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Brain Injury Services Coordination

## **Brain Injury Services Coordination Unit**

The Brain Injury Services Coordination (BISC) Unit, located within DARS' Community Based Services Division in the Richmond Central Office, serves as a point of contact for internal and external customers seeking general or agency-specific information about brain injury resources. BISC manages over \$6 million in programs, contracts, and federal grants involving brain injury services throughout the Commonwealth. As part of its oversight responsibility of nine state-funded Brain Injury Services (BIS) Programs, DARS prepares an annual report on number of people served by each program; types of services provided; and success in attracting nonstate resources. DARS also maintains the BIS Programs SCORECARD which reports quarterly data on how the state-funded programs are helping consumers achieve their personal goals, as well as the number and nature of community awareness and education events conducted by each program. BISC Unit also manages the Commonwealth Neurotrauma Initiative (CNI) Trust Fund, the Brain Injury Discretionary Services (BIDS) Fund, and provides staffing for the Virginia Brain Injury Council (VBIC). DARS was awarded a four-year (2014-2018) federal TBI Act systems change grant , "Facilitating Access to Care and Enhancing Services." Federal grant activities are carried out through a contract with the Brain Injury Association of Virginia, which is managed by the Brain Injury Services Coordination Unit.

The BISC Unit works closely with other CBS Division programs, particularly the Community Rehabilitation Case Management Services Program and the Personal Assistance Services Program, to provide services and resolve customer concerns regarding agency services for persons with brain injury. The Brain Injury Services Coordination Unit also works collaboratively with DARS' Vocational Rehabilitation Program when serving consumers who have a vocational goal. The BISC Unit and staff from Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center (WWRC) are available to provide support, guidance, and technical assistance to DARS field staff and agency administration regarding the rehabilitation of persons with acquired brain injury. Sponsorship funding through BISCU is available each year for a limited number of DARS and WWRC staff to receive specialized training in brain injury through workshops, courses, webinars, and conferences. The BISC Unit partners with consumers, advocacy groups, state agencies, and other community entities to improve services and resources for Virginians with brain injury.

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**Brain Injury Awareness Activities - Statewide** 

VCU Completes 2013-2014 Statewide Brain Injury Needs & Resources Assessment for DARS Federal TBI Grant

DARS 5th Annual FREE Caregiver Forum: November 14, 2015

2015 Brain Injury Report Out Day a Success!

Virginia's 2012 Policy Summit Report on Brain Injury / Juvenile Justice Available

Brain Injury State Action Plan in Virginia 2009-2013

Virginia Neurobehavioral Paper Published 2016

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