

## **Brain Injury is a Public Health Problem**

Each year at least 1.5 million people sustain brain injuries, one every 21 seconds, making Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) eight times more prevalent than breast cancer and 33 times more common than HIV/AIDS.

Approximately 2,500 people sustain TBI injuries in Utah every year, producing 500 deaths and 600 cases of severe long-term disability, many of them children. In fact, TBI ranks as the leading cause of death and disability in children and young adults.

For those who survive, brain injury is life altering; serious physical impairments are frequently a result, as well as a variety of cognitive, behavioral and emotional complications. Health care costs are extensive, as an individual with severe brain injury typically faces five to ten years of intensive rehabilitation, with cumulative costs exceeding \$48 billion annually.

TBI is sometimes termed a “silent epidemic.” Despite the immeasurable suffering it brings to individuals and families, a 2000 Harris Poll found that public awareness of the magnitude of TBI as a public health threat is “very low.”

\*Statistics courtesy of American Cancer Society and Brain Injury Association of Utah

## **Traumatic Brain Injury Fund**

The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Fund was established in 2008 by the Utah Legislature. The fund is administered through the Utah Health Department and has monies to be used for:

- Education to the general public and professionals on the treatment and prevention of TBI;
- Provide access to evaluations and coordinate short-term care to assist an individual in identifying services or support needs, resources, and benefits for which the individual may be eligible; and
- Develop and support an information referral system for persons with a traumatic brain injury and their families.

## **Resource Facilitation**

Phoenix Services was awarded a grant from the TBI Fund to provide resource facilitation to a limited number of people who have suffered a brain injury and their families across the Wasatch Front. The following are services available by the resource facilitation:

- An initial meeting with the TBI survivor and their family to determine what supports and resources are available and what are needed.
- Collect required medical documentation of traumatic brain injury.
- A plan will be developed with the support of the family to determine what resources are available and need to be accessed.

- Weekly contact with a Resource Facilitator to ensure that goals outlined in the plan are being addressed and accomplished.
- Approximately 10 hours of training and support will be available from the assigned Resource Facilitator.
- Follow up support as needed after the team decides that all goals have been met and available resources have been accessed.

## **Training**

Phoenix Services will offer Brain Injury training as requested and needed by various agencies. The training will be focused on reducing barriers to available resources as well as to help those agencies with a better understanding of brain injury.

## **Qualifications**

Phoenix Services currently has eight nationally recognized Certified Brain Injury Specialists and two certified Benefits Planner and Outreach (BPAO) specialists that will be assigned as a Resource Facilitator. Phoenix Services has been serving people with a brain injury and their families for over 18 years. Other services we provide:

- Supported Living
- Supported Employment (job placement and job coaching)
- Host Homes
- Professional Parent Homes
- Agency and Family Brain Injury Training
- Family Support and Training

PHOENIX SERVICES

In Western Civilization most people's sense of worth – and even their sense of identity – is inseparably entwined with their job titles and social roles.

Phoenix Services is about new life opportunities and new hope, supporting men and women with brain injuries and other similar disabilities to stretch to vastly higher levels of dreaming and achievement. Our goal is to move each person toward independent living and dignifying work in the community.

We have succeeded when a person becomes a contributing member of his or her community, and when a community, in turn, becomes more empathic and accepting of the diversity found in all human beings.

Nita Smith  
Founder and Executive Director

*Phoenix is licensed by the state of Utah to provide a wide range of services to help survivors of TBI and other similar disabilities rebuild their lives and their dignity.*

## Locations

### Corporate Office

(Serving Cache, Davis, Weber Counties, Salt Lake, and Provo)

189 South State Street, Suite 225  
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Mailing Address: P O Box 457  
Clearfield, Utah 84089-0457

Phone: (801) 825-4535  
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Toll-Free: (888) 426-5518

### Salt Lake County Office

(Serving Salt Lake and Utah Counties)

1940 West Alexander Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

Phone: (801) 263-3865  
Fax: (801) 261-7445  
(by appointment only)

### **Certified Brain Injury Specialists:**

Traci Barney  
Carrie Bambrough  
Dawn Dauber  
Stacie Martin  
Nita Smith  
Teresa Steadman  
Jeana Forthman  
Andrew Stong



### **Resource Facilitation**

For more information about our company,  
please visit our website at:  
**[www.phoenixservices.org](http://www.phoenixservices.org)**

Phoenix Services, a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c)3 Corporation, is a Utah recognized leader in providing support services to the challenging and drastically under-served population with disabilities resulting from Traumatic Brain Injury.

# PHOENIX SERVICES