

## **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 8,000 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.”

## **Services Provided**

Phoenix Services provides community re-entry and long-term supports to brain injury survivors and people with similar disabilities. We are a resource to rehabilitation facilities for people who are ready to move to a more independent setting.

Phoenix also provides staff for families who need someone to manage a loved one at a nursing home level of care but desires an independent setting.

## **Supported Living**

Many people with disabilities want to live independently in the community with the aid of specific supports. Phoenix helps them find clean, safe, affordable housing and provides staff to spend a few hours each week to practice basic life skills (shopping, cooking, financial management).

Individuals with more severe disabilities may need 24-hour staffing to help them manage moods and behaviors so they can live safely in the community.

In addition to a variety of rehabilitative and companion services, Phoenix ensures that social opportunities in the community are an important part of the rehabilitation process. The goal is to build “natural supports” in the surrounding neighborhood and at the workplace (friends, supportive neighbors, co-workers, and local shop owners).

## **Supported Employment**

Depending on the needs of the individual, a variety of employment supports are available. Phoenix provides therapeutic activities that test and develop each person’s ability to function amid the stresses of a normal working environment.

When individuals need active employment assistance, the Phoenix job developers use their extensive network of contacts in the community to arrange hiring interviews and to carve out specific jobs that fit the person’s unique capabilities.

Job coaches help the person learn job requirements and adjust to the new workplace. The coach also educates co-workers and supervisors to help them learn how to effectively incorporate the new member of the team.

## **Child and Family Services**

Phoenix Services teaches parents how to support disabled children through the often discouraging process of rehabilitation. Parents are given a great deal of information regarding coping with a disabled child and are offered breaks throughout the month with the support of our respite staff.

When out-of-home care becomes necessary, Phoenix provides Professional Parenting services for those who qualify.

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

## Locations

### **Administrative Offices**

(Serving Cache, Davis, and Weber Counties)

189 South State, Suite 225  
Clearfield, Utah 84015

Mailing Address: P O Box 457  
Clearfield, Utah 84089-0457

Phone: (801) 825-4535  
Fax: (801) 825-8281  
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

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

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

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.



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©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.

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 SERVICES