Housing Specialist #1 – Email Template

Dear Senator/Delegate (Last Name):

I am writing to you because I am convinced it is time for the General Assembly to address the shortage of services for individuals with brain injury.

Nearly 300,000 Virginians are disabled as a result of brain injury; current levels of state supported funding to provide community based brain injury services is $6.7 million or $6.02 per person.

The reason I care about this is because… (this is where you tell your story…tell them why you care. Describe a program you attend or a service you get and how it helps you. If you are writing from an area where programs have wait lists, or where there are no services available, explain how those services could make a difference in your life).

This year, we are asking for $1,125,000 to create a “Housing Specialist” position at each state funded community based brain injury program. Despite facing the same needs as those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, people with brain injury have little to no residential service options available to them within the Commonwealth due to a lack of waiver supports. Staff are needed at community based-brain injury programs to liaise with local housing entities, represent the needs of the brain injury community in housing related conversations, and work with their clients to obtain the necessary housing supports and/or develop independent living skills to maintain clients safely and stably in the community.

Thank you for taking a moment to consider my comments. If you have any questions or would like more information about the points I have raised, feel free to contact the Brain Injury Association of Virginia at [info@biav.net](mailto:info@biav.net).

Sincerely,

Your Name