

NC Department of Health and Human Services

DMH/DD/SUS BIAC Update

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11/13/2025

Agenda—DMH/DD/SUS Updates

- Federal Updates
- TBI State Action Plan
- TBI Waiver

Federal Government Shutdown

Current Status:

- No furloughs will occur **before November 14**.
- NCDHHS continues to receive some federal funding, allowing most operations to continue.
- Leadership is closely monitoring developments and will provide timely updates.

Positive Progress:

- Following a **temporary restraining order** in the federal lawsuit North Carolina joined, the **USDA authorized a partial issuance of November SNAP benefits**.
- **Benefits are being loaded onto EBT cards this week**, ensuring North Carolinians can continue to feed their families.

Looking Ahead:

- Some federally funded programs, including **SNAP, WIC, and LIEAP**, may face disruptions if the shutdown extends into November.

The Department will continue to share updates on the [Federal Shutdown Impacts page](#) as new information becomes available.

As of 11/7

Federal Government Shutdown – Department Operations

The ACL TBI Grant remains fully funded through the conclusion of this current grant cycle ending July 31, 2026.

At this time, it is also anticipated that the **federal TBI Grant Program** will continue to be **fully funded** for the upcoming new grant cycle.

Applications are expected to open in **late Winter or early Spring 2026**.

TBI State Action Plan

TBI State Action Plan Process & BIAC

WE ARE HERE



Originally shared March 2025

Goal 1: Data Collection

Objective 1. Collect data on the incidence and prevalence of TBI for children under age 5.	Measure/Milestone 1: Establish as baseline of incidence and prevalence by assessing all existing TBI data sources (i.e., service systems and programs) used to identify individuals under age 5 in NC.	Unmet
Objective 2. Collect data on the incidence and prevalence of TBI for individuals between age 5 and 21.	Measure/Milestone 1: Establish as baseline of incidence and prevalence by assessing all existing TBI data sources (i.e., service systems and programs) used to identify individuals ages 5 to 21 in NC.	Unmet
Objective 3. Collect data on the incidence and prevalence of TBI for individuals age 22 and older.	Measure/Milestone 1: Establish as baseline of incidence and prevalence by assessing all existing TBI data sources (i.e., service systems and programs) used to identify individuals age 22 and older.	Unmet

Goal 1: Data Collection

Objective 4: Collect data on usage of state resources for all ages.	Measure/Milestone 1: Identify the individuals with TBIs using existing data sources who are in state developmental centers, state psychiatric hospitals, ADOLESCENTS, PRTFs (Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities), community ICF's and SNF's.	Unmet
	Measure/Milestone 2: Identify individuals with TBI receiving Medicaid who enter jail or prison systems.	Unmet
Objective 5: Develop a process to identify individuals with TBIs who are in community settings.	Measure/Milestone 1: Identify the individuals with TBIs using existing data sources who are in community settings. (Medicaid)	Met
	Measure/Milestone 2: Identify the individuals with TBIs using existing data sources who are in community settings. (State-Funded)	Met

Goal 2: Collaboration and Development

Objective 1: Engage community stakeholders, organizations, and agencies to build broader understanding of brain injury while increasing involvement and opportunities for individuals with lived experience across the state.	Measure/Milestone 1: Streamline current TBI screening efforts to establish a baseline of potential incidence versus total number screened in each LME-MCO graphic area.	Unmet
	Measure/Milestone 2: Explore the integration of TBI screening with standard plans.	Unmet
	Measure/Milestone 3: Maintain TBI screening with tailored plans.	Met
	Measure/Milestone 4: Maintain ABI screening at DV pilot(s).	Met
	Measure/Milestone 5: Explore the integration of ABI screening with the criminal justice system and homeless population.	Unmet
	Measure/Milestone 6: Identify stakeholders and agencies with seats on the Advisory Council to collaborate with the council to identify brain injury needs and opportunities within their organization or agency.	Unmet
	Measure/Milestone 7: Identify other stakeholders and agencies for collaboration with the council to identify brain injury needs and opportunities within their organization or agency.	Unmet

Goal 2: Collaboration and Development

Objective 2: Promote active participation among Brain Injury Advisory Council (BIAC) members.	Measure/Milestone 1: Create an orientation and refresher curriculum to promote consistent awareness of the roles and responsibilities of each Council member	Met
	Measure/Milestone 2: Develop and conduct a survey within each organization represented on the BIAC to determine level of awareness and organization specific needs.	Unmet
	Measure/Milestone 3: Develop meaningful relationships between Council members and within their represented organizations.	Unmet
	Measure/Milestone 4: Maximize Council member involvement in standing and other ad hoc committees.	Met

