

Alabama's Impaired Drivers Trust Fund

REPORT FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2006

In January 1992 the Alabama Legislature charged the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund (IDTF) and the IDTF Advisory Board with the responsibility of facilitating a comprehensive system of services for Alabamians with head and spinal cord injury. The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS) was designated to disperse monies from the IDTF in accordance with criteria established by the board. Thus, the advisory board, IDTF committees, and ADRS implemented systems and procedures to deliver services.

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 allocated to the IDTF. These proceeds are used as payer of last resort for costs of care provided to Alabamians who survive neurotrauma with head or spinal cord injury.

“linking people with traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury to resources and services through IDTF and other partnering agencies”

Dear Legislator,

It is a great pleasure to present the 2006 Annual Report for Alabama's Impaired Drivers Trust Fund.

Because of the services made possible by the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund (IDTF), Alabamians with traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and spinal cord injuries (SCI) are better able to strive for and achieve an improved quality of life following injury. These life-changing services are the product of the strong partnership between the IDTF Advisory Board and public and private organizations, including the Alabama Head Injury Foundation, the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, and the Alabama Department of Public Health.

As in the past, a comprehensive continuum of care and a broad range of service options are a priority for the IDTF Advisory Board and its partner agencies, and this report highlights the successes that have been a result of the program's efforts in those areas.

Please join us in thanking the partners and direct-service staff who labor tirelessly to improve the lives of all Alabamians with traumatic brain and/or spinal cord injury.

Steve Shivers, Commissioner
Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services

Reyn Norman, Chairman
Alabama Impaired Drivers Trust Fund
Advisory Board

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

Service Linkage System

The Impaired Drivers Trust Fund supports this linkage system as a collaborative partner and with funding.

Often people with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and spinal cord injury (SCI) and their families cannot find solutions to the many difficulties they are experiencing. The Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Injury Registry (AHSCIR), created by Act 98-611, establishes a link between TBI and SCI survivors and vital, valuable services.

The AHSCIR requires that all hospitals in Alabama report the names of individuals treated for TBI or SCI to the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH). The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS), in partnership with ADPH, contacts the individuals whose names have been submitted to the registry in an effort to connect them and their families to much-needed community-based services. This Service Linkage System facilitates the 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.

Development of the AHSCIR and Service Linkage System demonstrates 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 experienced head and/or spinal cord injury.

- 55,754 traumatic injuries were reported from January 1998 through November 2006
- Of those, 1,750 (almost one-third) were head or spinal cord injuries
- 23.8% of head or spinal cord injuries were sustained by 15- to 24-year-olds
- 21% of all traumatic injuries in general were sustained by 15- to 24-year-olds
- Injuries in the 15- to 24-year-old group result in several years of lost productivity and a dramatic increase in the cost of care.

Service Components

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

Helpline - 724 callers received immediate information

The Alabama Head Injury Foundation's toll-free Helpline, 1-800-433-8002, provided immediate information to 724 callers. Requests for information numbered 1,365; 935 referrals were made.

Resource coordination - 933 consumers/families served (TBI - 638, SCI - 260, TBI/SCI - 35)

This service coordination program helped 933 consumers and their families find and implement the coordinated, community-based assistance they needed. Local donated and discounted goods/services in the amount of \$768,455 were secured for clients.

Interactive Community-Based Model (ICBM) - 236 transitions from hospital to community

Through the efforts of this five-phased rehabilitation program, 236 consumers transitioned from the hospital to home and the community.

State of Alabama Independent Living (SAIL) Service - 383 consumers served

SAIL provided personal assistance and support services to 383 consumers and their families, enabling them to maintain as independent a lifestyle as possible.

Consumers served: 383	
Birmingham - 61	Decatur - 40
Dothan - 28	Anniston - 84
Montgomery - 78	Mobile - 50
Tuscaloosa - 42	

Extended support - 21 consumers received job-support assistance

Through job-related support services, 21 consumers were given needed assistance to help them maintain their jobs.

Respite care - 66 families served (TBI - 44, SCI - 18, TBI/SCI - 4)

Services were provided to 66 families, temporarily relieving them of the around-the-clock responsibilities of caring for a family member.

Housing assistance - 3 consumers served (TBI - 1, SCI - 2)

This program helped three consumers in processing applications for housing assistance and in implementing approved accessibility modification or structural repairs to their homes to accommodate disability needs.

Recreation - 102 persons with TBI/SCI and volunteers attended camp

102 persons with TBI or SCI and volunteers enjoyed recreation by attending camp, with 50 attending spring session and 52 attending summer session. In addition, 119 attended Small Places day programs.

State of Alabama Impaired Drivers Trust Fund

"linking people with traumatic brain injury or spinal cord injury to resources and services"

Advisory Board

Reyn Norman
Chairman

Kent Hunt
Vice Chairman

Carol Mysinger
Secretary

Judi Adamson

Jane Bruton

Terry Bryant

Russ Fine

Joel Sanders

Terry Longest

Senator Hinton Mitchem

Representative Mary Moore

Steve Shivers

Graham Sisson

Gregory Skipper

Charles Priest

Ronnie Welch

Elmyra Jones



Alabama Department of
REHABILITATION SERVICES

2129 East South Boulevard
Montgomery, AL 36116-2455

(334) 281-8780 • 1-800-441-7607 • TTY 1-800-499-1816
Fax (334) 281-1973 • www.rehab.state.al.us