



Shaping the Future of Brain Injury Nebraska Brain Injury Advisory Council

During July, Nebraska VR and the Brain Injury Advisory Council have been celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the TBI Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-166). We are spotlighting state TBI grant activities and council members who are helping to "shape the future" of brain injury.

Judy Nichelson is the third in our series. The final spotlight will be on on the council's chair, Tiffany Armstrong, and how she has been helping shape the future for seven years.

For more information contact [Keri Bennett](#), Nebraska VR at (308) 865-5012.

COUNCIL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT #3

Judy Nichelson of North Platte is the Brain Injury Advisory Council's newest member. After a brain injury in 2005, Judy started experiencing symptoms. Being a registered nurse, she searched out resources and solutions.

Judy joined the North Platte support group where she received a brochure about the annual statewide brain injury conference. She has attended nearly all of the ten events supported in part by the Brain Injury Advisory Council. Judy says, "Each year I have been encouraged and found hope and support. The information on resources and strategies have helped me, and now I am able to help others.

For the past year I have been the leader of the local support group. I am excited to share my experience, recruit professionals to present at our meetings, and help families take the first step toward acceptance and change in their lives."

Judy is looking forward to being a member of the Brain Injury Advisory Council. Judy says, "I will be able to share information with the support group and provide input on what is needed in our area of the state".



Judy Nichelson

One of Judy's goals is to explore training on brain injury for professionals. Until physicians and emergency room staff know the symptoms of brain injury,

individuals will continue to be undiagnosed. Judy has invited a representative from her local hospital to the support group meetings and the networking continues on how everyone can work together.

[North Platte Brain Injury Support Group August Meeting](#)

[Find a brain injury support group](#)

The Eleventh Annual Statewide Brain Injury Conference will be March 23-24, 2017 at the Younes Conference Center, Kearney, Nebraska. Registration and conference schedule will be available in January on the council [website](#).