

What People Who Have Used the Family Support Program Are Saying...

"Our Family Support specialist came to my house to assist in a meeting with agency people. She helped me to ask the right questions and access the necessary resources."

"My specialist personally helped me with the Social Security representative. She met them one-on-one."

"My Family Support specialist has been very, very helpful to me. She has provided information, helped me to try to obtain funding, and met with me and my case manager when I had problems. I could go on and on about all she has done for me."



"Knowing our Family Support specialist was there for us was helpful during a very unsettling time."

"My Family Support specialist has been instrumental in helping me decipher some of the various programs, especially when I became overwhelmed."

Our Mission & Our Membership

The Brain Injury Association of New Jersey, Inc. provides education, outreach, prevention, advocacy and support services to people affected by brain injury and to the general public. It is a chapter of the Brain Injury Association of America.

BIANJ members include people with brain injuries, their families and friends, corporations and non-profit organizations, physicians, therapists, attorneys and rehabilitation service providers.

The association is funded by state grants and private contributions. To find out how you can become a member or donate to support our services, contact us at 732-745-0200.



Brain Injury Association of New Jersey, Inc.

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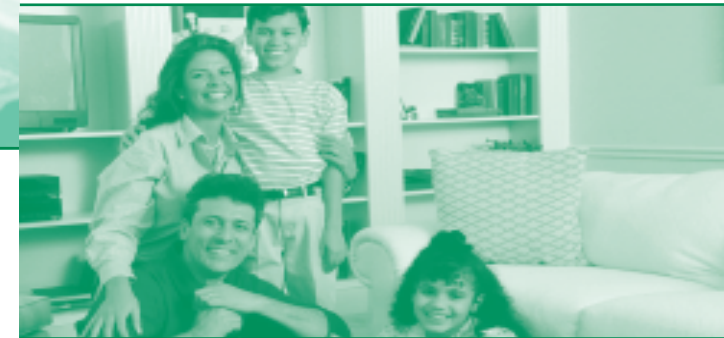
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www.bianj.org

Family Support:

Care Coordination Program for People with Brain Injuries and Their Families

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY



It's Hard to Deal with Brain Injury Alone.

It can be difficult to understand the long-term complications of brain injury and deal with them on a day-to-day basis. Through hospitalization and rehabilitation, the individuals and their families rely on doctors, nurses, therapists and social workers to provide care and support. What happens afterward?

People who have sustained a brain injury often will have many changes in their life, and, while there are services available to help them, they may need assistance in accessing these services.

Family members of a person with a brain injury can grow frustrated and confused, and they may not know where to turn for help in addressing the many new problems they face.

There is no cost to families participating in the program.

Help Is Available. Someone Is on Your Side.

The Brain Injury Association of New Jersey offers a free care coordination program to help access needed services and support – for people who suffered a brain injury before the age of 22 and for their families. It is called Family Support.

Professional caseworkers throughout New Jersey work one-on-one with individuals and their families in person and by telephone. They serve as sources of information, care coordinators, guides through government red tape and advocates when the going really gets tough.



Information. Assistance. Advocacy.

The services provided by the Family Support specialists include:

- ▶ Advocacy on behalf of families and individuals when working with social service and other agencies.
- ▶ Brokering with community resources to find or modify existing programs for the individual with brain injury.
- ▶ Resource exploration to find resources appropriate for the family and individual.
- ▶ Networking and linking families and individuals to other sources of support to meet some of their needs.
- ▶ Education on various aspects of brain injury for the family, individual and social service agencies.
- ▶ Emotional support to the family and individual as needed.

Who Is Eligible?

To qualify for Family Support, the family must live in New Jersey and be eligible for services through the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities. The injury must have occurred before age 22 and have resulted in significant functional limitations.

The Family Support Program is funded by a grant from the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities. There is no cost to families participating in the program.

For More Information

If you or a family member suffered a brain injury at age 22 or younger, you may be eligible to apply for free assistance from the Brain Injury Association of New Jersey's Family Support Program.

For more information, contact the Brain Injury Association of New Jersey at **1-800-669-4323** (in New Jersey) or 732-745-0200.