

**Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Council  
Center for People in Need  
Lincoln, NE  
June 22 , 2012**

*Public notice of upcoming meetings will be available on the Department of Education website under "conferences & meetings" at least 5 days prior to each meeting.*

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Armstrong, Dymacek, Gordon, Hausmann, Hoogeveen, Hux, Johannes, Lehman, Miller, Nordness (for Terryberry-Spohr) Velinsky, Young

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Buettner, Hawley-Grieser, Verzal

**ADVISORS PRESENT:** Diaz, Jensen, Rasmussen

**STAFF PRESENT:** Bennett, Kasl, Noha

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Kate Kulesher Jarecke, BIA-NE; Don Fritz, Facilitator

*The meeting of the State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Council commenced at 10:00 a.m. Public notification of this meeting was made on the Nebraska Department of Education web site.*

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

The agenda for the day was reviewed. A motion was made by Frank Velinsky and seconded by Dale Johannes to approve the agenda as submitted. **The motion carried by unanimous consent.**

**APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 10, 2012 MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes of February 10, 2012 were reviewed. A motion was made by ML Lehman and seconded by Karen Hux to approve the February 10, 2012 meeting minutes as submitted. There were no objections to the motion. **The motion carried by unanimous consent.**

**OPEN MEETINGS ACT**

Tiffany Armstrong announced that the meeting was an open meeting and the Open Meetings Law was posted on the back table.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mary Gordon shared that HHS has released a semi-annual Opportunity Grant in the amount of \$10,000. Anyone interested in the application can e-mail Mary to get the information.

**STATE PLAN**

Don Fritz was present to facilitate the finalization of the State Plan goals that have been defined by the Council in previous meetings.

**Implications of the Mission Statement:**

- A broad-based definition of advocate
- Awareness is a primary action to assist with all else
- Education and advocacy go hand in hand
- Public policy aspect – health care is changing, need to be at the table – behavioral issues need to be addressed as it will have a ripple effect
- Can't have one without the other

Dale Johannes moved and Frank Velinsky seconded a motion to adopt the Mission Statement for the Brain Injury Advisory Council.

“The mission of the Nebraska Brain Injury Advisory Council is to advocate for the best possible system of support for individuals with brain injury by promoting prevention, awareness, education, research, and effective public policy.”

**VOTE:** *Aye* - Armstrong, Dymacek, Gordon, Hausmann, Hoogeveen, Hux, Johannes, Lehman, Miller, Velinsky, Young

*Nay* – none

*Abstain* – none

*Absent* – Buettner, Hawley-Grieser, Terryberry-Spohr, Verzal

**The motion carried.**

## **PLAN GOALS**

A summary from each of the four goal workgroups was provided with discussion. A handout was distributed detailing the objectives written by each group.

Groups were asked to finalize their draft plan, identify priority timelines, measures of success, and areas of responsibilities. Modifications will be collected from each group, typed into the Plan and e-mailed to the Council.

Keri Bennett shared that the next steps will be to establish timelines for the action steps and identify people responsible to be in charge of making sure these steps occur. Questions were asked about how the activities can be accomplished and the need to move forward prior to the next Council meeting. Volunteers were asked to meet with Keri to talk about how to implement next steps: Mary, Frank Sandra, Kate, and Rose all volunteered.

## **ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Kate Kulesher Jarecke reported on the March Brain Injury Conference. A handout was provided with a summary of the evaluation, expenses, scholarships, etc.

## **BIA-NE QUARTERLY REPORT**

A written report was provided by Kate.

- Nebraska is one of five states that have been picked by BIAA to pilot the national bowling fundraiser. It will start in Lincoln and Omaha and then grow to the town that raises the most money for the following year.
- Peggy and Judy have been working on behavioral health presentations.
- Lincoln Giving Day, raised over \$1000.
- The goal has been reached for making the conference self sufficient. The first planning meeting for the April 4 & 5, 2013 conference in Kearney is July 12.
- Strides made toward the goals were shared in an annual report.
- Rose is working with BIRRST Teams and hospitals around the state on creating a model for students who are receiving medical care and need to integrate back into school.

## **BRAIN INJURY REGISTRY**

Nancy Noha provided a written report on the Brain Injury Registry. Frank commented that the 211 system through United Way would be a way to list and find resources for someone with a brain injury. The Registry is a primary source of awareness to individuals that have experienced a brain injury.

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### Juvenile Justice Task Force

Keri Bennett reported that five states met for two days on juvenile justice issues. Each state summarized what activities they are doing and their results. The juvenile justice task force will have a meeting to talk over the information that was received and develop some next steps for Nebraska. Gary, Sandra and Tania will serve on the task force.

### Task Force on Children and Youth

Karen Hux reported that the Safe Child Screening has been done in three school districts, grades 1 through 5: Bellevue; Lincoln; and Hastings, as well as two Head Starts. Screens have been returned from some. To date, a total of 786 screens were returned. None of the children were verified TBI. 34% have had an incident, with 63 or 8% showing changes in behavior which is considered a positive screen. There is an even split on gender. 25% of the positive screens already had a special education verification of some type.

### Senior Task Force

Tiffany Young reported that the Aging Staff in the Kearney office has had the training and done the pre-test. Work is continuing.

### Veterans Task Force

Tiffany Armstrong reported that Peggy Reischer has been doing work on sustainability for the Veterans work. The BIA is considering a Veterans project and the will look for grants to support it. Education with Community Colleges is taking place.

### **HRSA GRANTEE MEETING**

Nancy Noha, Keri Bennett and Tiffany Armstrong went to the HRSA Grantee meeting in March. Tiffany presented at the conference on the work of the Veterans Task Force. A Concussion Bill session was done by Colorado. They have developed some good materials. A session was held on how to build in outcomes to your goals and how to measure the outcome. Keri also attended a session on how to measure the strength and effectiveness of partnerships and collaborations. All the materials from this meeting will be helpful to the Advisory Council as it moves forward.

### **OTHER**

Keri Bennett talked about the iPod Touches that are available for loan from ATP. They are not being used very often. A marketing effort is needed so that they will be used. Suggestions included: sharing at the Community College trainings, with support groups and BIRSST Teams, hospitals, and AAA. Nancy will e-mail the flyer to all members to share as they wish.

In kind time certification is being collected. Forms were provided in the packets.

### **ADJOURN**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 21 in Lincoln. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 with a motion made by Frank Velinsky and seconded by Karen Hux. There were no objections to the motion.

**The motion carried by unanimous consent.**