

Brain Injury Association of Virginia and Virginia Alliance of Brain Injury Service Providers 2024 Budget Needs Statement

Workforce Retention \$775,000

State contracted brain injury providers report high attrition and difficulty filling open positions because of non-competitive salaries and benefits. Delivery of programs and services suffer and client needs can go unmet. A \$775,000 (10%) increase is needed in FY 24 for workforce retention to ensure quality accessible services for people living with brain injury.

Strengthen Safety Net Community Based Service System \$2.5 Million

This funding would expand the existing state contracted safety net brain injury services system by 10% to provide statewide coverage and strengthen existing programs to include hiring additional case managers, clinical professional staff, and other supports to meet the growing demands for brain injury services across the state. Programs can have waiting lists for services and struggle to meet existing demands from this challenging population that requires specialized support. A portion (10%) of this funding will go to establish state funded regional brain injury service provider contracts in the remaining unserved regions of Virginia, and to develop regional state-contracted providers if none exist.

Cost of Living Adjustment

Add state funded brain injury programs to the Central Appropriations language: Full-time employees of *state funded brain injury programs*, Community Services Boards, Centers for Independent Living, secure detention centers supported by Juvenile Block Grants, juvenile delinquency prevention and local court service units, local social services boards, local pretrial services act and Comprehensive Community Corrections Act employees, and local health departments where a memorandum of understanding exists with the Virginia Department of Health.

