



[www.tbicolorado.org](http://www.tbicolorado.org)

Colorado Department of Human Service  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
1575 Sherman St.  
Denver, CO 80203

12/2/09

Dear School Nurses:

Brain injury is the leading cause of death and disability among youth in the United States. Each year approximately, 824 children and youth sustain a brain injury in Colorado. These injuries can have devastating effects on the youth and the entire family system. I am writing to tell you about the Colorado Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Trust Fund Program. The Trust Fund was created by a law that passed in 2002. As a result of this law, surcharges are collected on convictions related to drinking under the influence (DUI), drinking while ability impaired (DWAI), speeding and as of 2007, convictions of youth 18 or younger riding a motorcycle or scooter without a helmet. The program focus is to support the growing number of Colorado residents who have sustained a TBI, many of whom are children in the Colorado school system.

To be eligible for the Trust Fund an individual must have a documented TBI. If there is significant evidence that an injury occurred but documentation is lacking, the Trust Fund can pay for limited neuro-cognitive assessment to determine eligibility. Additionally, the individual must be a resident of Colorado and if the person is 18 or older, they must be lawfully present in Colorado.

Once eligible, the individual/family will be assigned a care coordinator and receive care coordination services for 12 months. Additionally, the individual can access up to \$2,000 for necessary purchase services that support the individual's recovery from brain injury. You are in a unique position to help create awareness about the benefits of care coordination services available through the TBI Trust Fund Program among school personnel, students and families.

Through the program, the care coordinator can:

- Help the family to understand and cope with TBI
- Work with the family to identify needs and develop goals to meet these needs
- Identify resources in the community that will benefit the individual with a TBI
- Assist the family with navigating the health and service delivery system

#### PARTNERS IN THE TRUST FUND



For Application & Eligibility call 1-888-331-3311. For Program Services call 1-866-245-6600.

To learn more about this program please visit our website at [www.tbicolorado.org](http://www.tbicolorado.org). For information on, or to apply, please visit the Brain Injury Association of Colorado website at [www.biacolorado.org](http://www.biacolorado.org). If you have any questions, or would like to talk about this program, please email me at [judy.dettmer@state.co.us](mailto:judy.dettmer@state.co.us) or call at (303)866-4085.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Judy L. Dettmer  
Director, TBI Program  
Colorado Department of Human Services  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation