



The TBI Waiver: the North Carolina Brain Injury Advisory Council Recommendations to the Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services

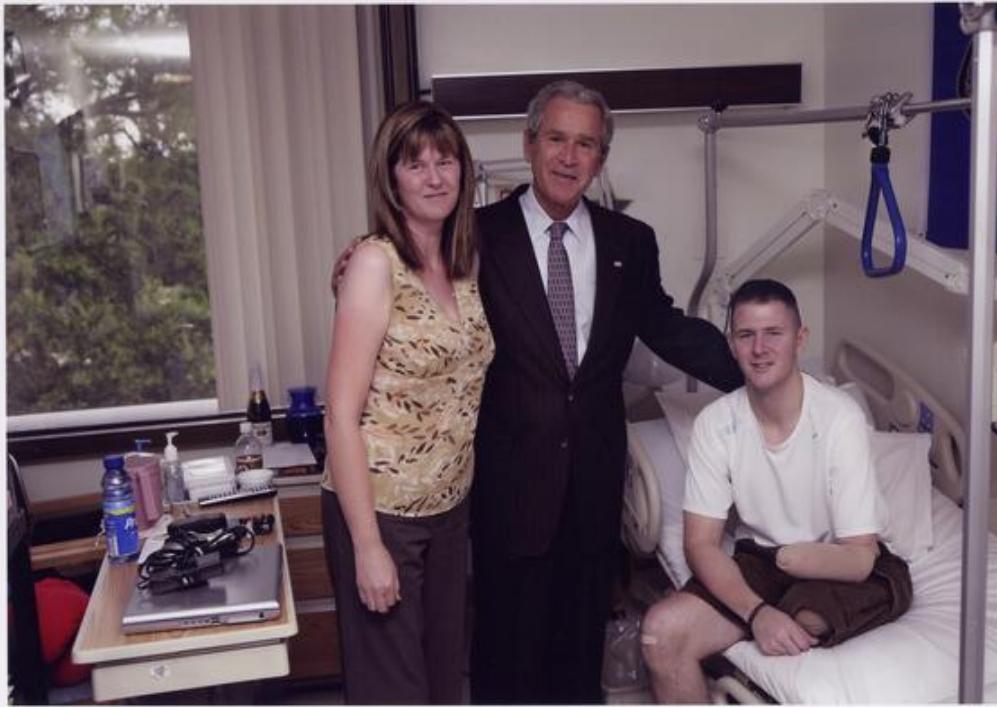
On behalf of the North Carolina Brain Injury Advisory Council and the TBI Community, we thank you for supporting the funding of the TBI Medicaid Waiver

Through bold leadership and measured bipartisanship, this North Carolina General Assembly accomplished what no other was moved to do before: to pass a Waiver that will allow brain injury survivors the opportunity to achieve maximum independence and live in community-based settings

Because of YOU, this TBI Waiver will:

- Prevent unnecessary placement of individuals with TBI into nursing homes and other institutional placements
- Help people with brain injuries live in the least restrictive placement, including their own homes
- Increase residential options for adults with TBI needing more care and support





*To Holly Heath-Shepard
With respect and appreciation,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "GWB", written over the text "With respect and appreciation".

VISIT AT WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER BY PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH, JULY 3, 2007



SHANE'S FREE ASSENT

North Carolina Brain Injury Advisory Council



2017 – 2021 TBI State Plan Goals and Objectives

- **GOAL 1: Data collection to support planning efforts**
- **GOAL 2: Collaboration and coalition building**
- **GOAL 3: Financial stability and resource development**
- **GOAL 4: Prevention**



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MILLION

North Carolina's population officially passed 10 million, with an estimated population of 10,042,802 on July 1, 2015.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Graphic: Carolina Demography

The Centers for Disease Control estimates that 2% of the population is living with a TBI, which in North Carolina now equates to over 200,000 individuals.

TBI Screening Results:

- Alliance Screening Results: **May 1, 2015 thru May 31, 2016** - 210 individuals screened as possibly having a TBI
- CommWell Health Federally Qualified Health Clinic (FQHC) Screening Results: **July 11, 2016 thru September 30, 2016** – 63 individuals screened as possibly having a TBI

NEW DATA COLLECTION EFFORTS (November 2016)

This data reflects a claims review of NC Tracks for individuals who received services related to a traumatic brain injury. These are unduplicated claims:

- From **July 2013-October 2015**: 99,720 individuals with TBI diagnosis received Medicaid funded behavioral health services
- In **SFY15**: 20,224 individuals with TBI diagnosis obtained mental health and substance use disorder behavioral health services
- This data is only for Medicaid recipients and DOES NOT INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS WITH PRIVATE INSURANCE, PRIVATE PAY, UNFUNDED INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE ACCESSED SERVICES, INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE HOMELESS OR THOSE WHO ARE CURRENTLY ON THE REGISTRY OF UNMET NEEDS.

Brain Injury Advisory Council Recommendations to the General Assembly

Establish a TBI Study Commission or Subcommittee of the Legislative Oversight Committee to assist with:

- the development of a best practice model system that will include a comprehensive continuum of care and an array of short and long-term treatment, rehabilitation and home and community support services
- the development and implementation of standards to ensure that individuals with brain injuries who require residential treatment receive appropriate, effective and high-quality treatment in community-based residential settings

Brain Injury Advisory Council Recommendations to the General Assembly (continued)

Establish a TBI study commission or Subcommittee of the LOC to assist with:

- the expansion of the TBI Waiver to include increased capacity to meet the level of services needed in the state, as well as state-wide inclusiveness and increased care coordination. This will encourage a system that can sustain itself over time. Waiver expansion could help with the following:
 - Funding for the creation of start-up programs, facilities and services and to attract quality TBI specialized providers and resources to North Carolina

Brain Injury Advisory Council Recommendations to the General Assembly (continued)

- Sustainable state dollars to maintain brain injury service continuum of care
- Maintain adequate reimbursement rates for residential and community-based care programs that treat adults with TBI to attract quality and specialized providers and programs into North Carolina
- One of the greatest needs for continuum of care in NC is the development of a Neurobehavioral center and neurobehavioral programs for individuals with TBI that combine cognitive, behavioral and pharmacological treatments and address complex medical needs

Brain Injury Advisory Council Recommendations to the General Assembly

Other considerations to help make your Waiver a success in North Carolina:

- Request a TBI representative be appointed to the Governor's Task Force on Behavioral Health and representation on other DHHS boards, committees, Task Forces and working groups, and statewide crisis collaboratives that are relevant to brain injury.
- Funding for the designation of a full-time Medicaid TBI Program position dedicated to managing the Waiver
- Require quarterly updates to the LOC from the Council, DHHS and Alliance Behavioral Healthcare on the implementation and status of the TBI Waiver