The Role of National Association of State Head Injury Administrators – NASHIA

- Only organization to represent State employees working to support individuals with brain injury and their families
- Advocates for federal resources (funding for programs authorized by TBI Act, funding for CDC TBI program, funding for DOD/VA TBI programs)
- Raises awareness nationally about TBI
- Provides training, education and technical assistance to a broad range of stakeholders
Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Act

- Only federal legislation that provides direct federal investment for civilian populations living with TBI
- Authorizes funding for the TBI State Grant Program, CDC TBI Program and research at NIH
- The reauthorization of the TBI Act in 2000 included the creation of the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with TBI program
- Since this time, NASHIA has partnered with NDRN to support this federal legislation, as well as its subsequent funding
State Programs + Protection and Advocacy Programs

- NASHIA and NDRN have partnered at the national level on legislative advocacy and awareness activities
  - TBI Awareness Month in March
  - Presentations at NASHIA's State of the States Conference
- While some States have created beneficial partnerships, like Alabama, there is a need for more collaboration at the State level
State Programs + Protection and Advocacy Programs

The Challenge:
State TBI Programs are housed in varying agencies and offices

The Objective:
Inspire both State employees and P&As to reach out to each other to work toward common goals