

**REPORT TO THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
2007**

**PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 321H-4,  
HAWAII REVISED STATUTES REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH TO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES UNDER  
THE NEUROTRAUMA SPECIAL FUND**

**PREPARED BY:**

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
November 2006**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 321H-4, the Department of Health is submitting an annual report on the activities of the neurotrauma special fund.

The neurotrauma special fund was established in 2002 by Act 160 for funding and contracting for services relating to neurotrauma. Funds are acquired through surcharges on traffic citations (speeding, drunk driving, not wearing seat belts, leaving the scene of an accident involving bodily injury) that are related to causes of neurotrauma injuries.

Effective January 1, 2003, surcharges from the specified traffic citations were deposited into the special fund. The Department of Health (DOH) has worked with neurotrauma survivors and their families to identify priorities for expenditure of monies in the special fund. The prioritized need is for assistance to access services and supports (support coordination). Procedures have been developed by the Judiciary and the DOH for transfer of monies into the neurotrauma special fund

The DOH has also established in compliance with Act 160, a Neurotrauma Advisory Board and an infrastructure “to develop, lead, administer, coordinate, monitor, evaluate, and set direction for a comprehensive system to support and provide services for survivors of neurotrauma injuries.” The Neurotrauma Advisory Board provides stakeholder input into the DOH’s neurotrauma activities and advisory recommendations regarding the special fund.

**REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE  
IN COMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 321H-4, H.R.S.**

An annual report on the activities under the neurotrauma special fund.

**Introduction**

Act 160, signed into law on June 7, 2002, mandated the Department of Health (DOH) to “develop, lead, administer, coordinate, monitor, evaluate, and set direction for a comprehensive system to support and provide services for survivors of neurotrauma injuries.” The Act also required the DOH to establish a neurotrauma advisory board and administer a neurotrauma special fund. The neurotrauma special fund started to accumulate monies January 1, 2003. This report provides a status report on the fund activities for the period of October 2005 to September 2006.

**Neurotrauma Advisory Board**

The Neurotrauma Advisory Board was established, per Act 160, to advise the DOH on the use of the neurotrauma special fund and development of a system of supports for persons with neurotrauma. The Board’s membership constitutes key stakeholder group representation on a statewide basis and has developed a strategic plan to carryout their functions. There are 4 working sub-committees – 1) Education; 2) Special Fund; 3) Legislative; and 4) Registry (the latter two joint with the State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board). And the members as a whole will address its last priority of sustaining a fully functioning and participatory Board. Current members of the Board are listed in Attachment I.

**Use of the Neurotrauma Special Fund**

Chapter 321H-4, H.R.S. specifies that the neurotrauma special fund shall be used for the purpose of funding and contracting for services relating to neurotrauma as follows: (1) Education on neurotrauma, (2) Assistance to individuals and families to identify and obtain access to services (3) Creation of a registry of neurotrauma injuries within the State to identify incidence, prevalence, individual needs, and related information and (4) Necessary administrative expenses to carry out this chapter not to exceed two percent of the total amount collected.

Effective July 1, 2003, three DOH positions were funded by the neurotrauma fund to provide for coordination and support of neurotrauma system of supports. Duties include planning and coordination of neurotrauma awareness/education activities, information and referral supports for individuals with neurotrauma and their families, individual coordination, eligibility determination, provision of access to support coordination services, support to the Neurotrauma and State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Boards, grant writing, needs assessment and quality improvement.

In addition, contracts and funding is provided for educational activities on neurotrauma.

