




Maryland Medicaid Waiver for Adults with Brain Injury
March 2023
 Stefani O’Dea, MA, Maryland Behavioral Health Administration
 Caitlin Starr, MSW, Brain Injury Association of Maryland



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History

20 Year Program anniversary July 2023

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☰ THE BALTIMORE SUN
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NEWS

In a state hospital, nowhere else to go 'Take me out of here': About 50 brain-injured patients in Maryland are suing the state to be placed in supervised group homes.

By Daniela K. Dugg
Baltimore Sun • Feb 23, 1996 at 12:00 am

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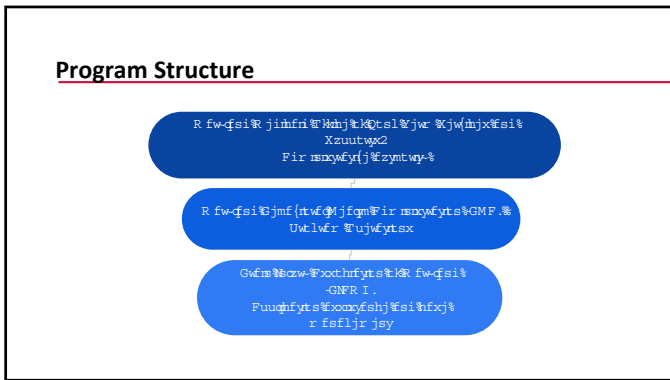
The story started in 1996

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Program Structure

Meet the Teams!

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Behavioral Health Administration

Meet Medicaid's Brain Injury Waiver Staff


- Alisa Jones- Alisa.jones@maryland.gov
- Tynicha White-Briscoe- tynicha.white-briscoe2@maryland.gov
- Jeronica Baldwin- jeronica.baldwin@maryland.gov

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Behavioral Health Administration

Meet BHA's Brain Injury Waiver Staff

- Stefani O'Dea, Director,
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- Elena Janetopoulos, Brain Injury Waiver Coordinator,
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- Anastasia Edmonston, TBI Project Coordinator/
Professional Development Coordinator,
anastasia.edmonston@maryland.gov




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Behavioral Health Administration

Meet BIAMD Brain Injury Waiver Staff

- Caitlin Starr, Associate Director/ Supervisor/
Transitional Case Manager, starr@biamd.org
- Eugenia Zajdek, zajdek@biamd.org
- Najah Britton, britton@biamd.org
- Ruth Carlock, Carlock@biamd.org
- Zari Waver, Weaver@biamd.org
410-448-2924



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**Brain Injury
Waiver Services**

Understanding available services

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Maryland Brain Injury Waiver Services

Services Provided in the Community to BI Waiver participants:

- **Case Management**- Assistance with developing a waiver plan of services that identifies selected services and providers and monitoring participant health and welfare.
- **Residential Habilitation**- 24 hour on-site and overnight supervision in a licensed group home or alternative living unit with a staff to participant ratio of 1:3 or higher.
- **Day Habilitation**- Assistance with acquisition, retention, or improvement in self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills which takes place in a nonresidential setting.

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Maryland Brain Injury Waiver Services

Services Provided in the Community to BI Waiver participants:

- **Individual Support Service**- Assistance provided to an individual to enable participation in the community. This service is a step down from residential services available to individuals living in independent housing or living at home with family.
- **Supported Employment**- Activities needed to support paid work by individuals receiving waiver services, including supervision and training.

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Maryland Brain Injury Waiver Services

Services Provided in the Community to BI Waiver participants:

- **Medical Day Care**- Medically supervised, health-related services provided in an ambulatory setting to medically handicapped individuals who, due to their degree of impairment, need health maintenance and restorative services supportive to their community living.
- All other Medicaid State Plan Services

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Brain Injury Waiver Providers

Participating Providers

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Maryland Brain Injury Waiver Providers

- Sevia Maryland (formerly NeuroRestorative)- Prince George's County <https://www.neurorestorative.com/location/maryland/>
- Mary T MD-Anne Arundel County and Prince George's County <https://marytinc.com/maryland-brain-injury-services/>
- Head Injury Rehab and Referral Services (HIRRS)- Montgomery County <http://headinjuryrehab.org/>
- Dove Pointe-Wicomico County <https://www.dovepointe.org/tbi>

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Program Eligibility

*Who is eligible for the program?
And
What's changed?*

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What is Brain Injury?

