

Officers

Chairperson:
Marsha Bancroft

Vice-Chair:
Anna King

Secretary:
Clayton Clark

TBI Staff:
Adèle Edelman
Erin Weaver
Glen McClintock
Al Urpsis
Samantha Baraw
Jane Culver

TBI ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

February 2, 2010

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Stanley Hall, Waterbury VT

In Attendance: Marsha Bancroft, Deborah Black, Clayton Clark, Todd Lefkoe, Maureen Mayo, Glen McClintock, Kim Patten, Barbara Prine, Trevor Squirrell, Erin Weaver, Barbara Winters

Guests: Larry Becker, Robert DeGeus, Lisa Lemieux-Scribner, Kate Ross, Andre Wing

Notetaker: Jane Culver

Call to Order and Announcements - 9:15 AM

- Review and approval of previous Advisory Board minutes.
Minutes accepted.
- New Member - Sarah Shirley, Sterling Area Associates
Seconded and accepted.
- Leadership nominations and vote
Nomination Chair – Marsha Bancroft - seconded and voted in.
Nomination Vice Chair – Anna King - seconded and voted in.
Nomination Secretary - Clayton Clark seconded and voted in.
- Advisory Board Overview
Three legged stool - State TBI program, Disability Rights VT, & BIA-VT.
Advisory Board goal is to be a stand alone Board which supports the BIA.VT, the State TBI Program and advocacy across the state.
- Robert DeGeus volunteered to join the TBI Advisory Board.

Presentation by Dr. Deborah Black on Neuro-Feedback and Brain Injury

UPDATES

Disability Rights Vermont (formerly Protection & Advocacy)

- Currently working with corrections around awareness of brain injury. The American Disabilities Coordinator is designated to assist parolees and inmates get accommodated with their injuries. This collaboration is a good break through for all prisoners with TBI.
- Barb Winters and Marsha Bancroft gave trainings in March for ADA coordinators and Probation and Parole.
- DOC has revised their ADA policy with the help of the Disabilities Law Project, the Human Rights Commission and Disability Rights Vermont. This should help accommodate the needs of prisoners and parolees with TBI.

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VT Brain Injury Association

Calendar items:

- TBI Conference November 2, 2010 at the Sheraton in Burlington
- Walk for Thought in Burlington on June 19, 2010.

Legislature items:

- TBI fund was set up with one time money and is currently empty. A bill H 467 has been introduced which would fine 'super speeders' \$200. These fines would go into the TBI fund.
- Bill H 708 concerns return to play around school sports and concussions. Kids are going back to play in sports with severe consequences. There needs to be something in place where school children having a potential injury sit out at least that day and cannot go back to play unless they have seen a trained professional and have a signed release form. On going training for coaches would also be a requirement.

NRF System Development

- Barb Winters is the program coordinator. Larry Lewack and Kelly Martin are Neuro-resource facilitators. Currently interviewing for a third Neuro-resource facilitator for Washington County area.
- Earmark money will help expand the program statewide as demand continues to build.
- There have been 50 applications for Neuro-resource facilitation. 33 are being actively served, 7 of those are veterans. Some are still in process.
- Neuro-resource Facilitators link people to services.

State TBI Program (Medicaid Services)

- It's wonderful to have the BIA-VT active and helping individuals with TBI.
- The State TBI program saves the state \$11 to 12 million dollars a year.
- New State budget cuts have come out. The TBI program has not been slated for more cuts. This may be due to issues of Veterans and brain injury.
- The TBI Program currently has 22 providers. The newest provider is Health Care and Rehabilitation Services in the Brattleboro area.
- The first TBI prisoner has been released to the TBI program. He is doing really well. Sterling Area Associates is the provider of services. They are working with Probation and Parole.
- The TBI program is the first State program transitioning to a paperless system (SAMS).
- No one is on the TBI Rehabilitation wait list as the program is frozen.
- Three people are on the TBI Long Term wait list.

State Grant Activities

- The HRSA Grant – ends on March 31, 2010. The main goals of the grant have been met i.e. to develop the capacity of BIA-VT and to establish Neuro-resource facilitation system around the state.

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- Leahy Earmark will continue the focus on serving Veterans by providing funding for a state wide job developer and more specific NRF services. It will also help continue expanding services to all other populations statewide.
- New HRSA Proposal
 - We're waiting to hear about the status of our application. The grant is for 4 years.
 - The application is focused on training through the BIA-VT and through State agencies using TBI training components within existing trainings of various agencies (DCF, DOC, DMH, DAIL). This would provide long term sustainability by seeding knowledge throughout those agencies.
 - The grant would support the process of doing a new Needs Assessment and State Action Plan.
 - The grant would establish a TBI registry which would be a way to identify who and how TBIs are sustained around the state. This would help focus services and advocacy for funding and develop partnerships with other state agencies making the BIA-VT the one stop place to go for TBI information and training.

The International Brain Injury Conference is being held for the first time in the USA. It's scheduled in March in Washington D.C.

Discussion of Previous Topics / Closing / Public Comment

Meeting adjourned 11:55

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Culver
TBI Grant Administrative Assistant

Next Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 27, 10AM to Noon
Weeks Building 2A Porch
103 S. Main Street, Waterbury
Tuesday, May 4, 9AM to Noon
Stanley Hall, Room 100
103 S. Main Street, Waterbury

Next Advisory Board Meeting: