

## **Brain Injury Association of Florida, Inc.**

### **Tenets for Services to Persons with Traumatic Brain Injury and Their Families 2010-2013**

Brain Injury Association of Florida, Inc. (BIAF) and its Board of Directors expect that the following values, beliefs and practices are applied to all persons served through the State of Florida with traumatic brain injury:

1. BIAF expects that the needs and interests of persons with traumatic brain injury be given full consideration and be highly valued as a major priority in service delivery policy and funding decisions.
2. BIAF declares that persons with traumatic brain injury should receive an equitable proportion of funding and services under any and all funding streams established through, including but not limited to, the State of Florida that includes persons with traumatic brain injury e.g. Medicaid, Medicaid waivers, Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund, etc.
3. BIAF will work to ensure that the State agency that hosts the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program commits to advocacy for persons with traumatic brain injury and their families and the highest quality of administrative support of the program.
4. BIAF expects that the Brain Injury Association of Florida continues to be a core provider of information, referral, planning, advocacy, education and support in Florida.
5. BIAF deems it essential to recognize that persons with traumatic brain injury have multidimensional, chronic needs that are different in nature from persons with spinal cord injuries. Consequently, BIAF recommends an integrated model of case management that is: a) based on the needs of each individual, b) includes counseling, advocacy, ongoing coordination and monitoring of core services, and c) recognizes the rights of an individual with traumatic brain injury to be in control of his or her life.
6. BIAF declares that providers of all brain injury services should: 1) have demonstrated interest and expertise in serving persons with traumatic brain injury and 2) should pay attention to special needs of the traumatic brain injury population, including substance abuse treatment, neurobehavioral interventions and psychosocial approaches that address social isolation and depression. Focus on resources to address neurobehavioral issues is of particular concern and providers should have access to training and technical assistance in this regard.
7. To assure that the needs of persons with traumatic brain injury are being met, BIAF deems it necessary to be proactive in assessing and monitoring the status of the service plans, the quality and appropriateness of services and the satisfaction of the individuals in the program.
8. BIAF declares that the philosophical precepts upon which case management and other services for persons with traumatic brain injury are based must be clearly articulated, and include a commitment to individual choice, quality of life and maximum independence for all persons with traumatic brain injury and their families.

*Adopted by Board of Directors November 15, 2010*