

A grayscale photograph of a man in a wheelchair sitting at a desk, using a computer. He is looking towards the right side of the frame. The background is slightly blurred, showing a computer monitor and keyboard.

# Alabama's Impaired Drivers Trust Fund

---

REPORT FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2009

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,

We are very pleased to present the 2009 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 collaboration between the IDTF Advisory Board and public and private organizations, including the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, the Alabama Head Injury Foundation, and the Alabama Department of Public Health.

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

Cary F. Boswell, 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**

## Traumatic Brain Injury

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is damage to the brain that results when the head is hit, strikes a stationary object, or is violently shaken. A TBI can occur without any outward physical evidence of trauma. Damage to the brain may occur immediately or it may develop as a result of swelling or bleeding following injury. Common consequences of TBI can involve sensory, cognitive, behavioral and/or emotional impairments. Brain injuries are classified as mild, moderate or severe depending on the type of injury or pressure and changes in the brain.

According to the Centers for Disease Control:

- Each year, 1.4 million people in the United States sustain a traumatic brain injury.
- At least 5.3 million Americans currently have long-term need for help performing activities of daily living as a result of a TBI.
- The leading causes of TBI each year are falls, motor vehicle-traffic crashes, collisions with moving or stationary objects, and assaults
  - Motor vehicle-traffic crashes lead to the greatest number of TBI-related hospitalizations.
  - Blasts are a leading cause of TBI for active-duty military personnel in war zones.
  - About 75 percent of TBIs that occur each year are concussions or other forms of mild TBI.
  - Approximately 1.6 to 3.8 million sports- and recreation-related TBIs occur in the U.S. each year. Most are mild TBIs that are not treated in a hospital or emergency department.
  - After the first TBI, the risk for second injury is three times greater.
  - After the second TBI, the risk for third injury is eight times greater.

- 101,797 hospital admissions due to traumatic injuries were reported from Jan. 1, 1998, through Nov. 30, 2009.
- Of those, 42,932 were head or spinal cord injuries.
- 21.7 percent of head or spinal cord injuries 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:

### Information and Referral - 871 callers received immediate information

The Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Injury Registry Helpline, 1-888-879-4706, and The Alabama Head Injury Foundation's toll-free Helpline, 1-800-433-8002, provided immediate information to 871 callers. Requests for information were also followed up on locally with referrals as necessary.

### Resource coordination - 951 consumers/families served

- This service coordination program helped 951 consumers and their families find and implement the coordinated, community-based assistance they needed.
- \$1,079,614 in local donated and discounted goods/services were secured for clients.

### Interactive Community-Based Model (ICBM) - 221 transitions from hospital to community

Through the efforts of this five-phased rehabilitation program, 221 consumers transitioned from the hospital to home and the community, reducing cost of post-acute care and increasing average salary income for those returning to work.

### State of Alabama Independent Living (SAIL) Service - 364 consumers served

SAIL provided personal assistance and support services to 364 consumers and their families, enabling them to remain as independent as possible. Donated goods and services for consumers exceeded \$1,000,000 this fiscal year.

Consumers served: 364	
Birmingham - 49	Decatur - 45
Dothan - 30	Anniston - 81
Montgomery - 62	Mobile - 46
Tuscaloosa - 51	

### Extended support - 16 consumers received job-support assistance

Through job-related support services, 16 consumers were given needed assistance to help them maintain their jobs. These consumers collectively earned \$154,332, returning tax dollars to the system.

### Respite care - 61 families served

Services were provided to 61 families, relieving them of the around-the-clock responsibilities of caring for a family member. More than 4,330 hours of in-home care were provided.

### Housing assistance - 57 consumers served

This program helped 57 people reside in the three accessible, affordable apartments developed by a coalition of entities, including the IDTF.

### Recreation - 46 persons with TBI/SCI and volunteers attended camp

Forty-six persons with TBI or SCI and volunteers enjoyed recreation by attending Camp ASCCA (Alabama's Special Camp for Children and Adults). In addition, 100 people attended Small Places day programs, which provided 2,945 units of service through eight locations across the state.

# 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

Cary Boswell

Jane Bruton

Rep. Spencer Collier

Russ Fine

Elmyra Jones

Sen. Hinton Mitchem

Anthony Pitts

Charles Priest

Graham Sisson

Carol Steckel

Kenneth Vassar

Ronnie Welch

Debby Wood



Alabama Department of  
**REHABILITATION SERVICES**

602 S. Lawrence St.  
Montgomery, AL 36104

(334) 293-7500 • 1-800-441-7607 • TTY 1-800-499-1816

Fax (334) 293-7383 • [www.rehab.alabama.gov](http://www.rehab.alabama.gov)