ALABAMA HEAD INJURY Task Force

Developing the ideal service delivery system for Alabamians impacted by traumatic brain injury

September 2026

BrainLINERS

Priority Areas
Education & Awareness
Community Reintegration
Infrastructure
Service Access
Pediatrics

Alabama Head Injury Task Force News

Survivor Spotlight – *Logan Rich, Pell City, AL*

On April 18, 2025, my life changed in an instant. I was involved in a severe motorcycle accident that resulted in a traumatic brain injury (TBI). The damage was extensive, involving three distinct types of bleeding in my brain: a right subdural hematoma, a subarachnoid hemorrhage, and an intraventricular hemorrhage. I suffered seizures in the emergency room and spent the next three days in a coma. When I woke up, the reality of my situation was overwhelming. I couldn't walk, and my right foot and leg were stabilized by an external fixator. I could barely use my right arm or hand, and I could no longer perform any activities of daily living (ADLs) on my own. The physical pain was compounded by severe cognitive and emotional battles. I struggled with memory loss, lack of concentration, constant headaches, and a severe lack of initiative. I was deeply depressed and wanted nothing more than to be left completely alone. But my story did not end in that dark place. My recovery began with intensive physical therapy at Spain Rehabilitation Center, and today, I am continuing to push forward through speech therapy.

A major turning point in my recovery was working with my ADRS TBI Care Coordinator. She didn't just give me an in-home assessment, cognitive activities, and educational workbooks, she built a genuine relationship with me and my family. Through her, my family and I were connected to life-changing resources, including a rehab engineer, counseling through the Alabama Head Injury Foundation (AHIF), and an online Brain Education Strategy program. Healing from a TBI takes a village, and these resources gave us the tools to rebuild.

Today, my life looks completely different from how it did in the weeks following my accident. I am no longer isolating myself. I am out socializing with my friends, spending invaluable time with my family, and watching my daughter grow. Recently, we took a family trip to the beach, and I got into the ocean, a milestone that once felt completely impossible. If there is one thing I have learned through this journey that I want to share is this: it will eventually get better, just not on your time.

TBI Centers of Alabama

TBI Center – Enterprise (Enterprise Civic Center)

TBI Center – Opelika (Benny G. Adkins Center)

TBI Center – Mobile (USA Campus)

TBI COMPASS Clinic at UA

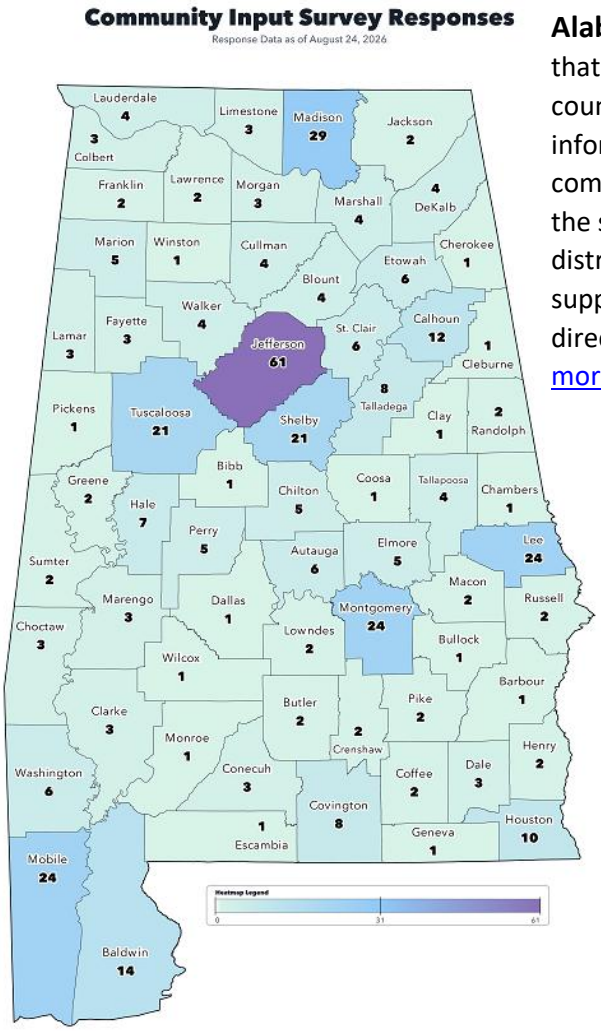
Institute for Social Science Research

Three **TBI Centers of Alabama** recently celebrated ribbon cuttings in Enterprise, Mobile, and Opelika. These centers will offer TBI services for Veterans, service members, and others living with the long-term effects of traumatic brain injury. There will be a Ribbon Cutting in Huntsville on September 29th and an Open House in Birmingham on September 23rd.

In March, the **TBI COMPASS Clinic** at the University of Alabama celebrated its' ribbon cutting in Tuscaloosa. The clinic will provide clinical services to the TBI Centers.

Study on Head Injury and Aging

Dr. Amelia Hicks with the Brain Injury Research Center at Mount Sinai is conducting an IRB-approved research project on Head Injury and Aging. This is an online survey of 20-30 minutes for anyone who is 18 years and older, has experienced head injury, and resides in the U.S. The survey will be open until the end of October. Learn more about how to participate in the Head Injury & Aging survey.



Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP) We are excited to share that ADAP's Community Input Survey received responses from all 67 Alabama counties! Reaching every county ensures that our upcoming priorities are informed by people with disabilities, family members, advocates, and community members across the state. Thank you to everyone who completed the survey, participated in a focus group, shared survey information, distributed materials, made referrals, or encouraged others to participate. Your support helped us reach communities throughout Alabama, and your input will directly guide ADAP's priorities and advocacy work in the year ahead. Learn more about ADAP.

ADAP's newsletter includes information about upcoming events, community resources, voting rights, advisory council meetings, legal developments, and other disability advocacy updates. Sign up to receive ADAP's newsletter.

Alabama Head Injury Foundation

Our last Bright Ideas Therapeutic Camp of the year will be held at the Lakeshore Foundation Sept. 21st–23rd. We will also be hosting our Fall Weekend Recreational Camp at Camp McDowell Oct. 16-18th. Anyone can contact us at info@ahif.org if they would like more information. Learn more about AHIF.

2026 Task Force Meeting
December 10th, 10:00–11:00am

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 3rd quarter of FY26, **3,230** new records were received from Alabama Dept. of Public Health and **2,265** 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 **398** caseload consumers and families through the 3rd quarter of FY26. 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 **313** consumers through the 3rd quarter of FY26 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

Through the 3rd quarter of FY26, the statewide TBI Navigation Program had a grand total of **585** referrals and the TBI Registry Helpline had a total of **411** referrals.

AlabamaTBI.org