

# Utah Traumatic Brain Injury Fund

## FY 10 Report to Legislature

### Overview

The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Fund was established in 2008 by the Utah Legislature as a restricted special revenue fund. The fund consists of gifts, grants, donations, legislative appropriations, and any other funding from private sources. The fund is administered through the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP). The fund monies may be expended to:

- Educate the general public and professionals on the treatment and prevention of TBI;
- Provide access to evaluations and coordinate short-term care to assist an individual in identifying services or support needs, resources, and benefits for which the individual may be eligible; and
- Develop and support an information referral system for persons with a TBI and their families.

### TBI Fund Advisory Committee

The legislation required a TBI Fund Advisory Committee be created with the purpose of recommending how the funds should be expended. Committee members were appointed by the UDOH Executive Director, Dr. David Sundwall, and represent individuals who are familiar with TBI, its causes, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, and support services.

The committee is staffed by the VIPP and continues to meet on a monthly basis.

### Outreach Efforts

Information on the TBI Fund continues to be forwarded to the different partners associated with the Utah Brain Injury Council. Several members of the TBI Fund Advisory Committee, as well as the VIPP staff serve on the Council. Additional public outreach efforts conducted include: news releases; television interviews; articles for the Brain Injury Association of Utah newsletter; and exhibits at other various conferences upon request from partners.

A web pg., [www.health.utah.gov/vipp/traumaticBrainInjury/tbi\\_trust\\_fund.html](http://www.health.utah.gov/vipp/traumaticBrainInjury/tbi_trust_fund.html), refers individuals to service agencies and answers inquiries from families on how the fund might help them. Meeting times and past meeting minutes are regularly updated as well.

### Contract Awards

During SFY 08, \$50,000 in one time funding was allocated by the legislature. As a result of this limited funding the Advisory committee agreed to focus efforts on resource facilitation. Resource facilitation is a process that helps individuals and families by providing consistent, ongoing, short term support to assist with problem solving, linking people in need with available and appropriate resources (such as information, services, and supports) to meet their goals, and assist with successful return to school, work, or community reintegration.

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A request for proposals was issued through State Purchasing in late August and agencies were notified of contract awards by late September. The awards include:

- Brain Injury Association of Utah (\$11,942)
- Phoenix Services (\$10,958)
- Intermountain Health Services Inc. (\$12,336)

## Goals

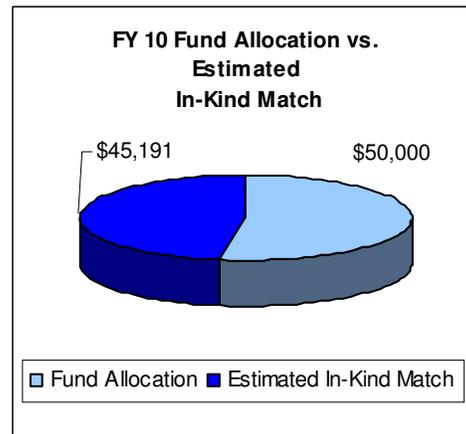
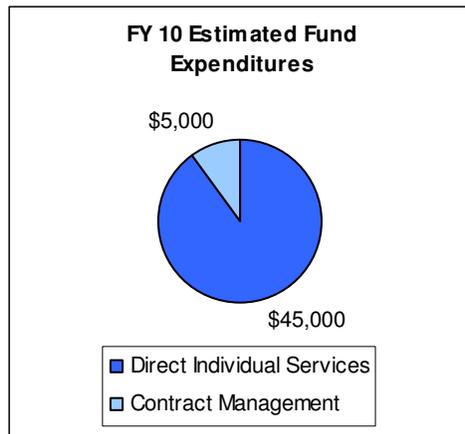
Plans were suspended for a short time during the 2009 legislative session when this allocation was subject to cuts and as such all contracts were put on hold. In April however work resumed and as of August 31, 2009 (the first reporting period for two of the contractors) the following services had been provided:

- 36 clients with TBI had received an initial intake
- 17 had received follow-up services and 2 clients had received a three month call

During SFY 10 these agencies have a goal to serve (130) individuals affected by TBIs and their families living along the Wasatch Front.

An additional \$9,750 was also set aside from the fund to help pay for neuro-psychological assessments for individuals with TBIs, as deemed essential by the contracted agencies. A reduced fee was negotiated and contracts were written with the University of Utah Educational Assessment and Student Support Clinic as well as Intermountain Health Services to provide this service. Clients receiving this evaluation will be determined by the contractors to have no other financial resources available to them to pay for the cost of the exam.

## Contracted Expenses & Estimated Partners In-kind Match



*For every \$1 appropriated, 90 cents of in-kind match was obtained.*

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*Submitted: November 25, 2009*