



**BRAIN INJURY
ASSOCIATION**
OF AMERICA - TENNESSEE

Statewide Community Councils

Overview

The Brain Injury Association of America – Tennessee Chapter (BIAA-TN) **Community Councils** serve as a vital, statewide advocate for the Brain Injury Association of America. Each volunteer-led committee will execute the mission, vision, and strategic goals of BIAA across Tennessee by tailoring the outreach, resources, and services of BIAA to the state’s culture and specific needs. From the Smoky Mountains in the east to the Delta in the west and everywhere in between, members of the Community Councils maximize their talents and resources by mobilizing their lived and professional expertise along with their connections to local, national, and international brain injury resources, colleagues, and peers.

Community Councils

Council	Purpose
Community Development	Increase access to survivor and caregiver resources and care by identifying gaps in availability and providing sustainable solutions
Fund Development	Make warm introductions to and asks of donors, foundations, and corporations to give to strengthen and expand BIAA - TN’s mission
Policy & Advocacy	Elevate and champion legislative issues impacting the brain injury community in Tennessee
Provider Education	Increase providers’ brain injury knowledge through BIAA’s Academy of Brain Injury Specialists (ACBIS) educational programs

Committee Chairs

- Work collaboratively with the BIAA-TN Chapter Executive Director to design an agenda with goals and deliverables.
- Focus on the health of the committee: recruiting new members, filling skill/capacity gaps, and conducting succession planning.

Community Development Committee

- Increase resources by discovering those available and where the gaps exist in the community, including support groups, supportive services, and all items that improve access to high-quality treatment and care
- Develop innovative pathways to connect communities with relevant brain injury information
- Partner with providers to inspire a comprehensive continuum of care for brain injury survivors and their support networks
- Promote key 3rd-party events surrounding important public awareness campaigns
- Serve a two-year commitment

Fund Development Committee

- Raise funds through foundations, government contracts/grants, and corporate and individual giving
Solicit event sponsorships for BIAA-TN's annual fundraising event, Luminary of the Year
- Recruit volunteer leaders to assist with the execution of fundraising events
- Provide connectivity to speakers, vendors, and prospective donors for events
- Engage participation in key 3rd-party events surrounding important public awareness campaigns
- Serve a two-year commitment

Policy & Advocacy Committee

- Elevate legislative issues impacting the brain injury community in Tennessee
- Act as a collective spokesperson to the state on important federal issues as identified by the BIAA Advocacy Committee and Government Affairs team
- Develop a statewide policy agenda (with other council leaders)
- Grow “grassroots” and “grass top” support for policy initiatives
- Support and attend policy events, including BIAA National Conference & Awareness Day (D.C.) and opportunities to represent BIAA-TN at Legislative Hall
- Serve a two-year commitment

Provider Education Committee

- Collaborate with BIAA staff to recruit potential Academy of Certified Brain Injury Specialists (ACBIS)
- Identify and develop a strategy to approach prospects who may be interested in educational resources from BIAA-TN (i.e., Brain Injury Fundamentals Training, CBIS certification, the Moderate to Severe Brain Injury Practical Guide, etc.)
- Extend educational opportunities to stakeholders who may currently not receive specialized training related to BI (i.e., Brain Injury Fundamentals for school nurses, or a concussion awareness training for coaches hosted at a regional sports complex, etc.)
- Serve a two-year commitment

Contact Information

BIAA - TN Chapter Staff

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