Goal 2: Collaboration and Development

Objective 3: Facilitate and initiate brain injury education and training development across the state.	Measure/Milestone 1: Collaborate with provider agencies and organizations in regards to determining brain injury training and education needs.	Met
	Measure/Milestone 2: Identify available in-person or online training opportunities related to brain injury throughout the state including but not limited to events, conferences, and webinars.	Met
	Measure/Milestone 3: Disseminate current and new training and educational information from sources in state and across the country.	Met
	Measure/Milestone 4: Facilitate training and educational opportunities regarding brain injury across the state.	Met

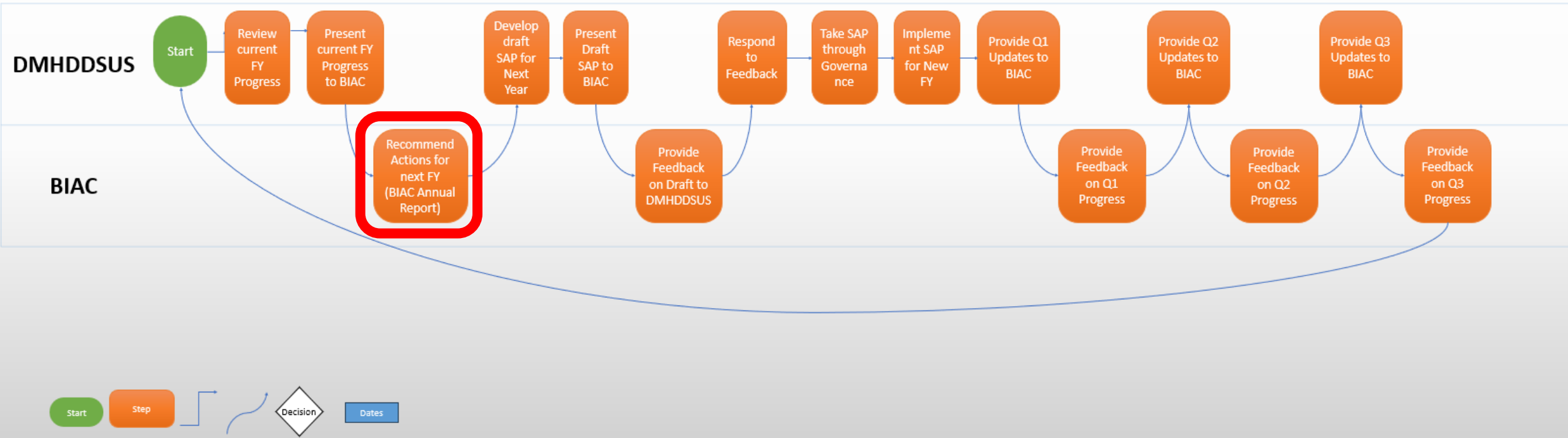
Goal 3: Resource Access and Engagement

Objective 1. Establish opportunities for advocacy to allow for recommendations related to public policy and legislation.	Measure/Milestone 1: Utilize the results of the needs and resources assessment to identify gaps & needs within the NC service system for individuals living with brain injury to potential barriers, including but not limited to accessing benefits and services, long-term supports, residential options, employment, transportation, care coordination and disparities for historically marginalized populations.	Met
	Measure/Milestone 2: Identify recurring funding opportunities for individuals living with brain injury to help the brain injury service infrastructure and sustain the continuum of brain injury care.	Unmet
Objective 2. Facilitate continued education, awareness, participation and collaboration in community-supports for individuals living with brain injury.	Measure/Milestone 1: Explore gaps & needs identified in the pilot of the TBI waiver with input from statewide stakeholders.	Met
	Measure/Milestone 2: Explore gaps & needs identified within the Medicaid Managed Care system with input from statewide stakeholders.	Met
	Measure/Milestone 3: Increase Council education and awareness regarding service system changes and updates.	Met
	Measure/Milestone 4: Expand public awareness of BI.	Met

Goal 4: Prevention

Objective 1. Enhance public awareness for targeted brain injury prevention efforts statewide.	Measure/Milestone 1: Determine highest incidence of brain injury based on existing data.	Unmet
	Measure/Milestone 2: Determine best and promising practices for brain injury prevention efforts based upon highest incidence.	Unmet
	Measure/Milestone 3: Identify potential collaborators for brain injury prevention efforts statewide.	Met
	Measure/Milestone 4: Implement best and promising practice strategies with collaborators	Met

What's Next?



