

TBI Advisory Board Meeting
January 19, 2010
Office of Protection & Advocacy
60B Weston Street
Hartford, CT 06120
1:00-3:00PM

Attendees: Keith Arnold, Heidi Chelednik, Sage Cochran, Jim Culbertson, Liane Gelman-Wegener, Craig Sears, Rep. Lile Gibbons, Rep. Ted Graziani, Sarah Harvey, Carrie Kramer, Sara Lourie, Mari Merwin, Donna Montelle, Lynne Neff, GERALYN O'Neil-Wild, Amy Palmer, John Sandford, Billye Simmers, Susan Werboff, Betty Zoubek

Visitor: Shannon Curran, Kristy Hanson, Susan Jackson, Bill McEwen, Tara Rothstein

Excused: Gary Allen, Dan Bannish, Sylvia Gafford-Alexander, Dorian Long, Charley Lyons, Julie Peters

Recorder: Terry Holley

- I. Each participant introduced themselves
- II. Previous minutes from 10/20/09 were reviewed and a motion was moved by Susan Werboff and second by Heidi Chelednik to accept the minutes and the motion passed.
- III. An agenda was distributed to all participants along with written committee reports
- IV. Committee Reports
 - a. There were no reports available from the Coordination Committee and the Minimum Standards Committee-Donna Montelle reported that Sylvia Gafford-Alexander will be scheduling a Minimum Standards Committee meeting within a couple of weeks.
 - b. Executive Committee-Billye Simmers requested the Board members to review the written report.
 - c. Nomination Committee- Sage Cochran reported that there are five applicants for Board membership. Sage Cochran distributed a new, official membership application for the Connecticut Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board and requested all current Board members to complete and return the form to provide the Nomination Committee with appropriate demographics on the Board members.

- d. TBI Screening Tool Committee-Keith Arnold reported that the DMHAS ABI Services has presented an overview of the Connecticut TBI Screening Tool Project to four out of the five regions throughout the Statewide DMHAS Local Mental Health Network. Keith Arnold distributed DVD's reviewing Brain Injury educational materials and information on the Screening Tool. These DVD's are included in the presentations on the overview of the Screening Tool Project.
- e. Outreach and Awareness Committee-Mari Merwin reported that the goal of this committee is to identify existing outreach and awareness programs that reach teens in order to provide information on TBI through these programs.
- f. Waiver Review Work Group-Carrie Kramer reported that the Work Group is compiling information on all CT Waivers with a goal of drafting a single document to provide a succinct overview of these waivers.

IV. Old Business:

- a. Updates of Board activities on DSS Web Site-Donna Montelle reported that she requires more training to be able to post information to the DSS Web Site.
- b. Status update on TBI Institute Certificate Program-Donna Montelle reported that there will be a 6-week certificate program starting on January 25, 2010 at Tunxis Community College on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00-9:00PM. The trainers will be Dorian Long, Sylvia Gafford-Alexander, and Barbara Nadeau.
- c. Status of HRSA Grant-Donna Montelle reported that the application for the grant was not submitted by DSS. DSS will be prepared to submit the grant during the next application process.

V. New Business:

- a. A recommendation was made to have DSS reporting on the Waiver as a standing agenda item for the TBI Advisory Board. Billye Simmers will notify DSS and ensure that this is a standing agenda item.
- b. Billye Simmers recommended that all participants email her with questions regarding the ABI Waiver and she will compile a list to review with Dorian Long.
- c. Election of Officers-Billye Simmers was nominated as Chair and John Sandford was nominated as Vice-Chair of the TBI Advisory Board. There were no nominations from the floor. Billye Simmers and John Sandford were elected by acclamation. The position of the secretary is vacant. Terry Holley will continue to be the recorder until further notice.

VI. Agenda Topics for April TBI Advisory Board meeting

- a. Review of goals from Board Committees for 2010
- b. Review of the ABI Waiver questions and answers
- c. Discussion on requesting a public hearing through the Legislature on the system of supports for persons with TBI

VII. Public Comment:

- Representative Lile Gibbons made a recommendation that the TBI Advisory Board submit all questions regarding the ABI Waiver to her and she will review them with the Commissioner of DSS. She also reminded everyone that the next Legislation session will begin February 3, 2010.
- Representative Ted Graziani made a recommendation to have an open informational forum at the Legislature on TBI issues.

VIII. Next Meeting date:

- TBI Advisory Board meeting April 20, 2010 1:00-3:00 P&A Office, 60B Weston St. Hartford, CT
- Meeting Adjourned at 3:10PM