

ENGAGE. INTEGRATE. INSPIRE.

The mission of the BIAC is to engage, integrate and inspire brain injury stakeholders to help achieve the
Statewide Vision for Brain Injury Policies and Services.

Brain Injury Advisory Council (BIAC)

Meeting

Meeting via ZOOM

September 8, 2023

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. CT

Meeting Minutes

Recording Link:

<https://educationne.zoom.us/rec/share/vx8P5UYOtAgCQYzbHgUwnmdpU3UqnxxaEYri2Tu2AXBOMqxl4RHgCexa31fLJIDb.FOt1Fwhu0AZUYFbH>

Passcode: ki+xTMA1

Public notice of upcoming meetings will be available on the Department of Education website under “conferences & meetings” at least 10 days prior to each meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT (and substitutes): Tiffany Armstrong, Jodi Bodnar, Penny Clark, Ashley Davis, Karen Houseman, RaLynn Jacobsen, Carla Lasley, Amy Levering, Brooke Murtaugh, Judy Nichelson, Jason Kerkman, Substitute for Peg Ogea-Ginsburg, Darsha Pelland, Trista Peterson, Michelle Ploeger, Peggy Reisher, Nicole Weaver, Substitute for Tamara Snider, Dennis Thompson, Shawna Thompson, Madison Wurtele

MEMBERS ABSENT: Emaly Ball, TinaMarie Fernandez, Sarvinoz Kadyrova, Zoe Olson

STAFF PRESENT: Keri Bennett, Nancy Noha, Shawn Roberts

VISITORS/PRESENTERS: Cathy Callaway, Liz Gebhart-Morgan of Partners for Insightful Evaluation (PIE), Anna Cole

The meeting of the Nebraska Brain Injury Advisory Council commenced at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 23, 2023 MINUTES:

The minutes of June 23, 2023 were reviewed. **A motion was made by Darsha Pelland and seconded by Peggy Reisher to approve the minutes. There were no objections, motion carried by unanimous consent.**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Trista Peterson and seconded by Carla Lasley. There were no objections, motion carried by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment.

INTRODUCTIONS: Introductions were made by Keri Bennett to welcome new member, RaLynn Jacobsen, who is a representative of the South Central Nebraska Area Agency on Aging (ADRC).

BRAIN INJURY STATE PLAN: Liz Gebhart-Morgan of Partners for Insightful Evaluation (PIE) reported on the proposed revisions of the State Plan. The Public Facing Document will be available on the BIAC website for partners, stakeholders, and people who are just curious about what the Council is doing. There will also be a Working Document that's primarily for Brain Injury Advisory Council members that will have a lot more detail about each of the activities. A priority area is the Connect to Resources section where people of all ages who have experienced a brain injury can find resources. PIE will take the lead for the revisions based on the Council's feedback and will hopefully have the State Plan finalized by the December 15, 2023 meeting. See attached documents.

BRAIN INJURY NEEDS ASSESSMENT:

Liz Gebhart-Morgan of Partners for Insightful Evaluation (PIE) presented an update on the Brain Injury Needs Assessment. There are a couple of projects that they're working on to be able to share a comprehensive picture of Brain Injury in Nebraska. The first is how data is collected and is used. The second project is working with the Geographical Information Systems (GIS) person at DHHS to produce maps that display brain injury data and/or resources. A discussion followed regarding GIS maps and accessibility.

The group transitioned into breakout rooms to further discuss the GIS maps.

Each of the small groups reported out that Nebraska counties should be listed on the GIS maps, along with services available, TBI & ABI Data, and Facility Specialties. It was discussed that more than one map be available based on the intended audience if feasible.

LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM PRESENTATION: Penny Clark of DHHS presented on the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program and answered questions regarding rights of long-term care residents and their families. Penny pointed out that it's her department's goal to advocate for residents as well as work with volunteers across the state that regularly visit residents. See attached presentation.

MY BRAIN, MY SELF PILOT PRESENTATION: Peggy Reisher and Anna Cole of the Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska reported on the My Brain, My Self pilot program which has just started the 2nd year of the 2 year project. Several participants are now piloting the My Brain, My Self App which helps participants get a better understanding of their brain injuries and for providing resources to help meet participants' goals. A discussion was had about how the app works and how reporting occurs.

COMMITTEE AND CONTRACTOR REPORTS:

Public Policy: Tiffany Armstrong reported that the group in opposition to LB 91 continued to meet to decide next steps.

Membership: Carla Lasley updated the group on recruitment efforts and mentioned that the Council is always looking for members with lived experience. Word of mouth recruiting is helpful. Carla volunteered to write another article for the BIA-NE newsletter.

CONTRACTOR REPORTS AND ACL WORKGROUP UPDATES: Keri Bennett reported on the ACL workgroups and that members are always welcome to join those meetings. A question was brought up regarding Salesforce and any updates on that workgroup. Keri responded that there isn't any new information to report, however, the workgroup will be meeting again soon and that she would send out any notes that came from that meeting.

TBI WAIVER RENEWAL APPLICATION UPDATE: Karen Houseman led the round table discussion on the TBI Waiver renewal application. The application will be submitted at the end of the month.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Keri provided an update on the Brain Injury Peer Support meeting from February. Based on the budget, the Peer Support Project will be delayed until later in the grant period, which ends in the fall of 2026.

NEW BUSINESS:

Judy let us know that there was plenty of time to discuss upcoming plans and events. Trista Peterson shared that she is trying to reach out to the VA to see what services might be available. Peggy let the group know that there was a job opening in the Panhandle area.

A motion was made to adjourn by Darsha Pelland and seconded by Shawna Thompson. There were no objections, motion carried by unanimous consent.

Next Meeting: December 15, 2023