

## Who has Traumatic Brain Injury?

Over 210,000 people in Florida are currently living with a TBI-related disability. By 2020, this number is expected to increase to nearly 260,000.

Over 8,200 Floridians are expected to sustain long-term disabilities as a result of their TBI each year.

In 2005 alone, approximately 93,000 TBIs occurred in Florida (511.5 per 100,000), which resulted in 3,900 deaths, 17,700 hospitalizations, and 71,400 emergency department visits.

## What is Traumatic Brain Injury?

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is defined as a blow or jolt to the head or a penetrating head injury that disrupts the function of the brain. TBI can cause a wide range of functional changes—short or long-term—affecting thinking, language, emotions, behavior, and/or sensation. Memory loss, difficulty with judgment and recognition of limitations, anxiety and/or depression, loss of social networking, feelings of isolation, slowness or difficulty with speech, decreased physical coordination, decreased anger management, decreased safety awareness, and difficulty initiating, planning, or completing tasks can be some of the consequences of TBI.

## RESPONSES FROM THE TBI COMMUNITY:

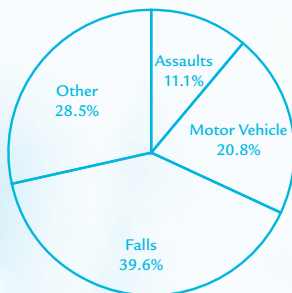
### Most Needed Services

- Financial assistance
- Transportation services
- Employment services
- Accessible, affordable and safe housing
- Recreation activities
- Alcohol and drug addiction services

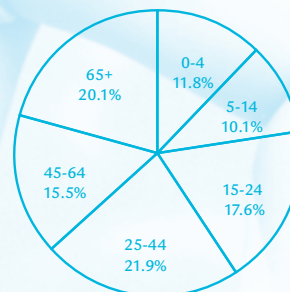
### Biggest Issues for TBI in Florida

- Public and professional brain injury awareness
- Access to qualified providers and specialized services
- Access to appropriate rehabilitation and therapies
- Access to information and education
- Access to long-term services and supports
- Coordination of services and organizations
- Program restrictions and eligibility requirements

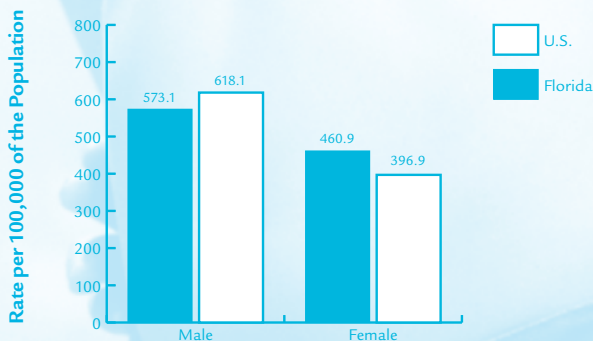
Total TBIs in Florida by Cause, 2005\*



Total TBIs in Florida by Age Group, 2005\*\*



TBI Rates for Florida and the U.S. by Gender\*\*



Total TBIs in the U.S. by Age Group, 2005\*\*



\*Source: State of Florida, Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics, Public Health Statistics, 2005; State of Florida, AHCA, Detailed Discharge Data, 2005; State of Florida, AHCA, Emergency Department Data, 2005; State of Florida, Department of Health, CHARTS, accessed Feb 2007. \*\*Source: State of Florida, Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics, Public Health Statistics, 2005; State of Florida, AHCA, Detailed Discharge Data, 2005; State of Florida, AHCA, Emergency Department Data, 2005; Traumatic Brain Injury in the United States: ED Visits, Hospitalizations and Deaths, 2006; State of Florida, Department of Health, CHARTS, accessed Feb 2007. Responses from the TBI Community include summary findings from focus groups, interviews, and surveys conducted during *Traumatic Brain Injury in Florida: A Needs and Resources Assessment* in 2007.

## Florida's Five-Year Strategic Plan (2009-2014) Enhancing the Traumatic Brain Injury System of Care

### Issue 1: Statewide System for Information, Referral, Planning, and Advocacy

- Goal 1: Identify or create a state entity for TBI.
- Goal 2: Establish or identify the information, referral, planning and advocacy capacity needed to create, disseminate, and link resources, programs, and education.

### Issue 2: Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness

- Goal 1: Create an ongoing, sustainable marketing campaign for TBI.
- Goal 2: Identify, recruit, and nurture champions throughout the state on TBI including survivors, families, advocates, legislators, funders, and policy makers.

### Issue 3: Traumatic Brain Injury Provider and Professional Education

- Goal 1: Determine, create, and/or modify educational programs for community partners to identify and recognize symptoms of TBI and make appropriate referrals and linkages.
- Goal 2: Establish training for providers who serve individuals with TBI, but whose primary function is not to work exclusively with individuals with TBI.
- Goal 3: Integrate TBI training and education into professional curricula, licensures, and ongoing continuing education.

### Issue 4: Lifelong/ Long-Term System of Care

- Goal 1: Implement a model of service delivery and array of services for individuals with TBI.
- Goal 2: Increase access to intermediate and long-term funding to support the service delivery system for persons with TBI.

*Florida's Five-Year Strategic Plan: Enhancing the Traumatic Brain Injury System of Care* was developed in response to the identified needs shared by TBI survivors, their families, service providers, and other key stakeholders in the TBI community during the completion of *Traumatic Brain Injury in Florida: A Needs and Resources Assessment*. The project partners, the Florida Department of Health, Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program, the Brain Injury Association of Florida and WellFlorida Council, convened consumers, family members, and key stakeholders to develop priority issues, goals, objectives, strategies, and action steps based upon these identified needs.

For more information contact: Lindsey Michaels, Associate Planner, WellFlorida Council at 352-313-6500 ext. 114 or [lmichaels@wellflorida.org](mailto:lmichaels@wellflorida.org)

Funded by project H25MC00264 from the Maternal and Child Bureau (Title V, Social Security Act), Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services and the Florida Department of Health, Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program.