Originally shared March 2025

State TBI Action Plan Advisory Workgroup

- **Kick off held 10/22/25**
- **Over 90 people signed up and over 50 participants attended**
- **Representation:**
 - **People with Lived Experience**
 - **Family Members**
 - **Caregivers**
 - **Advocacy Organizations**
 - **BIAC Members**
 - **SCFAC Members**
 - **Providers**
 - **Tailored Plans**

Focus Areas

Statewide
Expansion of TBI
Waiver

Increase Access
to High-Quality
TBI Services

Enhance
Provider
Capacity &
Quality

More Support for
People with Lived
Experience &
Families

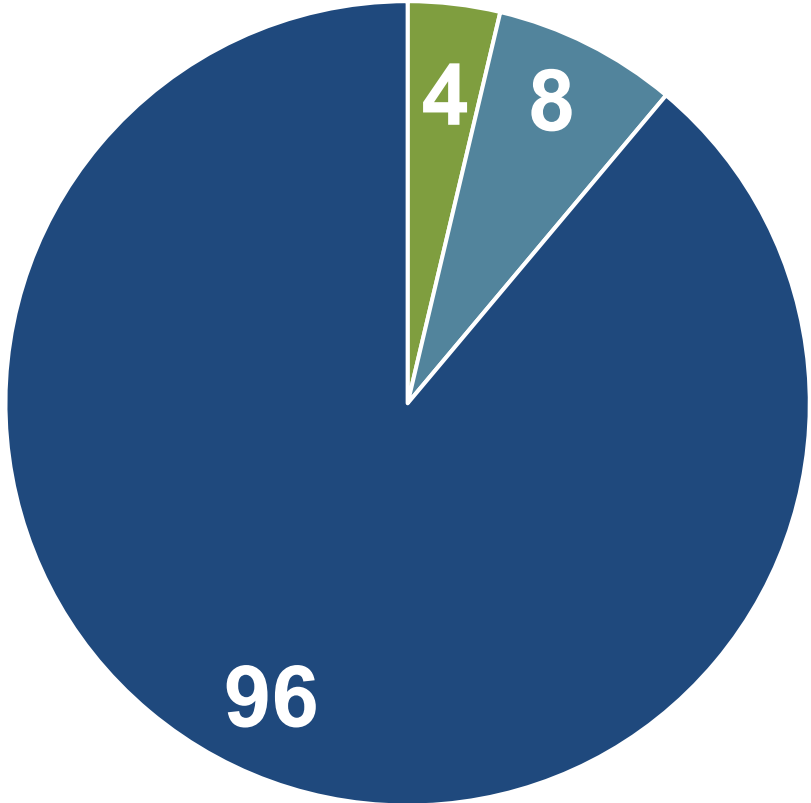
Next Steps

First Stakeholder Meeting	10/22/2025
Second Stakeholder Meeting	11/19/2025
Third Stakeholder Meeting	12/17/2025
Develop first draft using workgroup and BIAC recommendations	Jan/Feb 2026
Post for public comment/BIAC Presentation	March 2026
Make updates based on feedback	April/May 2026
Publish	By 6/30/2026
Implementation *First report out November Meeting.	7/1/2026

TBI Waiver Pilot

ALLIANCE HEALTH CATCHMENT: CUMBERLAND, DURHAM, HARNETT,
JOHNSTON, MECKLENBURG, ORANGE, WAKE

Total 108 TBI Waiver Slots



■ Unassigned ■ Enrollment Process ■ Indicator On

TBI Waiver Pilot Data – 9/30/2025

- **224 people are on the Registry of Interest**
- **237 people have disengaged from Waiver Enrollment Process**
 - **Deductible was too high**
 - **Moved out of state**
 - **Diagnosis was not eligible for waiver**
 - **Chose no longer to pursue**

Lessons Learned

Cognitive Rehabilitation

- Adult-TBI providers scarce; rate recently raised to attract more.
- Dual billing codes make yearly unit forecasting tricky.

Community Networking

- 100+ agencies but staffing for TBI-skilled hours is hard.
- Transportation via Lyft/Uber gift cards is difficult to monitor.

Day Supports

- 14 programs; many converted from IDD day sites.
- Integrating new TBI clients with IDD groups can be challenging.

Natural Supports Education

- Lower utilization, Specialized Consultative Services providers are generally involved and support this need.

Cross-Cutting Themes

- Provider shortages or credential mismatches (e.g., Cognitive Rehab, therapies).
- Rates that do not cover market wages (e.g., Respite nursing, Personal Care).
- Waiver caps too low for high-cost items (Assistive Tech, Home/Vehicle Mods).
- Complex rules create service gaps (therapy unit tracking, 90-day transition window).
- Transportation and staffing logistics hinder consistent access.



Waiver Success

NCDHHS is updating the Olmstead Plan

- We are launching Phase 1 of community engagement to shape North Carolina's updated Olmstead Plan. This work centers the voices of people with disabilities, families, providers, and advocates to ensure our systems are equitable, accessible, and person-centered.
 - ▶ Virtual Sessions: Utilizing existing standing meetings and offering registration for additional sessions.
 - ▶ In-Person Sessions: Two regional, mixed-population meetings.
 - ▶ Accessibility: ASL, interpreters, plain-language materials

If you want to sign up for a session or offer written feedback, email us at: ncolmstead@tacinc.org

*Take our survey:
[Olmstead in North Carolina Survey](#)*

