

## PATBI Services

Disability Rights Arkansas TBI advocacy work focuses on:

- Educational issues for children who have sustained a TBI, including access to inclusive school settings, positive behavioral supports and individualized education programs.
- Appropriate treatment for persons who have sustained a TBI living in state-operated institutions, juvenile detention facilities and community settings, free from abuse, neglect, restraint and seclusion.
- Reasonable accommodations by employers for individuals who have sustained a TBI.
- Access to appropriate medical and mental health treatment in prisons and jails, and access to facility services, opportunities and programs.
- Accessibility to public and private facilities, programs and services without barriers, including the right to utilize service animals and interpreters.

## DRA Mission:

Vigorously advocate for and enforce the legal rights of people with disabilities in Arkansas.

## DisabilityRights

### ARKANSAS

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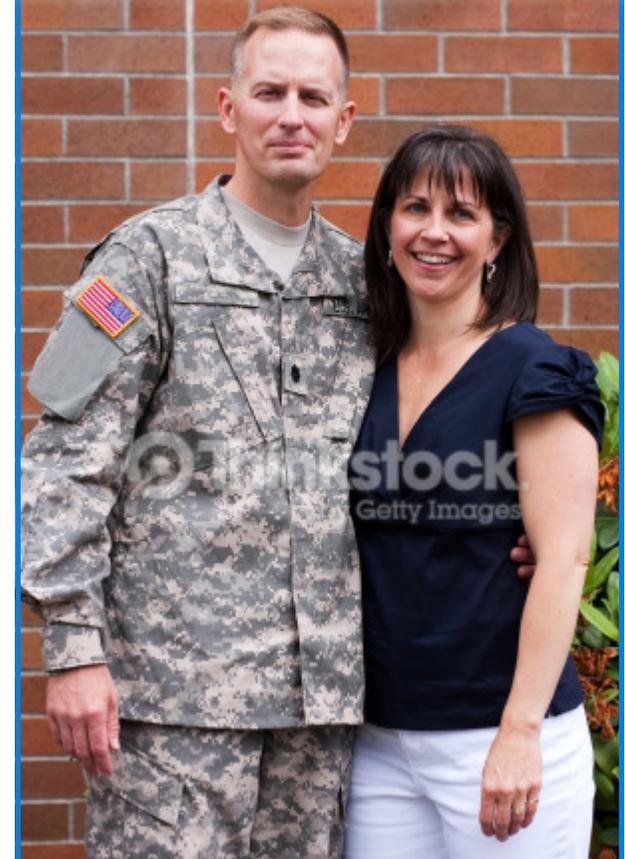
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# DisabilityRights

## ARKANSAS



## Protection and Advocacy for Traumatic Brain Injury

# Disability Rights Arkansas

The Protection and Advocacy for Traumatic Brain Injury (PATBI) program was created in 2002 to provide protection and advocacy services to individuals who have sustained a traumatic brain injury. Although P&A's often served, and continue to serve, these individuals under other grants, this grant provides greater resources to serve eligible individuals.

PATBI is a federally funded program authorized by the Traumatic Brain Injury Act of 1996, which was passed in response to the advocacy efforts of the Brain Injury Association of America. In general, the bill authorized funding for prevention, surveillance, research and State grant programs to improve service delivery and access for individuals with traumatic brain injury. The bill defined the term "traumatic brain injury" as "an acquired injury to the brain. This definition does not include brain dysfunction caused by congenital or degenerative disorders, nor birth trauma, but may include brain injuries caused by anoxia due to near drowning." The Act was reauthorized in 2000 as Title XIII of the Children's Health Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-310), and reauthorized by the Traumatic Brain Injury Act of 2008.

## Q: What is a traumatic brain injury?

Answer: A traumatic brain injury (TBI) is the result of an injury to the head caused by a blow to the head with a blunt object, striking the head against an object, or something passing through the skull and piercing the brain.

## Q: Are there other types of brain injury?

Answer: Yes, there are other acquired brain injuries that do not result from trauma. These non-traumatic brain injuries resulting from medical conditions include stroke, neurologic diseases, brain tumors, and toxic chemical or drug reactions. Brain injury from loss of oxygen to the brain may occur in either traumatic or non-traumatic brain injury.

The Act provides grants to Protection and Advocacy systems to ensure that individuals with TBI and their families have access to:

- Information, referrals and advice
- Individual and family advocacy
- Legal Representation; and
- Support and assistance with self-advocacy

