IMPACT STATEMENT:
Acquired Brain Injury Community Support Research

AT A GLANCE:

INVESTIGATORS: Heidi Muenchberger PhD
Elizabeth Kendall PhD
Areti Kennedy
Griffith University, School of Human Services
and Social Work, and ABIOS
and STEPS Manager

PERIOD OF STUDY: 2006-present

GRANTING BODIES: Princess Alexandria Hospital, Brisbane

AIM AND DESIGN:
The Skills To Enable People and Communities (STEPS) program is
a psychosocial intervention designed to support individuals with
traumatic brain injury within the community setting and achieves this
through the delivery of a 6 week, 2-hour/week brain education course
delivered within the local community.

OUTCOMES TO DATE:
Publications arising from this study
Harrington, R., Muenchberger, H., Hazelton, R., Griffin, E., Raffell, S.,
Service System for Queenslanders with Acquired Brain Injury. Quarterly
Brain Injury Services Meeting (QBISM) Group

Casebook of Exemplary Evidence-Informed Programs that Foster
Community Participation After Acquired Brain Injury. Richard Volpe,
University of Toronto, Chapter 3, November 2011- Revised April 2012.

Living with brain injury in the community: Outcomes from a
community-based self-management support (CB-SMS) programme in

Supporting the growth of peer-professional workforces in healthcare
settings: an evaluation of a targeted training approach for volunteer
leaders of the STEPS program. Disability and Rehabilitation; 36 (14).

The research evaluation has resulted in psycho-social needs being routinely incorporated
into rehabilitation programs for brain injury.

ABIOS has shifted from being a not-for-profit
community based service provider to being
funded as a state-wide health service by
Queensland Health.

30 communities in
QLD are offering a
6 week interactive course
covering self management
and social participation.

479 participants
state-wide

24

STEPS network groups
located in greater Brisbane,
Regional centres and one
Rural based centre.

Resulted in 1 policy document,
1 international case study,
4 ministerial forum presentations,
and numerous training events.

Major
International
policy and
practice impact.

IMPACT

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