

Utah Traumatic Brain Injury Fund

FY 09 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 will consist 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.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area Represented</u>
Troy Roper	Person with a TBI
Sandy Brooke	Person with a TBI
Sarah Sanders	Family member of a person with a TBI
Nita Smith	Family member of a person with a TBI
Ron Roskos, Brain Injury Association of Utah	Advocacy agency for persons with TBI
Adina Zahradnikova, Disability Law Center	Advocacy agency for persons with TBI
Elaine Pollock, Primary Children's Medical Center	Medical specialist in brain injuries
Breanne Berg	Medical specialist in brain injuries

The committee is staffed by the VIPP. The committee will end on December 31, 2008 unless the UDOH Executive Director considers it necessary to continue.

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 already conducted include: news releases; television interviews; articles for the Brain Injury Association of Utah newsletter; and a presentation during the Annual Brain Injury Association of Utah Conference held October 9-10, 2008.

A webpage, available to the public, was created in August and posted to the VIPP Web site at www.health.utah.gov/vipp/traumaticBrainInjury/tbi_trust_fund.html. This webpage refers individuals to service agencies and answers inquiries from families about how the fund might help them.

Contract Awards

In 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.

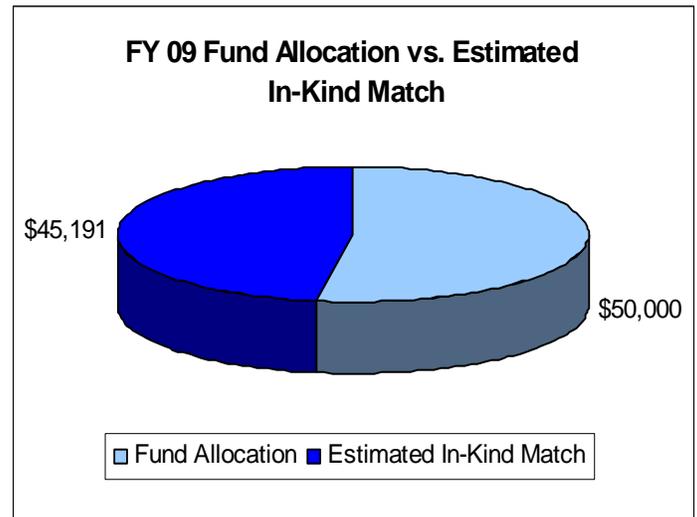
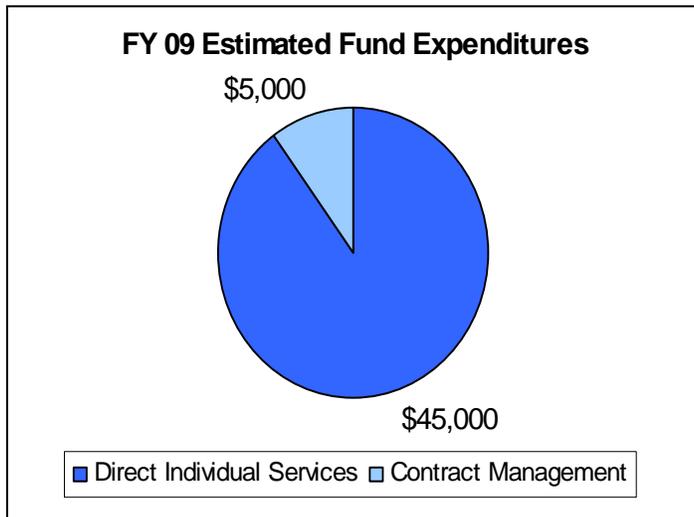
A request for proposals was issued through State Purchasing in late August and agencies were notified of contract awards by late September. The awards include:

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

During SFY 09 these agencies estimate they will be able to serve (130) individuals affected by TBIs and their families living along the Wasatch Front (e.g. Weber, Utah, Salt Lake & Davis counties).

An additional \$9,764 was also set aside from the fund to help pay for neuro-psychological assessments for individuals with TBIs, if deemed essential by the contracted agencies. A reduced fee is being negotiated with providers already on the state system to provide this service.

Estimated Expenditures & Contracts Awarded



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

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