

Alcohol & Chemical
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Support Groups
TBI Internet
Transportation
Vocational Services





11. Financial Aid and Assistance

Finances remain a very difficult area for those with TBI. Sometimes the family is already in a financial crisis when the TBI strikes. Sometimes the TBI itself puts them in financial straits (by loss of an income or the burden of medical bills). Whatever the situation, these people and their families need whatever assistance that can be found.

This section includes agencies that help people with credit counseling, as well as those that offer counseling with the various financial difficulties that are often encountered following serious injury. There are also agencies that provide financial benefits counseling (e.g., help with applying for SSI, SSDI, etc. or appealing adverse determinations). In addition, we have included resources that can help with getting Medi-Cal and Medicare.

Brain Injury Law Office

800/992-9447

P.O. Box 1319

Sheboygan, WI 54923

Web site: <www.tbilaw.com/home.html>

Email: johnson@tbilaw.com

- This web site includes links to a brain injury calendar and information on social security, workers compensation, resources, getting medical bills paid, and proof of damages in TBI cases.

California Children's Services

408/793-6200

FAX: 408/793-6250

720 Empey Way

San Jose, CA 95128

- Medical service if injured before age 21.
- Benefits counseling, direct aid, insurance assistance, and financial case management.

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers

916/325-1690

FAX: 916/325-1699

1029 J Street, Suite 120

Sacramento, CA 95814

Website: <www.cfild.org>

- Directory of California Independent Living Centers.
- Independent Living Centers provide benefit counseling.

11. Financial Aid and Assistance

Consumer Credit Counseling Service

800/777-7526
415/788-0288
150 Post Street, 5th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94108

- This service offers money management and counseling for people with credit problems.
- They offer free debt counseling sessions which last about an hour; for this session they need information (for which they have a form) which must be completed before the client sees a counselor. Counseling sessions may be done by phone.
- They can also assist those clients whose bills are too large by helping them set up a debt repayment plan. Many creditors accept these plans (which may include reduced or partial payments).

Central Office Disability Advocates

800/660-0449
2116 6th Street
Sacramento, CA 95818

- Advocates for Social Security claims and SSI claims.

Community Services Agency of Mtn. View & Los Altos

650/968-0836
FAX: 650/968-2164
204 Stierlin Road
Mountain View, CA 94043

- Senior services.
- Financial assistance.

Disabled And Alone

Life Services For The Handicapped, Inc.

800/995-0066
352 Park Avenue South, 11th floor
New York, NY 10010
Website: <www.hsca.org/disabledandalone.html>

- Planning for the disabled following death of caregiver.

Employment Development Department (EDD)

408/277-9499
SDI Office - San Jose
Mailing: P.O. Box 637, San Jose, CA 95106-0637
Office: 297 West Hedding, San Jose, CA 95110

- EDD administers the State Disability Insurance (SDI) program.

11. Financial Aid and Assistance

Internal Revenue Service

Office of the Chief Counsel

1111 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 5112

Washington, DC 20224

Website: <www.irs.gov>

- Tax incentives for improving accessibility (tax credit/deduction)

- Publications and forms:

800/829-3676 Voice

800/829-4059 TDD

- Questions:

800/829-1040 Voice

800/829-4059 TDD

Life Planning For Persons With Disabilities

Donald Morford

916/334-7817

FAX: 916/332-6150

6801 Silverthorne Circle

Sacramento, CA 95842

Email: donmorford1@Juno.com

- Estate Planner—connects with other attorneys to provide assistance with wills and trusts.

- Offers free seminars to families.

Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Care Options

800/430-4263 (English)

800/430-5005 (Cambodian)

800/430-5006 (Cantonese)

800/430-5034 (Farsi)

800/430-2022 (Hmong)

800/430-4091 (Lao)

800/430-7007 (Russian)

800/430-3003 (Spanish)

800/430-8008 (Vietnamese)

800/430-5032 (Armenian)

800/430-6885 (Mandarin)

800/430-6890 (Tagalog)

800/430-6833 (Korean)

TDD: 877/486-7077

11. Financial Aid and Assistance

Medicare Information

800/633-4227

TTY: 877/486-2048

- Eligibility information.
- Medicare pays for doctors, ambulance trips, X rays, but will not pay for dentists, hearing aids, nor glasses except for cataracts (but they will pay for eye exams).
- Medicare will also pay for preventive care; such as mammograms and prenatal care.

