Spinal cord injuries occur when the spinal cord sustains damage or trauma that results in a loss or impaired function causing reduced mobility or feeling and resulting in a change in normal motor, sensory or autonomic function. Most common causes result from motor vehicle crashes, falls, sporting injuries, and violence.

Spinal cord disabilities occur as a result of a birth defect such as spina bifida, or a disease such as multiple sclerosis, and ALS.

One brief moment in time can change a life forever.

Spinal Cord Injury/Disability (SCI/D)

A spinal cord injury can happen to anyone, at any time.
Our mission: Identify and meet unique and lifelong needs of Arkansans with spinal cord disabilities while giving them the opportunity to live as independently and as productively as they choose.

WHO WE ARE

The Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission (ASCC) is a state agency established in 1975. It was the first state agency in the United States to be responsible solely to individuals with spinal cord disabilities (SCI/D), and to maintain a central registry of Arkansans with SCI/D. ASCC provides a range of specialized services, at no cost to the client, with emphasis on individualized case management. Our mission is to administer a statewide program to identify and meet the unique and lifelong needs of people with spinal cord disabilities and their families in Arkansas.

ASCC case managers strive daily—to exceed the expectations of ASCC clients and their families through maintaining a high level of professional integrity and delivery of services while remaining humble.

WHAT WE DO

The Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission (ASCC) plays an integral role in client recovery and community reintegration, and is the only case management program in Arkansas. ASCC is the most reliable voice and leading expert on living with spinal cord disabilities in Arkansas.

We encourage and support clients to be as independent as possible. We provide services and programs aimed to provide information, resources, education, and support in the adjustment to having a spinal cord disability.

CASE MANAGEMENT

Damage to the spinal cord does not stop with the initial onset. It will likely have a lasting impact on most aspects of daily living and ongoing health. ASCC’s case managers are qualified rehabilitation counselors who are knowledgeable in the medical aspects of spinal cord injuries, spina bifida, multiple sclerosis and many other diseases of the spinal cord.

Their personal interaction and involvement serves as a vital link for the client.

Case managers have the experience and skills in navigating the sometimes complex maze of services and programs that may be available. Our case managers are also an advocate in managing and implementing ongoing support.

As the single point-of-contact for all involved, including medical professionals and family members, ASCC’s dedicated staff can ensure that the client’s requirements are met and implemented in a timely manner.

- Assist families in identifying and applying for other available services.
- Assistance in finding specialized medical care and other health care services when secondary conditions such as pressure sores, depression, and bowel and bladder issues may occur.

WHAT WE PROVIDE

ASCC case managers provide “one-to-one” customized services addressing the needs of clients.

- Provides lifetime case management.
- Addresses ongoing needs and evaluations.
- Coordinates service delivery.
- Provides guidance and counseling.
- Advocates on client’s behalf.
- Resource provision and technical assistance.
- Guidance and advice in making accessible modifications to homes and other durable medical equipment.

Additional services include:

- ASCC is instrumental in connecting Arkansans with SCI/D to collaborative network organizations and other individuals in SCI/D communities. We address systemic barriers—barriers that affect community participation, optimum primary healthcare by using customized solutions and proven best practices to improve the quality of life for citizens with spinal cord disabilities in Arkansas.
- SCD educational conferences for clients and healthcare professionals.
- Sponsors annual summer camp for children with spina bifida, ages 6-16.
- Maintains a comprehensive central registry of individuals with spinal cord disabilities.
- Provides education and training on accessible parking laws.
- Maintains regional durable medical equipment loan program.
- For more information call the ASCC case manager office in your region.

Connect to more information and resources.
Visit our website at: www.ascc.arkansas.gov

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