(1) Educational activities:

- . The DOH will be contracting with the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific to implement a pilot project on Community Based Rehabilitation. Families, caregivers and volunteers will be trained to provide and integrate cognitive rehabilitation for persons with neurotrauma injuries in natural environments. Individuals will be trained to integrate activities into a person's life that will support the continued long-term reacquisition or compensation skills leading to increased independence. This contract will be executed in FY '07.
- . DOH will be contracting with the Brain Injury Association of Hawaii (BIA-HI) in collaboration with the State Neurotrauma Advisory Board (SNTAB) and the State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board (STBIAB) to develop and implement educational and awareness activities and comprehensive statewide needs assessment. Service activities shall include: plan and coordinate all aspects of a Neurotrauma Conference; develop and oversee a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Speakers Bureau; increase the amount of individuals who are certified as Brain Injury Specialists; formulate a questionnaire pertaining to need for and utilization of a statewide TBI community needs and resource assessment; and to design a database to reflect all data fields pertaining to the questionnaire.
- . Three program staff attended the Queen's Medical Center Neuroscience *Surf the Neuro Challenge* in October 2005 and distributed the Neurotrauma brochures, newsletters and business card.
- . Staff participated in the ThinkFirst booth to provide safety information and bicycle helmet fitting and give-away at the Children and Youth Day at the State Capitol in October 2005.
- . Neurotrauma poster board exhibit at the Falls Conference in October 2005 distributing home safety information and SAFE STEPS handouts.
- . For Domestic Violence Awareness Month - Neurotrauma poster board exhibit and informational material on domestic violence and TBI distributed at various sites in October 2005 (DOH Lobby, State Bldg. in Kapolei, Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center, and Leeward Health Center).
- . ThinkFirst and Neurotrauma informational exhibit at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific in October 2005; NT, BIA-HI and SCI brochures made available.

- . For National Drunk/Drugged Driving Prevention Month - in partnership with the Dept. of Health Alcohol and Drug Abuse Div., Kamehameha Schools Extension Education Division, and the Coalition for Drug-Free Hawaii, a poster board exhibit and informational materials were on hand at the various sites in December 2005 (DOH Lobby, Waianae Comprehensive Health Center, State Bldg. in Kapolei, and the Leeward Health Center).
- . ThinkFirst Presentation at the Aikahi Elementary School in December.
- . Two staff attended the DOE Conference on *Promoting Organizing, Learning and Self-Control in Students: An Executive Function Model for the Schools* in January 2006; distributed were NT materials and handouts on preventing brain injury, concussion and what to do when your child's head has been hurt.
- . Brain Injury Awareness Month – poster board exhibits with NT material and brain injury handouts displayed in March 2006 at the various sites (State Bldg. in Kapolei, Leeward Health Center, DOH Lobby, Rehabilitation Center of the Pacific, and the Lanakila Seniors Center).
- . Two staff attended the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Federal TBI Program State Grantee Meeting and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Federal Interagency Conference on TBI: *Integrating Models of Research and Service Delivery* in Bethesda, Maryland in March 2006; NT brochures and newsletters made available; information gathered in the grant application and evaluation procedures and some research and service practices on TBI.
- . Outreach by one staff to East Hawaii meeting with American Heart/Stroke Association, Center for Independent Living and REHAB of Hilo in March 2006 describing the NT program and distributing informational material.
- . One staff attended the ThinkFirst Annual Conference in San Francisco in April 2005.
- . NT informational exhibit at the West Honolulu Children's Community Council Parent Resource Fair at Roosevelt H.S. in April 2006; distributed NT program material and handouts on brain injury, concussion, falls, home safety, etc.
- . NT informational exhibit at the SPIN Conference in April 2006; distributed NT program material and handouts on brain injury, concussion, falls, home safety, etc.
- . Informational exhibits for Stroke Awareness month in partnership with the American Heart/Stroke Association were set up in May 2006 at the

various sites (Lanakila Seniors Center, Rehabilitation Center of the Pacific and the State Bldg. in Kapolei).

