

Brain Injury & Sports Neurology Center



IMPACT OF PHILANTHROPY



65,000

students completed Barrow Brainbook in 2024



102

Brains Club participants in 2024



675

total survivors of domestic violence treated

Led by Glynnis Zieman, MD, MPH, FAAN, FAHS, the Barrow Brain Injury & Sports Neurology Center is dedicated to providing comprehensive diagnosis, treatment, and prevention strategies for concussion and traumatic brain injury (TBI). The Center's Domestic Violence Brain Injury Program is the first of its kind in the nation to address TBI in survivors of domestic violence. The Center is also a national leader in concussion education and outreach for youth athletes and offers a Sports Neurology & Traumatic Brain Injury Fellowship.

You contribute to life-saving concussion education.

Repeated concussions can result in serious, long-term deficits. To prevent this in student-athletes, the Center partnered with the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA), to form the Barrow Concussion Network, which provides comprehensive concussion education and resources for Arizona high school athletes.

A hallmark of this network is Barrow Brainbook, a state-mandated, web-based concussion course for student-athletes. With support from philanthropy, the Center released an updated version of Barrow Brainbook in March 2024. In addition to educating students on the signs and symptoms of a concussion, the updated version focused on the importance of fully recovering from a concussion before returning to the playing field or classroom.

You increase access to care for underserved populations.

Domestic Violence Brain Injury Program: Through the generosity of Barrow donors, the Center provides survivors of domestic violence with comprehensive brain injury care regardless of their ability to pay. The Center also offers Brains Club, a cognitive retraining program that equips residents at participating shelters and community organizations with the resources to hold a job, secure stable housing, and live independently. Last year, the Center received the copyright for the Barrow-branded Brains Club curriculum and is now working to expand the program to other CommonSpirit Health facilities.

Native American Health Equity Initiative: Neurologist Yvette Brown-Shirley, MD, is the director of the Barrow Native American Health

Equity Initiative, which aims to provide culturally sensitive neurological care to Native American tribal communities throughout Arizona. In 2024, Dr. Brown-Shirley received the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Innovator Grant from the American Academy of Neurology for her project implementing baseline concussion protocol and culturally appropriate concussion education at a Navajo Nation high school.



On the Horizon

Sports Neurology & Traumatic Brain Injury Fellowship: The Center recently welcomed Arielle Lehman, MD, as its new fellow. In addition to her clinical duties, Dr. Lehman will work alongside Drs. Ziemann and Brown-Shirley to provide sideline concussion coverage at games for several Arizona State University sports.

Domestic Violence Brain Injury Program: Dr. Ziemann is working on the protocol for a domestic violence clinical outcomes study. The study will measure patient-reported quality-of-life outcomes after receiving treatment at Barrow for TBI due to domestic abuse.

Native American Health Equity Initiative: Dr. Brown-Shirley plans to expand the baseline concussion protocol to more underserved and rural communities throughout Arizona. She is also working to bring other areas of neurological care to Native American tribal communities.