

SASK. CENTRAL ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY OUTREACH TEAM

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Attention Town Council

Greetings,

I am writing on behalf of the Saskatchewan Central Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Team, an agency of the Saskatchewan Health Authority. Our mandate is to work with people who have sustained a moderate to severe brain injury following their discharged home from the hospital. These injuries can be from a stroke, a tumor, a trauma like a motor vehicle collision, or a lack of oxygen to the brain following a cardiac arrest, among others. The goal of the ABI Outreach Team is to support people and their families to re-establish a role at home and in the community following their injury. Our involvement can include working with them in social, recreational, educational or vocational areas and other. The services the team provides include assessment, case management, the provision of support and information, setting up community linkages, and referral to existing programs.

To be effective in our work with people we need to know what services, programs, opportunities and supports are available in their local communities so we can connect them to those resources. At this time we have prioritised rural Saskatchewan residents through our Rural Resources Project. Our aim is learn as much as we can about the rural resources in our service area. Your community is included in this area which is why we are reaching out to you.

In practical terms we are looking for information such as: Do you have any employment agencies or work training or support programs in your area?; Are their social or low cost housing options available where you are?; What recreational or social groups exist and are there any facilities that encourage or support these, such as libraries, rinks, museums or similar?; Are there educational supports such as a program for GED, supports for learning disabilities, or post- secondary school opportunities?; Are there counselling services nearby either public or private?; What health supports are available in the community (both public and private such as physical therapy, exercise programs, etc.); Are there any transportation options for people who can no longer drive? Or maybe there is some other unique resource, service, or opportunity in your community you think we should be made aware of. And if possible, having the contact information for these would most helpful. It is information of this type that we make use of to help our clients.

We believe the community leadership are likely to be aware of their local resources and it is our hope that someone in leadership would be willing to generate a list of such resources to share with us. If you can consider this it will certainly help us to help your community should someone with a brain injury live in your area. Our aim is to make sure every person living in the rural areas of the Province who has

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sustained an acquired brain injury is aware of our program and getting the support they need. If you would like to discuss this further please contact me either by phone or email. This information is listed below.

Thank you for helping us gather this information. It will be used to good effect for the members of your community who find themselves or a family member living with an acquired brain injury.

Sincerely,



Rob Jameson BSW, RSW (Sk.)

ABI Coordinator

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