- . Neurotrauma Conference – *Giving Help, Hope and Healing*, for families and survivors of traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury and stroke held in May 2006 attracting 130 participants with 15 exhibitors; there were presentations on accessing community resources, coping with emotions, Social Security and Medicaid benefits, housing and employment, brain booster tips, transitions with DOE students, keynote and panel discussions by survivors.
- . Two staff participated in the ThinkFirst bicycle helmet fitting and give away at the Pearlridge Toys r Us in May 2006.
- . Think First presentation at the Montessori Community School in June 2006.
- . NT presentation to the Okinawan Club at the Lanakila Seniors Center in June; NT brochures passed out along with pens with the Helpline no.
- . Neurotrauma informational exhibit at the 2006 Tools for Life Expo in June 2006 ; distributed were NT informational material, products and Referral Forms.
- . Neurotrauma informational exhibit at the Caregivers' Conference in June 2006; distributed were NT informational material, products and Referral Forms and handouts on caregiving.
- . Three staff participated the Annual Keiki Exploration Day at Pearl Highlands Center in July 2006; in partnership with ThinkFirst and KIPC distributed NT informational material, handouts on brain and spinal cord injury and safety; and bicycle helmets (from KIPC) fitted and given to keikis.
- . *Life Goes On*, a DVD featuring persons with TBI, their lives after injury, their circle of support, others from the field of brain injury, person-centered planning, and resources on TBI, was created and reproduced through a grant and partnership with HMSA, Pacific Basin Research Rehabilitation Training Center and the Developmental Disabilities Division; showings were done at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific, the BIA-HI Support meeting, and the STBIAB annual meeting in July 2006; the DVD is currently being circulated to service providers, survivors and interested individuals, agencies and organizations.

- . One staff attended the REHAB's open house gathering for spinal cord injured survivor in July 2006 and contact made with one survivor who might be interested in joining the NTAB.
- . Two staff attended the REHAB SCI Support Group meeting in August 2006 and gave a brief presentation about NT and distributed some informational material.
- . Neurotrauma poster board exhibit at the American Heart/Stroke Association's Heart Walk and Health Fair in August 2006; distributed were NT informational material, products and Referral Forms.
- . Three staff participate in the 'I Love Liliha' event health fair in partnership with ThinkFirst in August 2006; distributed NT informational material, handouts on keiki safety and bicycle helmets (funded by NT) fitted and given out.
- . Two staff attended the REHAB SCI Support Group meeting in September for a presentation by Dr. Somal who is the lead physician there for patients with SCI; consulted with Dr. Somal and Kate Church, RT, on our to reach out to survivors and families especially on the neighbor islands.
- . Two staff attended the Annual State of the States National Association of State Head Injury Administrators in Baltimore, Maryland in September 2006; this year's theme was *Economics, Ethics and Enlightenment*; NT informational material and products and the DVD were made available.
- . Neurotrauma informational booth at the Seniors Fair in September 2006 distributing NT contact information products, Referral Forms and handouts on brain injury and caregiving.

(2) Assistance to individuals and families to identify and obtain access to services activities:

- . Utilizing a definition of Support Coordination that has been endorsed by the Neurotrauma Advisory Board, the DOH has developed structural features of a service system which includes: eligibility, referral, service planning, service provision and monitoring. The DOH has met with potential providers to obtain feedback on the scope of service for Support Coordination that includes provider requirements and rate of reimbursement.

DOH staff have also met with case management agencies in the past to share information on the scope of services for Support Coordination. Feedback and interest in becoming a provider have been positive. This

type of support would be considered a part of a menu of services for a brain injury waiver currently under discussion.

- . Project with the John A. Burns School of Medicine will be initiated in FY '07 to design, develop and implement a peer-mentoring project for individuals with TBI. The purpose of this project is to train mentors and have them assist persons with TBI to seek and utilize social services.
  - . A DOH Neurotrauma Help Line was established to assist individuals and families to access information and services. The Help Line provides screening, intake and information and referral to assist individuals and their family members to access needed services in their communities. From October 2005 to September 2006 the Helpline received a total of 209 calls for an average of 17 a month. A total of 145 individuals were served with 77 being first time callers. Although the average number of calls decreased from last year, the total and new individuals served increased.
  - . The Neurotrauma Advisory Board has taken on the task of assisting in marketing the Helpline. Besides being listed in the Elderly Affairs *Family Caregiving Guide*, the Helpline is listed in the State Offices Frequently Called Numbers of the Hawaiian TelCom phone directory and with AUW 211 Resource Directory.
- (3) Development of a registry within the State to identify incidence, prevalence, needs, and related information of survivors of neurotrauma injuries:
- . Utilizing the past efforts of the State Neurotrauma and Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Boards' joint registry subcommittee, the DOH is pursuing a contract with the Hawaii Health Data Warehouse to create a neurotrauma registry. Critical elements of the registry have been developed and outlined. A contract will be executed during FY '07.
  - . An in-house registry was initiated in July 2005 for all those clients involved with the program since its inception in June 2002. As of September 2006 there were 108 individuals listed.
  - . A project with the Queens Medical Center will be implemented in FY '07 as the contract is making its way through the approval process. The purpose of this project is to assess outcomes following post-acute care for those individuals with severe TBI and to provide an avenue to link people with the DOH for follow up services and to identify community living service needs. With their consent these individuals will be included in a data-base and entered into the registry.



