

Impaired Drivers Trust Fund

2002 Annual Report
October 1, 2001 - September 30, 2002

*working today to create a better tomorrow for Alabamians
with traumatic brain and/or spinal cord injury*

In 1992 the Alabama State Legislature established the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund in the state treasury and the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund Advisory Board (Act 92-586). Since that time, the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund has evolved into a major advocacy and service-delivery system for Alabamians who have spinal cord injury or traumatic brain injury.

Dear Legislator,

The quality of life for many Alabamians affected by traumatic brain injury (TBI) and/or spinal cord injury (SCI) continues to improve because of services and programs funded by the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund (IDTF). Through its collaborative efforts with other agencies and organizations and its funding support, the IDTF continues to link Alabamians with TBI and/or SCI to services. Its commitment to closing gaps in services and to developing a continuum of care and service options is making a difference in the lives of all Alabamians with TBI and/or SCI and their families.

The IDTF Advisory Board continues to provide professional leadership to state agencies and private and community-based organizations. As a result of collaborative efforts in maximizing existing resources and coordinating services, individuals are ensured optimal benefits from the IDTF.

This report conveys to you the success of our collaborative efforts as we work together to create a better tomorrow for all Alabamians with traumatic brain and/or spinal cord injury.

Steve Shivers, Commissioner
Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services

Ralph R. Norman III, Chairman
Alabama Impaired Drivers Trust Fund



IDTF Background

When the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund in the state treasury and the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund Advisory Board (Act 92-586) was established in 1992, the Alabama State Legislature charged the IDTF Advisory Board with the responsibility of facilitating a comprehensive system of services for Alabamians with head and spinal cord injury. The mission of the advisory board was to:

- investigate the needs of survivors with SCI or TBI
- identify gaps in services to these survivors
- establish guidelines for disbursing IDTF monies
- assure maximum benefits from the IDTF

In 1993 the Legislature passed ACT 93-323 imposing an additional fine of \$100 on persons convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs with proceeds from the fines allocated to the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund. These proceeds are used as payer of last resort for the costs of care provided to Alabamians who have survived neurotrauma with head or spinal cord injury.

The Legislature also designated the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services as the agency to disperse monies from the IDTF in accordance with the priorities and criteria established by the board.

Thus, the advisory board, IDTF committees and the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services staff implemented systems and procedures to deliver services.

Service Linkage System
Toll-Free Number:
1-888-879-4706

IDTF partners with the Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Injury Registry and Service Linkage System

The Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Injury Registry (AHSCIR), established by Act 98-611, requires that all hospitals in Alabama report the names of individuals treated for traumatic brain injury or spinal cord injury to the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), thus allowing the ADPH to:

- learn more about brain injury and spinal cord injury
- develop programs aimed at preventing these disabling conditions
- make recommendations regarding improvement in current prevention and treatment methods

The AHSCIR allows the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS) to contact individuals whose names have been submitted to the registry about the availability of information and resources.

Development of the AHSCIR and Service Linkage System exemplifies how effective collaboration and coordination of resources among state agencies, private and public organizations and partners can improve the system of care in Alabama for people who have experience head and/or spinal cord injury. The Impaired Drivers Trust Fund supports this process as a collaborative partner and with funding.

The Alabama Trauma Registry (ATR) database has received data on 19,153 cases that satisfy the criteria for admission to the ATR — 6,718 cases were classified as head, neck, and spinal cord injuries. The high concentration of individuals with TBI and/or SCI within the 15-24 year-old age group is expected and, more often than not, results in many years of lost productivity and increased cost of care.

The ADRS Service Linkage System: Linking people to resources and services

Often people with head and spinal cord injuries and their families cannot find solutions to the many difficulties they are experiencing. ADRS, in partnership with ADPH, has implemented the AHSCIR Service Linkage System to link survivors of TBI and SCI and their families to much-needed community-based services. The system facilitates this process as soon as possible after individuals leave the hospital.

Survivors who sustain moderate and severe head or spinal cord injuries are contacted by mail and given information about the Service Linkage System. They may call a toll-free number and speak with the service system coordinator who can provide assistance in accessing a variety of services and information. Individuals are linked to resources based on their specific needs. The service system coordinator is also available to provide TBI-and SCI-related information and resources to professionals and service providers.

Service Components

Through funds provided by the IDTF, specific programs were created and implemented in order to address the needs of people with TBI and SCI. These programs resulted in the following services:

<p><u>Helpline -</u></p> <p>The Alabama Head Injury Foundation's toll-free Helpline, 1-800-433-8002, provided immediate information to 610 callers.</p>	<p>Callers ----- 610 Information requests ---- 495 Referrals ----- 678</p>
<p><u>Resource Coordination -</u></p> <p>This service coordination program helped 1,489 consumers and their families find and implement the coordinated, community-based assistance they needed.</p>	<p>Consumers/families served: 1,489 TBI ----- 964 SCI ----- 465 TBI/SCI ----- 60</p>
<p><u>Interactive Community-Based Model (ICBM) -</u></p> <p>One hundred and eighty-one (181) consumers transitioned from the hospital to home to the community through the efforts of this five-phased rehabilitation program.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">181</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Transitioned from the hospital to the community</p>
<p><u>State of Alabama Independent Living (SAIL) Service -</u></p> <p>The SAIL Service provided personal assistance and support services to 98 consumers and their families, thus enabling them to maintain as independent a life-style as possible.</p>	<p>Consumers served: 98 Birmingham ----- 6 Dothan ----- 18 Montgomery ----- 7 Decatur ----- 16 Anniston ----- 23 Mobile ----- 15 Tuscaloosa ----- 14</p>
<p><u>Extended Support -</u></p> <p>Through job-related support services, 12 consumers were given needed assistance to help them maintain their jobs.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Received job-support assistance</p>
<p><u>Respite Care -</u></p> <p>Services were provided to 62 families, relieving them of round-the-clock responsibilities of caring for a consumer.</p>	<p>Families served: 62 TBI ----- 42 SCI ----- 18 TBI/SCI ----- 2</p>
<p><u>Housing Assistance -</u></p> <p>This program helped 10 consumers in processing applications for housing assistance and in implementing approved accessibility modification or structural repairs to their homes.</p>	<p>Consumers served: 10 TBI ----- 1 SCI ----- 9</p>
<p><u>Recreation -</u></p> <p>Opportunities to enjoy recreation through attending camp were provided to 52 persons with TBI or SCI.</p>	<p>Camp: 52 Spring session ----- 25 Summer session ----- 27</p>

STATE OF ALABAMA
IMPAIRED DRIVERS TRUST FUND

- serving people with brain or spinal cord injury -

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