

# Brain Injury Association of Virginia

## Virginia Alliance of Brain Injury Service Providers

### 2022 Budget Support Statement

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#### ***WE SUPPORT \$570,000 TO EXPAND SPECIALIZED COMMUNITY BASED BRAIN INJURY CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES INTO UNSERVED AREAS (Sen Monty Mason - Item 330 #5s)***

**WHY:** According to estimates from the Brain Injury Association of Virginia, more than 302,000 Virginians are disabled as a result of brain injury. This funding would facilitate the hiring of 4 adult case managers and 2 pediatric case managers to serve 300 Virginians with moderate to severe brain injury, who are disabled as a result of the injury and reside in unserved regions of the state. Adult brain injury case management services are available in 82% of cities and counties; pediatric brain injury case managers are available in only 42% of cities and counties.

#### ***WE SUPPORT \$1.7 MILLION IN FY23 and \$4.1 in FY24 FOR TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT TO BE ADDED TO THE MEDICAID STATE PLAN (Del Patrick Hope – HB680, Item 304 #7)***

**WHY:** According to the CDC, approximately 2.87 million cases of TBI occurred in the U.S. in 2014 and each year, 80,000-90,000 people experience the onset of long-term or lifelong disabilities because of it. That means far more who will not become disabled but who require assistance and supervision to manage their lives. This bill serves a different population than the previous request, it will serve person in areas where there is no BI case management provider currently, and it would be available to anyone on Medicaid, rather than only those who are eligible for nursing home care

#### ***WE SUPPORT \$2.4 MILLION EACH YEAR FOR THE PURCHASE OF CUSTOMIZED WHEELCHAIRS (Del Dawn Adams, Item 304 #34h; Sen George Barker –304 #10s)***

**WHY:** Current state law prohibits Medicaid from purchasing specialized seating equipment when the person is discharged to a skilled nursing facility; this policy leaves residents more dependent and more at risk for medical complications.

#### ***WE SUPPORT \$250,000 TO DEVELOP THE INFRASTRUCTURE NECESSARY FOR AN IN-STATE NEUROBEHAVIORAL UNIT AND BRAIN INJURY WAIVER (Sen Emmett Hanger – Item 308 1s)***

**WHY:** Virginia is spending more than \$7 million **WITHOUT FEDERAL MATCH** on institutional care for persons with brain injury. We need both these programs, and this funding would begin the processes necessary to make community based living a reality for those with brain injury. The funding requires the submission of an amendment to an existing waiver or an application for a new one, and would support the development of service definitions, program structure, eligibility criteria, reimbursement rates, evaluation, rate methodology and estimated annual costs.