Housing Specialist #3 - Email

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. Housing is known to be one of the primary social determinants of health, and affordable, accessible, and appropriate housing can be life-saving. Through a DARS Appropriation and existing contract processes, 9 existing community based brain injury programs would receive funding for and be directed to establish a staff position to facilitate housing placement and/or the development of independent living skills for their clients.

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