

## Brain Injury & Disability Resources

ABIN-PA InfoLine 800.516.8052  
Abuse Reports—Age 0-18 800-932-0313  
Abuse Reports—Age 18+ 800.490.8505  
Aging/Disability Referrals 866.286.3636  
Area Agency on Aging (blue pages)  
BIAPA Resource Line 800.444.6443  
BrainSTEPS (Local Intermediate Unit)  
CareerLink (blue pages)  
ChildrensHealthInsurance 800.986.5437  
Consumer Protection 800.441.2555  
Crime Victim's Benefits 800.233.2339  
Defense & Veterans BIC 866.966.1020  
Disability Rights Network 800.692.7443  
DomesticViolence Hotline 800.799.7233  
Elks Nurses (care plans) 814.781.7860  
Epilepsy Foundation 800.887.7165  
Head Injury Program 717.772.2762  
(1 year of rehab, \$100,000 max)  
Health Insurance [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov)  
or 800.318.2596  
Health Law Project 800.274.3258  
Independent Living Ctrs 717.364.1732  
Legal Aid (PA) 800.322.7572  
Legal Clinic for Disabled 215.587.3350  
Meals on Wheels [www.mealcall.org](http://www.mealcall.org)  
Medical Assistance 800.537.8862  
Medicare Coverage 800.633.4227  
(Part A & B have in-home services)  
Medicare Complaints 800.783.7067  
Office of Vocational Rehab (blue pages)  
OVR Complaints 888.745.2357  
Social Security 800.772.1213  
Special Ed Consult Line 800.879.2301  
Special Kids Network 800.986.4550  
Waiver Enrollment 877.550.4227  
Waiver HelpLine 800.757.5042  
Women's Law Project 215.928.9801

## ABIN-PA Services

"Empowering Survivors & Families to Rebuild Their Lives."

### InfoLine

Resources. Problem-solving. Support.

### Advocacy

Individual. Government Affairs.  
Nonprofit Coalitions & Collaboratives.

### Education

Conferences. Presentations.  
Staff Training.

### Literature

Free Monthly Newsletter.  
Brochures.  
Booklets.  
PowerPoints.

### Website

Newsletter Archives & Sign-Up.  
Print Literature.  
"Our Stories."  
Print Resource List by Birthdate.  
Rehab Facility Search by Type.  
Videos.

## Brochure Categories

General  
Children <21  
Adults 18+  
Families & Caregivers  
Rehabilitation  
Dual Diagnosis  
Justice System

Brain Injury Advisory:  
Justice System

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



ABIN-PA is dedicated to increasing public awareness about acquired brain injury and to providing support, education, information, advocacy and other services for individuals with acquired brain injury and their families.

ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY  
NETWORK OF PENNSYLVANIA  
InfoLine: 215.699.2139  
Toll-Free: 1.800.516.8052  
[info@abin-pa.org](mailto:info@abin-pa.org)  
[www.abin-pa.org](http://www.abin-pa.org)

## Domestic abuse often causes brain injury

One study indicated that 66% of shelter residents had a concussion or brain injury in the prior 12 months. Two women had ten (10). DV counselors do need special training, because this injury interferes with conversations, decisions, memory, planning, reading, writing and math.

## Many domestic abusers had a prior brain injury.

One study indicated that 48% of batterers (but only 8.5% of the general population) had a history of concussion or brain injury. This prior injury will interfere with anger-management programs and other services for batterers and require accommodations by partners.

## Long term disability up after "Second Hit"

Having a Second Hit before the first injury to the brain has healed will greatly increase permanent deficits and may even cause death. Medical attention for each brain injury is essential. Some authorities urge three months without any danger of re-injury. Safety first.

## Signs of brain injury

Dazed or stunned. Confused. Unsure of current situation. Clumsy motion. Answers slowly. Different behavior or personality change. May forget events before, during and/or after the injury.

## Complaints after injury

Headache. Nausea. Balance problems or dizziness. Double or fuzzy vision. Sensitive to light or noise. Feeling sluggish. Change in sleep pattern. Concentration difficult. Memory problems. Loss of taste or smell.

## Long term effects...

COGNITIVE: memory, speed, word finding, concentration, judgment, spatial awareness, organization, planning, multi-tasking, reasoning, predicting, reacting, processing, attention.

EMOTIONAL: anxiety, depression, mood swings, agitation, frustration.

BEHAVIORAL: impulsivity, unaware of others, egocentricity, apathy, inertia, perseveration, unable to multi-task.

PHYSICAL: seizures, balance, gait, spasticity, weakness, paralysis, vision, hearing, speech, headache, fatigue, smell, taste, swallowing, nausea, electrolyte imbalance, appetite, thirst.

## Create an action plan

- Get medical care to rule out bleeding in the brain, a skull fracture, spinal fractures, etc.
- Plan sufficient cognitive and physical rest to avoid disability.
- Prepare a safety plan that the brain injury survivor can follow to prevent a "Second Hit".
- Arrange funding for medical care and brain injury rehabilitation under health insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, the Pennsylvania Head Injury Program, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, a Waiver or Victims' Services.

## PA Coalition Against Domestic Violence

6400 Flank Drive, Suite 1300  
Harrisburg PA 17112

PH: 1.800.932.4632

TTY: 1.800.553.2508

FAX: 1.717.671.8149

LEGAL OFFICE: 1.888.235.3425

TTY: 1.800.553.2508

FAX: 1.717.671.5542

NATIONAL: 1.800.537.2238

TTY: 1.800.553.2508

FAX: 1.717.545.9456

SERVICES BY COUNTY:

[www.pcadv.org/Find-Help/Domestic-Violence-Services-By-County.asp](http://www.pcadv.org/Find-Help/Domestic-Violence-Services-By-County.asp)