



## *Technical Assistance for Juvenile Justice Agencies and Providers*

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) was awarded a traumatic brain injury (TBI) grant from the Administration on Community Living (ACL), the purpose of which is to address barriers to accessing brain injury services encountered by children, youth, and adults with TBI. Grant projects address information and referral services, professional training, screening for TBI, and resource facilitation. The DOH has partnered with the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania (BIAPA) to provide training, education, and technical support to juvenile justice providers in Pennsylvania related to the issue of brain injury among justice-involved youth. The project will run from 2018 – 2021.

The project's core strategy is to provide technical assistance and support to providers of juvenile justice services to improve their awareness of and preparedness to identify and support individuals with brain injury. Technical support can include any of the following; however, all technical support will be customized to meet the needs and goals of interested agencies:

***Education and Training:*** BIAPA can customize training for juvenile justice professionals and agencies. This can include brain injury basics (etiology, causes, impact of symptoms, and management of brain injury) as well as education on issues specific to the issue of brain injury in justice-involved populations, screening for brain injury, and/or brain injury interventions and supports. Training can be provided on-site, as a stand-alone event or in conjunction with other in-services or technical assistance activities.

***Screening for Brain Injury:*** BIAPA can work with juvenile justice providers to develop and implement protocols for screening for lifetime history of brain injury within their setting.

***Brain Injury Resources:*** BIAPA can link juvenile justice providers to available resources which can help the youth that they serve who are now identified with a brain injury. These resources can include school-based assistance, home and community-based services, vocational services, and even residential treatment options.

***Brain Injury Consultation:*** BIAPA can offer consulting services to assist juvenile justice providers to develop policies, processes and protocols for identifying and assisting youth with a history of brain injury as well as assist them to develop protocols for connecting youth to brain injury resources.

**For more information contact:**

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