

Alabama Head Injury Task Force News



*Jerry Peters with his wife
and service dog*

Former U.S. Marshal Helps Others through Nonprofit and Books

The long-term effects of a TBI can reveal themselves gradually. This was the case for Jerry Peters, a retired United States Marshal, author, and Troy resident. Thanks to extensive research and his competitive nature, Jerry now uses his experiences and journey through the ADRS TBI program to help others.

Jerry offers support through his nonprofit, Operation Life Support, and he recently published a book titled, "Tactical Christianity." With April Turner's encouragement, Jerry now gives back to the entire state as an active member of the Alabama Head Injury Task Force Advisory Council where his voice and experience assist others.

Jerry is grateful to those who have helped so many discover and work through issues related to TBIs. He urges them to keep reaching out because their work is making a difference. "Please don't ever quit because we need you," he said. "We need you because a lot of times our families don't understand, our friends don't understand, and there are not any people you can talk to. You almost become like a man on an island, and it is great to know that someone cares."

Jerry Peters was recently featured on the ADRS blog in an interview written by Richard Crouch. [Read the full article.](#)



Mark Sullivan Retires from ADVA

The Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs celebrated the retirement of Appeals and Review Manager Mark Sullivan who has served Alabama's Veterans for 22+ years. He has also served on the Alabama Head Injury Task Force and Advisory Council faithfully since 2019. The Task Force congratulates Mark on his well-deserved retirement and appreciates his service as a Veteran and to the entire TBI Community.



ADVA Honors April Turner with Service Award

The Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs Interim Commissioner Jeff Newton and Assistant Commissioner Sandra Lucas honored State Head Injury Coordinator April Turner on November 6th during the Montgomery Chamber's Veterans Day Ceremony with the presentation of the 2024 Lt. Col. Robert M. Horton, Jr. Memorial Service Award. The late Lt. Col. Horton's family assisted in the presentation to Mrs. Turner.



CMS Chronic Condition Designation – What it Means for You!

Earlier in 2024, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) formally designated brain injury as a chronic health condition. But what does that mean for brain injury survivors? In this recorded webinar, subject matter experts break down the decision and outline what still needs to be done. [Access the Webinar: CMS Chronic Condition Designation.](#)

2-1-1 Connects Alabama



Dialing 2-1-1 connects you to a trained operator 24/7 with access to a comprehensive database for a multitude of services in your community. The 2-1-1 system serves as the initial contact point for any variety of programs. 2-1-1 is designed to assist families from all walks of life, but most importantly benefits our most vulnerable populations such as the elderly, people with disabilities, and low-income by facilitating access to public services. Call, text, or chat online with a live 2-1-1 specialist for help.

[Learn more about 2-1-1 Connects Alabama.](#)

New Location for One Roof



One Roof is moving from their Cooper Green office to a new location. During this time, the Client Care staff will be working remotely. Clients will still be able to call 205-254-8833 and leave messages and their calls will be returned. Additionally, clients can email the help desk at help@oneroofonline.org for assistance. One Roof's HMIS and Street Outreach teams operations will continue as normal. For questions related to services, contact Courtney Riles at Courtneyr@oneroofonline.org.



AlabamaTBI.org

Visit www.alabamatbi.org to learn about the Brain Map to Alabama TBI Services, TBI screening, Resources, Education, Training, and the *BrainLiner* Newsletters.



Shannon Shelley-Tremblay took the helm in late October as the new Executive Director of the **Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP)**. As a reminder: ADAP provides advocacy services, information and referral services, and self-advocacy support and training to individuals who face a loss of legal rights because of a TBI. The agency also works to increase and improve systems of support for people impacted by TBI. ADAP's services are free. To access ADAP's advocacy support or to request a training on disability rights, contact the agency at 205-348-4928. [Learn more about ADAP.](#)

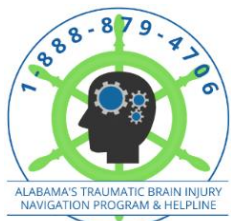
The **Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Injury Registry (AHSCIR)** requires hospital trauma TBI records be collected, reviewed, and eligible individuals contacted for needed linkage to crucial services and supports statewide. Through the 4th quarter of FY24, **6,697** new records were received from Alabama Dept. of Public Health and **3,662** individuals were eligible to be contacted to provide information and referral assistance from ADRS, AHIF, and other community agencies.



The **Adult TBI Program (ICBM)** pre-vocational program for adults served **455** caseload consumers and their families through the 4th quarter of FY24. ICBM provides individual cognitive remediation, counseling, TBI education, and accommodations to transition to community and/or employment. [Learn more about the Adult TBI Program.](#)



The **Children's Rehabilitation Service (CRS)** PASSAGES Pediatric TBI Care Coordinators have served a total of **384** consumers through the 4th quarter of FY24 assisting children and youth with transition from hospital to home, community, school and providing information/education on TBI residuals to families and school systems. [Learn more about CRS.](#)



TBI Navigation Program & Helpline

The statewide TBI Navigation Program had a grand total of **416** referrals. The TBI Registry Helpline had a total of **280** referrals through the 4th quarter of FY24.

Task Force Meetings 2025

March 13th, June 12th, September 18th, December 11th Thursdays, 10am-12pm