Brain Injury (BI) means an insult to the brain caused by an **external or internal mechanism** that occurs after birth and is not related to congenital or degenerative disease, which results in cognitive, physical, behavioral, or emotional disability that is documented in the medical record (COMAR 10.09.46).



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Brain Injury Waiver Eligibility

- Adults age 22-64;
- Sustained a brain injury after the age of 17; and
- The brain injury resulted in a cognitive, physical, behavioral, or emotional disability; and
- The individual's income does not exceed \$2,523 per month nor has assets that exceed \$2,000 in value; and



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Brain Injury Waiver Eligibility

- Their needs meet a nursing facility or chronic hospital level of care; and
- Their medical issues are chronic, predictable, stable, and routine; and
- Discharging to the BI waiver from certain facility types, including State Psychiatric Hospitals and Maryland nursing facilities



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Program Access


How do I get more information?

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Behavioral Health Administration

Program Access


Brain Injury Association of Maryland (BIAMD)
 Provides application assistance and waiver case management
<https://www.biamd.org/brain-injury-wavier-program.html>
 410-448-2924
mdtbiwaiver@biamd.org



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How to Apply

To connect eligible residents with the Brain Injury Waiver program, submit an interest form [HERE](#)
 or
 Contact the Brain Injury Association of Maryland 410-448-2924 or mdtbiwaiver@biamd.org.



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How to Apply

The following information will be needed, as documented in the medical record:

- Date of injury
- Cause of injury
- Impact of brain injury on cognitive, behavioral, and physical function
- Legal decision maker/person to complete the financial application
- Point of contact for medical records and medical forms



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Advocacy and Enrollment Trends

Your voice matters

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Maryland TBI Advisory Board recommendation

Expand and improve services offered through the Maryland Brain Injury Waiver

What? Modify the eligibility for the Brain Injury Waiver to allow access from private nursing facilities and study the individual support service rate to determine what increase is needed to promote utilization of this waiver service.

Why? Maryland's Brain Injury Waiver has 145 approved waiver slots this fiscal year and only 122 people have been served through the program so far this fiscal year. However, the technical eligibility is narrow and individuals who need the services have found it difficult to access the program, resulting in potential underutilization of this program.

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Behavioral Health Administration

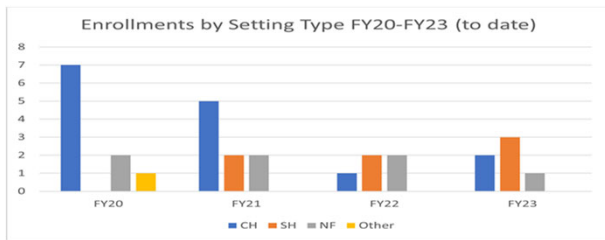
BI Waiver program Change

Temporary Technical eligibility change, allowing access from private nursing facilities, approved by CMS 9/12/22 through the Appendix K process

- The appendix K allows us to test if this expansion is sustainable: funding appropriation, potential for waitlist/registry, impact on cost neutrality, rate sufficiency, provider capacity, Departmental resource needs
- Change is in effect until 6 months after the end of the public health emergency

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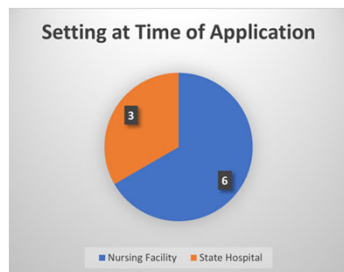
Enrollment Trends



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Current Application Trends (March 2023)

The type of a facility that an individual is residing in at the time of application.



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Questions?