

Federal Agency Honors Michigan's Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Project

March 27, 2013

The Health Resources and Services Administration, a Department of Health and Human Services federal agency, awarded the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) TBI Services and Prevention Council (SPC) the 2013 Federal TBI Program Award for Most Adapted State Agency Grant Product. This award recognizes Michigan for developing a widely used or recognized product that has been adapted for use in other states.

To help health care service providers learn the complex system of care in Michigan and enable them to connect clients to services, the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI), on behalf of the SPC, implemented a sustainable, person-centered, culturally competent, four-module online training in 2005 that is available for service providers to complete at their own pace at any time of the day. The SPC and MPHI worked with other TBI experts, including the Brain Injury Association of Michigan, educators, rehabilitation experts, and representatives from relevant state governmental agencies to create the *Traumatic Brain Injury and Public Services in Michigan* online curriculum, which launched in 2006. The training provides information on the causes, symptoms, and treatment of TBI and is administered by MPHI.

- Michigan customized the training for North Carolina in 2010 and continues to host its site
- Michigan collaborated with Iowa to modify the training in 2012; Iowa is in the process of developing its site prior to launch
- Michigan provided Kansas with the training code and database for potential replication
- Continuing Education Credits are available for free to professionals from several different disciplines, including nurses, social workers, nursing home administrators, and professional guardians

In addition, experts from the SPC and training committee, including medical doctors, neuropsychologists, rehabilitation providers, representatives from academia, and TBI survivors' family members volunteered to develop and implement two additional trainings, *Pediatric Traumatic Brain Injury* and *Cognitive and Behavioral Consequences of TBI in Adults*. Both trainings were launched in 2011.

The three trainings have been accessed by TBI survivors and their families, health care service providers, educators, policy makers, advocates, and caregivers. People from 48 states, including Puerto Rico, Canada, and Australia have registered for the training; approximately 30% of users reside outside of Michigan.

Additional project partners include the Brain Injury Association of Michigan, Michigan Department of Education, and Michigan Department of Human Services.

To access the website and take the training, please visit: www.mitbitraining.org.

For more information regarding the Michigan TBI project, please visit www.michigan.gov/tbi.