Mental Health Advocacy Project

408/294-9730

800/248-MHAP

FAX: 408/293-0106

111 West St. John Street, Suite 315

San Jose, CA 95113

Email: mhap@lawfoundation.org

- Advocacy for Social Security and SSI Disability benefits.

Money Management International Consumer Credit Counseling Service

510/729-6966

7677 Oakport Street, Suite 210

Oakland, CA 94621

Website: <www.moneymanagement.org>

- This service offers money management and counseling for people with credit problems.
- They offer free debt counseling sessions which last about an hour; for this session they need information (for which they have a form) which must be completed before the client sees a counselor. Counseling sessions may be done by phone.
- They can also assist those clients whose bills are too large by helping them set up a debt repayment plan. Many creditors accept these plans (which may include reduced or partial payments).

Outreach

408/436-9760

926 Rock Avenue, Suite 10

San Jose, CA 95131

- Benefits counseling and money management mainly for seniors, but may also help people with TBI.
- Financial assistance with transportation for residents of Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Milpitas, Morgan Hill, San Jose, San Martin, and Santa Clara.

11. Financial Aid and Assistance

Pro Check Writing

408/223-8770

P.O. Box 36027

San Jose, CA 95158-6027

- This company can assist with such financial activities as paying bills, balancing a checkbook, organizing tax info, etc.
- They work mostly with seniors and people who travel a lot, but also have experience working with TBI.
- They offer a free consultation.

Public Guardian Office (Conservatorship)

408/534-2500

FAX: 408/295-8754

1075 East Santa Clara Street

San Jose, CA 95116

- Act as conservators in cases of mental health or probate law.

Redwood Caregiver Resource Center

707/542-0282

FAX: 707/542-0552

141 Stony Circle, Suite 200

Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Website: <www.redwoodcrc.org>

- Part of the Caregiver Resource Center system.
- Primarily helps caregivers, but will also help the individual with TBI.
- Legal assistance, counseling and respite care.

San Andreas Regional Center

408/374-9960

FAX: 408/376-0586

300 Orchard City Drive, #170

Campbell, CA 95008

Website: <www.sarc.org>

- Referrals to community agencies for benefit counseling and financial case management.

11. Financial Aid and Assistance

San Mateo County Aging And Adult Services

800/675-8437

225 West 37th Avenue

San Mateo, CA 94403

- Adult Protective Services.

- Veterans services.

- Case management.

- In-home support.

Santa Clara County Social Services Department Information on Medi-Cal, AFDC and Food Stamps.

General Assistance

408/928-3650

591 North King Road

San Jose, CA 95133

Senter Road office:

1870 Senter Road

San Jose, CA 95112

408/999-6330

Central office:

333 West Julian Street

San Jose, CA 95110

408/491-6300

South County office:

80 Highland Avenue

San Martin, CA 95046

408/686-8700

East Valley office:

1670-H Las Plumas Avenue, Suite H

San Jose, CA 95133

408/928-3100

Valley Medical Center

751 South Bascom Avenue, Trailer T-1

San Jose, CA 95128

408/793-6709

North County office:

100 Moffett Blvd.

Mountain View, CA 94043

650/988-6100

Social Security And Medicare Information

800/772-1213

TTY: 408/291-4293

11. Financial Aid and Assistance

SSI Advocacy Program

408/928-3641

591 North King Road

San Jose, CA 95133

- Social Worker/Advocacy Worker on duty.

- Assists disabled General Assistance clients to access Social Security system.

U.S. Veterans Administration

800/827-1000

TTY: 800-829-4833

Department Of Veteran Affairs Regional Office

Oakland Federal Building

1301 Clay Street

Oakland, CA 94612-5209

Website: <www.va.gov>

Angelina Valle

408/881-0200

FAX: 408/881-0208

1671 The Alameda, Suite 302

San Jose, CA 95126

- Ms. Valle has served several persons with TBI with disability benefits issues.

Victim Witness Assistance Program

408/295-2656

777 North First Street, Ste. 500

San Jose, CA 95112

- Provides compensation to victims of crimes.

Victims Of Crime Resource Center

800/842-8467

- Legal referrals and information to victims of crime and referrals to local Victim Witness Assistance Offices for compensation.

11. Financial Aid and Assistance

BOOKS

Financial Aid For The Disabled And Their Families

Reference Service Press

916/939-9620

5000 Windplay Drive, Ste. 4

El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

•350 Pages: \$40.00.

Social Security Benefits (taken from the TBI Tool Kit)

HDI Publishers

713/682-8700

FAX: 713/956-2288

P.O. Box 131401

Cypress, TX 77219