



## ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY PROGRAM

### *Acute Care through Community Re-entry*

**B**rain injury doesn't mean the end of a fulfilling and productive life; in fact, 95 percent of our patients return to the community at a higher level of cognitive and physical functioning. Shepherd Center's brain injury rehabilitation program is managed by physiatrists and a multidisciplinary team of specialists, and coordinated by case managers who develop discharge plans focused on community reintegration.

At Shepherd Center, all of our resources are devoted to complex, catastrophic brain and spinal cord injuries, and related neuromuscular illnesses. We have treated thousands of people with brain injuries, and our medical outcomes exceed regional and national averages.

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*From intensive care through supported living,  
Shepherd Center offers efficient continuity of care*

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Part of the trauma of injury is what it does to the family. To help families take an active role in rehabilitation, we provide 30 days of housing for those who live outside driving distance of the center when available.

### ACUTE MEDICAL CARE

Shepherd accepts patients with complex medical needs, including ventilator dependent patients, those with multiple trauma or a dual diagnosis of brain and spinal cord, and minimally conscious states (Rancho I-III). **PREP (Pre-Rehabilitation and Education Program)** is a short-term, four-to-six-week program, with approximately 1 1/2 hours of therapy daily, for patients with disorders of consciousness (Rancho I-III) and takes into account a slow response to therapeutic intervention. Reducing medical

acuity, preventing medical complications and continually measuring arousal and attention to the environment are key components of this program, which also takes into account neuropharmacological management, nutritional management, maximizing mobility and beginning family education and training.

### ACUTE REHABILITATION

Shepherd Center's Acute Rehabilitation Program treats patients with traumatic brain injury (Rancho IV-VIII), as well as stroke patients under the age of 65, and diagnoses including encephalitis, anoxia, tumors and dual diagnosis of brain and spinal cord injury. We are able to serve more than 300 patients each year.

### OUR GOALS FOR EACH PERSON

We have 2 medical comprehensive rehabilitation units that service people with brain and other neurological disorders. The ABI Unit (Acquired Brain Injury Program), located on the 2nd floor Marcus Building, is a 30-bed secured unit. The Neurospecialty Unit, located on the 2nd floor Shepherd Building, is a 28-bed program that serves brain injury, stroke, trauma, dual diagnosis and medically fragile patients. Both units are equipped with closed-circuit cameras, bed alarms and specialized beds to ensure safety. The unit also includes a 2,200-square foot therapy gym, a transitional living apartment with a full kitchen, accessible bathrooms, private treatment rooms, a cognitive retraining lab and an activity room.

Acute rehabilitation provides a minimum of three hours of therapy per day, which may include neuropsychology, assistive technology assessment, seating and bracing assessment, therapeutic recreation, intensive family education and training, occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy.

## POST ACUTE PROGRAM

Post Acute Programs are community-based programs that provide therapeutic interventions and strategies into the community. Shepherd Pathways, located in nearby Decatur, Ga., serves over 400 patients each year. Specific programs are:

### Day Program

- A day program that continues the rehabilitation track, provides ongoing assessment, therapeutic interventions, a focus on reintegration and patient and family education. The program provides 3-4 hours of therapy per day that includes both individual and group therapy.
- Some transportation and housing is available for patients and families.

### Residential Program

- A residential 12 bed facility with full supervision for those who cannot live alone or with family. This program also provides day therapy and weeknight and weekend activities.

### Vocational Program

- Provides vocational assessment and coaching for those patients returning to work.

## POST ACUTE PROGRAM

Every brain injury doesn't require the full spectrum of care. Shepherd is often called upon to provide expertise in one aspect of care or evaluation.

- Adolescent & Young Adult Program
- Center for Diagnostic Evaluation-Medical Legal Consultation
- Respite Program
- Vestibular/Balance Program
- Swallowing Program - Vital Stimulation
- Sports Concussion Program
- Outpatient Therapy Assessments and Evaluations for Physical, Occupational, Speech Therapy and Counseling
- Neuropsychological Evaluation

## SUPPORTED LIVING

Shepherd Center offers a 24-hour, fully supervised residence for patients who need support that includes personal support care, money management, behavioral management and structured activities. Spring Creek House is located in a residential neighborhood, near businesses that provide vocational opportunities and parks and recreational services for leisure time.