

# TBI Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

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## Call to Order

A TBI Advisory Board Meeting was held on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at the Telcoe/University Tower, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room. Kim Lamb called the meeting to order at 10:08 A.M. and began introductions. Minutes from previous meeting were approved.

## Guest Presenter

Jim Drake (Miracles for Mary, Parent & caregiver of person living with TBI)

## Attendees

Kim Lamb, MS (Assistant Director of Programs, TBI State Partnership Program, UAMS)  
 Daniel Bercher, PhD, NRP, CBIS (Assistant Director, TRRP, UAMS)  
 Edward Williams, BSN, CBIS (Nurse Educator, TRRP, UAMS)  
 Amber Watson, MBA (Administrative Coordinator, TRRP, UAMS)  
 Shiela Beck, CBIS (Therapy Coordinator, Easter Seals Arkansas Children's Rehab)  
 Mary Drake (Miracles for Mary, person living with TBI)  
 Patty Drake (Miracles for Mary, parent & caregiver of person living with TBI)  
 Amy Goddard, MS, OTR/L, CBIS (Consultant for Students with Brain Injury, Arkansas Department of Education)  
 Stacy Gravett, MA, CRC (Vocational Rehab Counselor, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services)  
 Sara Hodge, MCD, CCC-SLP, CBIS (Clinical Evaluator, NeuroRestorative Timber Ridge)  
 Kelsey Ingle, MS, CCC-SLP, CBIS (Administrative Speech Pathologist IV, BHRI)  
 Steven Long (Program Coordinator, ICAN)  
 Miranda Morris, MA (Executive Director, Arkansas Center for Health Improvement)  
 Valerie Oji, MD (Director, Innovative Pharm & Consulting; Associate Professor, Harding University)  
 Joe Page III, MSCJ (Warden, Arkansas Department of Correction – Tucker Unit, & person living with TBI)\*  
 Dan Parker (Retired RN, Parent & caregiver of person living with TBI)  
 Gigi Parker (Retired SLP, Parent & caregiver of person living with TBI)  
 Susan Pierce (Director of Policy and Planning, Disability Rights Arkansas)  
 Kerrie Snyder (person living with TBI)  
 Aleecia Starkey (Retired SLP, Arkansas Department of Education)  
 Jon Wilkerson (Chair, TAC Rehab Committee; TBI Researcher, University of Arkansas)

*\*attended via teleconference*

## Trauma Rehabilitation Resources Program Update

Dr. Daniel Bercher presented TRRP (previously ATRP) update.

- **New Branding**
  - Arkansas Trauma Rehabilitation Program (ATRP) is now Trauma Rehabilitation Resources Program (TRRP)
- **Brain Waves Newsletter**
  - Completed 1 full cycle of 4 quarterly editions
  - Has been well received
  - Need feedback from community, on lookout for survivor stories
- **Outreach**
  - Edward Williams has been traveling to trauma facilities, visiting PCPs and patients

- **Teleclinics**
  - Steady with no increase
- **Call Center**
  - Steady with a slight increase
- **Registry**
  - Currently doing statistical analysis, wanting to get linked the trauma registry to find trends
    - Noticed trend that more TBIs are going to UAMS vs Baptist recently
  - Aleecia Starkey inquired about an increase in youth TBIs, she has seen an increase but are not sure they are being reported correctly
    - Edward Williams added that he has observed that the ACH criteria for TBI is different
    - Jon Wilkerson added that it may be beneficial to speak to Dr. Thompkins at ACH
    - Dr. Daniel Bercher proposed to get a discussion going. Dr. Bercher will take on setting up a meeting as this advisory group is concerned and wanting to look into this

## TBI SPP Update

Kim Lamb gave the TBI SPP Update.

- **NASHIA Update**
  - Kim Lamb, Terri Imus and Daniel Bercher attended the annual NASHIA conference in Kansas City in September 2019.
  - Kim Lamb and Terri Imus gave presentation about the basics of telehealth and what is being done for TBI via telehealth in the state of Arkansas
  - Met with individual ACL groups and committees
  - Asked to document regional workshop process and develop a model that will be part of ACL tool kit
- **Interview on THV11**
  - Terri Imus was asked to do an interview with THV11 in August 2019
  - Shortly after, began receiving calls from people who predate the TBI registry
  - Interview “UAMS expands brain injury resources for rural communities across state” is on THV11 website and TBI SPP website
- **Regional Brain Injury Workshop – Helena, Arkansas on October 28, 2019**
  - 8 partners came to share resources, approx. 30 attendees total
  - Next workshop Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> in Jacksonville at community center,
    - Invites going out soon and calls will be made to people in the TBI Registry about event
    - Aleecia Starkey volunteered to help if needed
    - Will start obtaining survivor story videos at this workshop beginning with Tony Thornton
- **Kevin DeLiban of Legal Aid CAP Presentation**
  - “Legal Aid: Lawyers for Low-Income Arkansans”
  - Available to view on learnondemand.org

## Presentation

Jim Drake began his presentation.

- **History of Miracles for Mary**
  - 10 years ago daughter, Mary Drake, sustained a traumatic brain injury in an automobile accident
  - Mary was in the hospital for 8 months. The Drakes were fortunate to live close to the hospital and had a strong support system. They began to realize how difficult it would be if

others did not have the same resources as they had. They wanted to be able to help people who live in rural areas and/or lacked a support system. This led to the creation of Miracles for Mary.

- Miracles for Mary was created in 2013 and officially recognized by IRS in 2014 as a 501c
  - Miracles for Mary helps navigate families through the transition (emotionally, spiritually & financially)
    - Including home modifications and providing special equipment to those in need
  - An annual charity auction golf tournament is held with over 200+ golfers each year
  - Now adding another annual event, the Mary-thon (Walk for Survivors/Caregivers/Supporters)
    - March 21, 2020 in honor of brain injury awareness month
    - “See My Hope” is theme
    - Looking for financial support
    - Julie Drake will be the race coordinator
    - Would like a survivor to speak at the walk
    - Have booths/tents for supporters/sponsors
    - Kim Lamb has someone who has offered to design logos/graphics

## Arkansas Sub-Workgroup Breakout/Updates

Breakout session began at 11:06 A.M. Updates began at 11:33 A.M.

- **Underserved Populations**
  - Sara Hodge gave update.
  - Difficulty with the PASSEs and getting kids approved for post-acute rehab
    - Focus on training, create a pediatric version and adult version and make available on website, spread word about training during outreach
- **Trust Fund/Waiver/Financial Strategies**
  - Danny Bercher gave update.
  - Trust funds may not be a viable option for Arkansas. Arkansas is a county by county state, which would lead to having to go through each county judge for requests
  - Leaning towards waiver as it is the best option for now, waiting on Iowa TBI waiver model

## Questions & Answers

- Miranda Morris inquired if these individuals are going to federally qualified health centers in the state or if they are generally going to their primary care physicians.
  - Edward Williams responded that the TBI Registry shows discharge information but does not track PCPs. Mr. Williams added that it would be beneficial to have access to the PCPs so he can visit them as needed.
  - Sara Hodge added that the PCPs do not seem to have a lot of knowledge about the medications that work and do not work
  - Dr. Rani Lindburg spoke to a group of PCPs at a conference addressing this issue and emphasizing the call center

## Adjournment

Next TBI Advisory Board Meeting to be held on February 11, 2020. Meeting adjourned at 11:44 A.M.