

INTRODUCTION

The Toronto Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Network was established in 1995 to address issues of fragmentation in the system and inequitable access to service for individuals with an acquired brain injury. Since that time the Network has become a leader in furthering equitable, accessible, responsive, cost-effective and quality publicly funded services.

In addition to managing a centralized referral system, the Toronto ABI Network works to address system level issues related to ABI service delivery, increase the profile of acquired brain injury and promote best practices across member organizations. A recognized leader in ABI, the Network is a strong and reputable advocate for the needs of those with acquired brain injury. Clients, families, ABI stakeholders, the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Local Health Integration Networks and others rely on the Network for information and advice, and as a forum to identify and resolve issues affecting the coordination of ABI services across the Greater Toronto Area.

OUR VISION: Influencing excellence in publicly funded services and support for persons living with the effects of an acquired brain injury.

OUR MISSION: To provide leadership in furthering equitable, accessible, responsive and quality publicly funded services and support for persons living with the effects of an acquired brain injury in the Greater Toronto Area.

OUR VALUES:

The values as stated are not intended to be exclusive or all encompassing but to serve as the principles guiding the activities of the Network.

- **Quality of life** - *Defined by the person and his/her family*
- **Social responsibility** - *Equal access and timely service*
- **Responsiveness to individuals and their families** - *Feedback from persons and their families is essential*
- **Knowledge-based services and support** - *Recommendations regarding services and support will be supported by data*
- **Partnerships** - *Collaboration with all stakeholders is crucial*
- **Research** - *Research and evaluation of clinical outcomes are fundamental*
- **Education** - *Education of all stakeholders is critical to influence excellence in service and support*

OUR KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Based on feedback gathered from our members through interviews and planning sessions, the following three priorities emerged:

1. Optimize transitions from hospital to community
2. Enhance service coordination and integration for those with complex needs
3. Strengthen partnerships and collaboration among member organizations

KEY ENABLERS:

- Data collection/Data analysis and reporting
- Communications
- Network membership engagement
- Infrastructure support and funding

PLAN AT A GLANCE

1. Optimize transitions from hospital to community

Why is this important?

- Organizations across the continuum (hospitals, rehabilitation and community organizations) understand the importance of connecting patients to support and services after sustaining a brain injury. They are committed to identifying the gaps and needs that impede successful transitions back to the community from a hospital setting for those with a brain injury.

What is our goal?

- We will develop, implement and evaluate a comprehensive hospital-to-community transition strategy to enhance timely transitions and connect people to appropriate community supports and services following ABI.

2. Enhance service coordination and integration for those with complex needs

Why is this important?

- Individuals who live with the effects of a brain injury may require services and expertise from various organizations and/or sectors at different stages of their lives. A coordinated and responsive system can help support people with complex needs.

What is our goal?

- By enhancing coordination and service integration, we will enhance system capacity to support people with complex needs following brain injury.

3. Strengthen partnerships and collaboration among members

Why is this important?

- In order to better serve individuals with brain injuries, our members have expressed a strong interest in building their collective knowledge of pressures across the continuum, enhancing their knowledge of available services and engaging in discussions about how they can best support each other.

What is our goal?

- We will strengthen our Network by increasing collaboration and partnerships among ABI Network member organizations to positively impact the clients we serve.