vast creative capital, BWRI showcases the work happening here, and promotes a growing biomedical economic sector that holds great promise for Rhode Island's future.

Also during the month of March, they held "Brain Talk: A Lunchtime Series" hosted by



This year, Brain Week RI created **BRAINY Adventures**, a series of lesson plans for DIY brain science experiments. These are ideal for teachers to use in the classroom or for parents at home. Topics range from the sensory systems to cognition and decision-making.

Dr. Pablo Rodríguez and Brain Week Co-Chairs over 3 days for a lunchtime blend of science and storytelling. The hosts interviewed experts, heard personal stories, and take audience questions. Topics included sleep, memory, language & many more!



## Rhode Island Department of Health Brain Injury Program

### About Rhode Island Department of Health's Brain Injury Program

Since 2002, Rhode Island Department of Health's Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIIPP) has worked on Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) prevention efforts. The program:

- **Tracks** the prevalence of traumatic brain injury in Rhode Island;
- **Identifies** survivors of traumatic brain injury and connect these survivors, their families and caregivers with appropriate community-based services and supports.
- **Maintains** the Rhode Island Traumatic Brain Injury Registry to drive prevention and statewide policy.
- **Informs** policy discussions and prevention intervention in early childhood safety, athletics, violence, elderly falls and general injury prevention.

Since 2007, Rhode Island law mandates a Traumatic Brain Injury Registry of traumatic brain injuries diagnosed in the emergency department or in an inpatient unit. Hospitals are mandated to provide information to the Department of Health on all individuals with brain injury within 14 days of diagnosis. Analysis of the Registry data allows staff to pinpoint where and how injuries are occurring, what age groups are affected, and enables the development of programs to prevent injuries.

The program provides information and resources, as well as partners with a number of organizations, including the Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island. Learn more by visiting their website.

Visit Rhode Island's website



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF STATE HEAD INJURY  
ADMINISTRATORS**

The National Association of State Head Injury Administrators assists State government in promoting partnerships and building systems to meet the needs of individuals with brain injuries and their families.

**Support States. Grow Leaders. Connect Partners.**

National Association of State Head Injury Administrators | Phone: 202-681-7840  
Email: [publicpolicy@nashia.org](mailto:publicpolicy@nashia.org) | [www.nashia.org](http://www.nashia.org)