

MRC FY'20 Budget Ask Statewide Head Injury Program

THOUSANDS WITH BRAIN INJURY ARE UNDERSERVED

Each year over 100,000 Acquired Brain Injuries (ABI) happen in Massachusetts. The 2014 Massachusetts Epidemiology Report on Acquired Brain Injury lists that over 67,000 Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) and over 22,000 strokes happen each year. The majority of ABI inpatient hospitalizations, 54% with TBI and 50% with stroke, resulted in individuals being discharged home, with or without services. Adequate funding for MRC is imperative to provide services for these individuals. Here is a summary of the FY'20 ASK as of April 25, 2019:

FY'20 ASK for Budget Line Item (4120-6000)

Governor's FY'20 Budget	\$17,877,125
House FY'20 Budget	\$18,977,126
FY'20 Ask Additional	<u>\$ 1,399,999</u>
TOTAL FY'20 ASK	\$20,377,125

The additional funding would increase services for individuals with brain injury through **Transitional Support Services (TSS)**. Transitional Support Services will allow a distinct re-entry point for individuals that experience a sudden need for services, since brain injury symptoms are often unpredictable and can change over the individual's life.*

This service would be designed for individuals with brain injury, but due to the lack of funding, are unable to receive services.

**Brain Injury Needs Assessment-Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (November 2017)*

About the HITS Trust Fund

The Head Injury Treatment Service Trust Fund (HITS; 4120-6002) has decreased dramatically due to low citations in Massachusetts.

In 2016, there was a 35% drop in traffic violation compared to 2009 for the state while in Boston there was a 54% drop in traffic violation between 2010 through 2015.**

***Source: Rocheleau, Matt and Wallack, Todd "Mass. police issuing fewer traffic violation", Boston Globe, June 20, 2017.*

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