

Vermont Brain Injury State Plan 2019 – 2022

- I. **Priority: Support Early Identification and Education of Acquired Brain Injury:** Individuals that experience a brain injury will be identified soon after the injury by trained professionals. Ultimately the early screening, assessment and diagnosis leads to improved outcomes. There is public education to raise awareness and where to go for information.

Goal: Improve the early identification of brain injury and timely referrals to appropriate services and supports.

Examples of Strategies:

- Screen and assess for brain injury across the health systems.
- Educate the current providers of brain injury services.
- Raise brain injury awareness among the general public, schools, and employment, health care and municipalities.
- Target prevention educate to subgroups in the state.

- II. **Priority: Enhance and Develop Resources:** For a survivor of a brain injury, resources may include employment, housing subsidies, legal advice, etc. Family members who are caregivers may need resources like respite care or support with transportation or altering the home to make it easier to care for the person with a brain injury. Resources for a provider of services includes adequate reimbursement for services and recruitment and retention of expert staff to meet demands.

Goal: Ensure access to a comprehensive array of resources for individuals with a brain injury, healthcare providers, and service providers.

Examples of Strategies:

- Increase awareness of local, state and federal resources.
- Strengthen the capacity of systems and organizations that focus on housing, employment, transportation and education in order to better meet the needs of people with a brain injury.
- Connect patients in the hospital with legal staff to support with legal issues for housing, job, finances, etc.

- III. **Comprehensive, Coordinated Services:** Individuals that experience a brain injury gain receive a diverse number of supports or services based on the unique needs of the individual. A care coordinator will support the person as long as the person needs help. Payment is not a concern ultimately.

Goal: Increase brain injury service coordination across systems of care that address the whole person's needs.

Examples of Strategies:

- Identify and engage coordinating care teams to improve services.
- Support across county or service area referrals.

