

TBI Advisory Board Workgroup Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

A TBI Advisory Board Workgroup Meeting was held on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 via Zoom. Dr. Daniel Bercher called the meeting to order at 10:04 A.M and introductions were made. Previous meeting minutes were approved.

Attendees

Renee Joiner, RN, BSN (Director of Operations, Stroke and Trauma Programs, IDHI, UAMS)
 Daniel Bercher, PhD, NRP, CBIS (Assistant Director, TRRP, UAMS)
 Amy Moses, M.S.Ed (Program Manager, IDHI, UAMS)
 Kristen Alexander, MPH, MPS (Health Educator, TRRP, UAMS)
 Amber Watson, MBA (Administrative Coordinator, TRRP, UAMS)
 Edward Williams, RN, BSN, CBIS (Nurse Educator, TRRP, UAMS)
 FranSha' Anderson, MBA, DD (Executive Director, Arkansas State Independent Living Council)
 Charlotte Bishop (State Long Term Care Ombudsman, AR Division of Aging and Adult Services)
 Stanley Ellis, Ed.D. (IDHI Director of Education, Assistant Professor, UAMS)
 Donna Elrod, PhD, RN (Executive Director of Clinical Programs, IDHI, UAMS)
 Amy Goddard, MS, OTR/L, CBIS (Consultant for Students with Brain Injury, Arkansas Department of Education)
 Stacy Gravett, MA, CRC (Supportive Employment, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services)
 Jensyn Hallett (Advocate, Caregiver of person living with TBI)
 Tracy Hobbs (Law Enforcement, Building non-profit for TBIs and PTSD)
 Kelsey Ingle, MS, CCC-SLP, CBIS (Administrative Speech Pathologist IV, BHRI)
 Rani Lindberg, MD (Physiatrist, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, UAMS)
 Tom Masseur (Executive Director, Disability Rights Arkansas)
 Jim Mather, PhD (Executive Director, AR Sources)
 Josh Moody (Person living with TBI, Web Developer, Entrepreneur)
 Miranda Morris, MA (Executive Director, Arkansas Center for Health Improvement)
 Joe Page III, MSCJ (Warden, Arkansas Department of Correction, Person Living with TBI)
 Rosalyn Perkins, MNsc, APRN, WHCNP-BC (APRN Coordinator, Director of Operations, IDHI, UAMS)
 Susan Pierce (Director of Policy and Planning, Disability Rights Arkansas)
 Tony Thornton (Advocate, Person living with TBI)
 Melissa Weitekamp, MS, CRC, CBIS (Clinical Evaluator, NeuroRestorative)

TBI SPP Update

Amy Moses and Dr. Daniel Bercher gave the TBI SPP Update.

- Granted a no-cost extension until June 2022 to finish up deliverables
- Grant renewed for 5 years
- New Arkansas Traumatic Brain Injury Guide
- Grant Objectives
 - Add case management to improve existing resource facilitation
 - Expand registry by adding Mild TBI to target population and using new screening tools
 - Create a statewide Return-to-Learn program for students
 - Launch an outreach campaign to increase awareness of TBI services
 - Formalize Advisory Board, increase TBI members, and update state plan to include strategic plan for TBI waiver or trust fund program

Group Activity

Kristen Alexander led a group activity to open discussion regarding grant objectives.

- **What is the primary objective of this board?**
 - Awareness and education about TBI for all, resources and support for survivors, families, caregivers.
 - Raising awareness and increase resources
 - Advance the mission, goals and objectives of BI group- supporting individuals who experience BI
 - Simple step-by-step guides for survivors and families
 - Connect survivors and their families, caregivers, and providers to resources, knowledge, and services. I think prevention is important too.
 - Create a stronger system of support across lifespan and TBI severity level.
 - To increase awareness about the dearth of post-acute services for people who have sustained a TBI, and to advocate for funding to increase services, whether through a trust fund or a Medicaid waiver.
 - Development of sustainable payment models, especially with an eye toward improving access to services for patients in rural areas where higher levels of care are far less accessible. Non fee-for-service payment models are going to be essential to meet needs.
 - Develop a coordinated system of care to include an organized advocacy program for persons living with TBI and their caregivers.
 - Adding TBI information automatically be part of the TBI survivor discharge packet or upon receipt of the person on the registry
- **What is the most UNWANTED result?**
 - Spend a lot of time and not accomplish anything
 - Create a complicated system that actually puts up barrier
 - Limit input from persons with TBI and caregivers, only get participation from Central AR
 - Waste money and time and not actually help
 - Not having area representatives
 - Instilling our own belief system or goals in how we think survivors should live versus meeting the survivor where they are and working to help them reach their own goals.
- **Ideas**
 - Persons living with TBI be an ambassador
 - Utilizing social media to reach the population
 - TRRP has a Facebook page but doesn't get much interaction
 - There is a brain injury Facebook group that gets more interaction
 - Press release or announcement about new grant

ACL Requirements for Advisory Board

- Includes at least 50% of people with TBI (including those from diverse and underserved populations)
- Includes family member(s) of individuals with TBI
- Includes representation from Centers for Independent Living and/or the State Independent Living Council
- Includes representation from an Aging and Disability Resource Center (if one exists within your state)
- Includes representation from the Protection & Advocacy agency in your state
- Includes representation from the long-term care ombudsman in your state.
- Is representative of the state and includes individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse populations from both rural and urban areas.

Other Representatives

- The corresponding state, consortium agencies involved
- Public and non-profit private health related organizations
- Other disability advisory or planning groups within the State
- Members of an organization or foundation representing individuals with traumatic brain injury in that State
- Injury control programs at the State or local level if such programs exist
- A substantial number of individuals with traumatic brain injury, or the family members of such individuals

Next Steps

What to accomplish before the next meeting

- Formalizing the board and membership
 - Who is missing and how to recruit
 - Set up bylaws
- Need payor representation
 - Arkansas Blue Cross or Centene
 - Miranda Morris can help formulate a message for them
 - Jensyn Hallett may know contacts to engage with at Blue Cross
 - Jim Mather says there may be some money at the state level to check in to
- If anyone is interested in membership, development of bylaws or trust fund/waivers please contact Danny Bercher

Adjournment

The next TBI Advisory Board Workgroup Meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on November 2, 2021 from 10:00 A.M to 11:30 A.M. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M.