

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Alaska Brain Injury Network, Inc.****Federal Tax ID: 770621****Project Title:****Project Type: Planning and Research**

Alaska Brain Injury Network, Inc. - Curriculum Development and Service Delivery System Planning

State Funding Requested: \$200,000**House District: 22 / K**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Design, develop and pilot curriculums for professionals and paraprofessionals related to managing traumatic brain injury sequelae. Develop a comprehensive plan that includes an analysis of the brain injury resources available in the state and which services are not available in the state. The planning will include recommendations on how the state, tribal and military systems can best develop these services to maximize financial and human resources.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$400,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$186,000)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	(\$200,000)
Project Deficit:	\$14,000

Funding Details:

\$36,000 2008 Feasibility Study of In-State TBI Facility, Department of Economic and Community Development

2008 MHTAAR \$100,000

2009 MHTAAR \$50,000

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Curriculum Development:

The research for developing curriculum will begin with an assessment of the fields interested in the training, identifying partners, and determine sustainability of the curriculums. The design and development stage will utilize consultants or content experts to design the curriculums. The pilot stage involves piloting the trainings to evaluate the curriculum and make changes as needed.

Alaskans with brain injury are at risk of unemployment, divorce, homelessness, suicide, substance abuse, mental health conditions, and unlawful behavior. With proper identification, diagnosis, treatment and supports, these risks can be minimized. In order to properly identify, diagnose, treat, and support people with brain injuries it is imperative that medical, health, social service professionals and paraprofessionals have access to best-practice traumatic brain injury information. This information is not taught in degree-seeking programs such as nursing, social work, mental health clinicians and other related programs.

Many professionals are looking for additional training on the topic of traumatic brain injury. The number of Alaskans with traumatic brain injury is outstanding. Available data shows at least 4000 Alaskans incur a mild, moderate, or severe TBI each year. The 20% that have significant cognitive, emotional, behavioral or physical impairment often seek state programs for assistance (reasons include: inadequate insurance funding, bankruptcy due to medical bills, divorce, and inability to return to work).

This project will fund the design, development and piloting of curriculums that support providers so they can adequately treat or support people with TBI. The information taught in this curriculum will provide the professionals/paraprofessionals with the techniques and tools needed to create positive results for their client.

Timeline: 3 years. Each year, there will be at least 1 curriculum designed, developed, and piloted for a specific audience. Depending on the evaluations, curriculum may be re-piloted in subsequent years.

Service Delivery System Planning:

The research and planning of a TBI service delivery system will include a needs assessment, identification of resources, analysis of unavailable resources, and recommended solutions for the development of appropriate resources.

There is not a single brain injury rehabilitation program for adults or children in Alaska. Many Alaskans must leave the state in order to receive traumatic brain injury treatment and rehabilitation. The lack of TBI services in Alaska has been a huge barrier for Alaskans who are attempting to recover after TBI. The lack of services affects the individual, the community, and in many cases the State of Alaska. ABIN has spoken to over 800 Alaskans seeking TBI services and have heard many stories about the struggles of Alaskan parents or spouses that have become the primary caretaker and case manager while attempting to stay employed and maintain the household. These individuals need rehabilitation and other supports that can help the individual recover, as well as strengthen the family unit.

In addition to the lack of services, there are many barriers in the development of these services because of funding sources and workforce challenges. Research is needed to better understand how the state, tribal system, military system, and private/public providers can best partner or coordinate to develop appropriate resources in-state.

Timeline:

Ongoing needs assessments (years 1-5)

Identification of available services (Year 1)

Identification of unavailable services (Year 1)

Facilitate working groups to develop recommendations (Years 1-3)

Develop a formal plan that can be used and updated on an ongoing basis. (Years 1-5)

Project Timeline:

Service Delivery System Planning: 5 years

Curriculum Development Timeline: 3 years.

Specifics found in detailed project description above.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Alaska Brain Injury Network

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No