- (4) Necessary administrative expenses to carry out this chapter not to exceed two percent of the total amount collected.

Utilization of funds under this category will be determined after plans are finalized for the prioritized support coordination and registry activities.

### **Collection and Expenditure of Funds**

In FY 2006, a total of \$729,372 has been deposited into the fund from traffic surcharge collections. During that period of time, \$213,815 has been expended for positions. An additional \$44,456 has been used for educational activities for persons with neurotrauma. As of July 1, 2006, there was a balance of \$1,385,901 in the Neurotrauma Special Fund. A projected budget for the Neurotrauma Special Fund is provided in Attachment II. The budget reflects activities authorized under Chapter 321H-4, H.R.S.

### **Summary**

Given the Legislative intent of Act 160, the DOH is continuing its efforts to develop a neurotrauma system of supports to assist survivors of neurotrauma injuries and their families. The Neurotrauma, as well as the State Traumatic Brain Injury, Advisory Boards have progressed in their efforts to become an effective advisory body to the DOH. During the coming year, the DOH will focus its efforts on developing and maintaining a neurotrauma registry, increase education/awareness activities, and begin utilizing the special fund to assist individuals and families to identify and access needed supports and services.

Attachment I

NEUROTRAUMA ADVISORY BOARD  
Chapter 321H-3, HRS

**VOTING MEMBERSHIP**

	<b>Term/representation</b>
Joyce Arizumi	Spinal Cord Injury Support Group/Survivor
Lyna Burian	Traumatic Brain Injury Family Member
Angie Enoka	Brain Injury Assoc. Representative/Survivor
Ian Mattoch, Esq.	At-Large
Elzadia Kaina	STBIAB Chairperson
Glenn Morgan	Spinal Cord Injury Survivor
John Noland, Acting Administrator Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division Department of Human Services	At-Large
Peter Rossi, M.D. Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific	Private Sector
Scott Sagum	Stroke Survivor
Lori Suan American Heart/Stroke Assn.	Stroke Association (Chair)
Milton Takara	Brain Injury Assoc. Representative/Survivor
Curtis Tom, DDS	Stroke Survivor
Stella Wong Vice President-Programs Catholic Charities Elderly Services	At-Large

*Unofficial Members – Awaiting Appointments*

Robin Argue Injury Prevention Coordinator Dept. of Health	At-Large
Sally Jones Queen's Trauma Center Queen's Medical Center	Trauma Center

Greg Keast  
Case Management Coordinator  
HMSA

Private Sector

Alan Parker  
Hawaii County Office of Aging

At-Large

Karen Seth  
Manager, Neuroscience Institute  
Queen's Medical Center

Private

Glen Yamate

Traumatic Brain Injury Survivor

Ann Yoshida

Spinal Cord Injury Group/  
Survivor

Attachment II  
 Projected Budget for Neurotrauma Special Fund

	FY07	FY08
Salaries	211,185	211,185
Education		
NT/Falls Conf	50000	50000
Speakers Bureau	35000	35000
Media	5000	5000
Training	10000	15000
Support Coordination		
Mentorship	150000	150000
Community Based Cog. Rehab	150000	150000
Registry		
Discharge Follow Up	28000	
Needs Assessment	25,000	35000
Registry	25000	50000
Total Expenditures	689,185	701,185
Revenues	600,000	600,000
Net	-89,185	-101,185
Fund Balance	924454	835,269
		734,084