

BIS Successfully Awarded State Funding to Expand Services

Brain Injury Services will be expanding its Case Management Services in Prince William County and providing new services in Fauquier County. BIS will also be increasing its staff at The Westwood Clubhouse by adding a new Case Manager to serve Fredericksburg and surrounding counties. This was made possible through a State Budget Amendment patroned by Senator Ed Houck and Delegate Harvey Morgan and passed in the Virginia General Assembly during the 2006 Session. The passage of this historic amendment was only made a reality due to the strong statewide advocacy of the brain injury community and many supportive legislators.

The Amendment (Health & Human Services Conference Report: Items 327, #2c and #4c) provides an additional \$725,000 from the general fund each year for brain injury services to individuals in unserved or underserved regions of the Commonwealth, as well as \$150,000 from the general fund each year to expand case management services for individuals with brain injuries in unserved or underserved regions of the Commonwealth. An additional \$285,000 in funding to expand services in Southwest Virginia remained in the Governor's budget. *This was the largest amount of funding for brain injury ever passed by the General Assembly for a total over 1.1 million dollars.*

The Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services is the lead State agency in the provision of community-based services for persons with brain injuries and developed the Request for Proposals to establish contracts for the provision of community-based rehabilitation services for people with brain injury. BIS successfully submitted two grants for services in Fredericksburg, Prince William County and Fauquier County. Our organization will receive an average of \$210,000 each year to provide services to these additional areas.