

Officers

Chairperson:
Position Vacant

Vice-Chair:
Position Vacant

Secretary:
Position Vacant

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

TBI ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

December 8, 2009

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Stanley Hall, Waterbury VT

In Attendance: Glen McClintock, Erin Weaver, Maureen Mayo, Marsha Bancroft, Al Urpsis, Anna King, Trevor Squirrel, Barbara Winters, Sarah Shirley, Tom Simpatico
Notetaker: Jane Culver

10:15 Call to Order (Introductions)

No votes were taken on leadership positions, previous Advisory Board minutes or new members as only 5 board members were in attendance.

Advisory Board Overview

Three legged stool:

- State TBI program
- Disability Rights of Vermont
- Brain Injury Association of Vermont

Disability Rights of Vermont Update:

- Linda Cramer is working part time doing community care home outreach, voting place accessibility and, registering voters.
- They are updating the handout and reprinting it.

VT Brain Injury Association Update:

TBI Conference

- The TBI Conference held in October was well received. The planning committee did a great job. There was lots of positive feedback about the richness of the program. People found they couldn't attend all the tracks they would have liked to attend. Attendees noted that the keynote speaker was wonderful and the Survivor panel was strong.
- The Sheraton worked well and next years conference will be held there on November 2, 2010.
- Let Trevor know if you'd like to be on the planning committee or to make any recommendations for next years conference.
- This year there were 380 registrations / 365 actually attended. Last year there were 400 registrations. The drop was perhaps due to the economy.
- Sponsor revenues were up from last year.
- There was no increase in fees this year due to economy.
- The BIA-VT would like to bring more professionals into the conference and keep good programming for survivors.
- Pride and Lenny Burke are planning something in the afternoon for TBI clients.

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- Finding and keeping a balance between the professional tracks and the consumer tracks is important.

NRF System development

- Larry Lewack is working in Chittenden County with Tom Simpatico in the Veterans Court and Kelly Patten is in Rutland County. Both are doing a great job and have been able to give a lot of feedback on this new model as we go.
- Glen and Trevor are doing NRF Job Developer interviews this week and next week.
- The Leahy Earmark funds should be available in January will allow NRF services to go statewide.
- The plan includes hiring 2 more NRFs, 1 in Washington County. As we move forward another NRF position will be added as well as another job developer.
- Barbara Winters noted that 25 people are currently in NRF program– 4 moved off for various reasons. A few on hold in Wash County waiting for and NRF position to be filled. The BIA-VT is exploring how to provide services on a fee for service basis for people who don't qualify for other funds.
- Erin and Glen will meet next week with Federal representatives to review the HRSA Partnership Grant 2006. We have met all the goals of that grant despite the fact that HRSA decreased funding after Implementation grant ended. This year funds were cut to \$100,000. Carry over from last year will get us through to March 1st.
- It will also bridge the gap to the Leahy Earmark. It has been a long process: submitted app 12/07 and it was awarded March 2009, applied through DOL this summer and they approved – back to CDOL for grant award then to joint fiscal with State. Will fund NRF Job Developer who will focus on educating VT Business about Vet's with PTSD and TBI and help coordinate services around other vet employment services
- With additional funds employers can hire somebody at no risk for a job trial.
- A new HRSA Grant application will focus on education and training with \$1 million over 4 years. This project would work with different State agencies to integrate TBI training in to their existing training efforts. These trainings would also be available in a web based format through the BIAVT website, with a tie in to the visiting Nurses Web site and National Hospital association. The BIA would also develop a training collaborative, identifying and vetting trainers across the state. This grant is very competitive – should hear by March if it is accepted. This grant would also purchase technical assistance to do a state wide needs assessment and action plan. In the past the Board has been very active in reviewing and editing the plan.

State TBI Program (Medicaid Services) Update:

- TBI program people are graduating off the program. A few deaths have occurred as well. Erin was asked by Commissioner to freeze the program for the time being because of \$200,000 cut in July. Running in the red at the

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moment but due to graduations this will improve. Commissioner can give permission to accept.

- Taking 1st TBI client out of corrections. Provider will be Sterling Area Services. Impressed by DOC acceptance of TBI training. Providers are hanging in there are a lot of people in corrections who need TBI support.
- All inclusive TBI daily rate will provide services more flexibility. Services will all be packaged into one daily rate and this will make it easier for provider billing.
- The state is moving to a web based system to allow referrals across systems

Brainstorming Exercise

Ideas for Strengthening the Advisory Board

- Speak with Bud Elkind, who works with Robin Hill Farm and NH State TBI Advisory Board.
- Would like to make Board more autonomous
- Bring agenda to support groups coordinated by the BIA-VT.
- Provide teleconferencing of meetings
- Include a training component at meetings
- Email survey to board about what they want
- Do more outreach to consumers.
- Target more providers.
- May be opportunity reach providers through Fletcher Allen
- Booths at training events to get out the word about the TBI Advisory Board.
- Advertise meetings more
- Have members invite someone else
- Assign specific tasks to members
- Send out more emails to keep people informed
- Have more regional meetings

If you have other ideas of how to strengthen the TBI Advisory Board please contact Glen McClintock at (802) 241-3719.

11:40 Meeting adjourned

Next Steering Committee Meeting: TBA
Next Advisory Board Meeting: TBA

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Culver
TBI Grant Administrative Assistant