

I am pleased to introduce you to the Colorado Brain Injury
Trust Fund (Trust Fund) which was established to improve the lives of Colorado residents who have survived brain injuries. Here are five key things to know about the Trust Fund and its Board of Directors:

- Title 26, Article I, Part 3 of the Colorado Revised Statutes created the Trust Fund Trust Fund to finance program activities.
- The Trust Fund created a board of directors to advise MINDSOURCE Brain Injury Network (part of the Colorado Department of Human Services) on the operations of the Trust Fund.
- The Trust Fund revenue is generated through surcharges on certain traffic offenses including driving under the influence, driving while ability impaired (DWAI) (\$25), speeding (\$20) and the juvenile helmet law infractions (\$15); our 2018-2019 operating budget was approximately \$2.4 million.
- The Trust Fund supports three programs to benefit the brain injury (BI) community—services for persons with brain injuries, research and education.
- By statute, no less than 55 percent of our budget funds services.

Our board members are appointed by the Governor and each application is carefully vetted by the State of Colorado Office of Boards and Commissions. Once appointed by the Governor, candidates are confirmed in a State Senate hearing and receive a three-year appointment to the Trust Fund Board. Board members may serve a maximum of two terms. In 2009, the General Assembly amended the statute to give us the flexibility to recruit and select candidates who offer expertise in any area relevant to BI. As per statute, the board must be comprised of a minimum of two individuals with BI and one family member of an individual with BI. We feel very strongly that the board reflects the diversity of BI stakeholders and the populace of Colorado -- from individuals with BI and family members to providers and researchers. We are also committed to building diversity in other areas including gender, ethnicity and disability status.

- Our board meets every other month, on the third Friday, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- Meetings are usually held in the Denver area and occasionally in other areas of the state.
- The Trust Fund Board is a "working board" -- Board members are expected to attend meetings regularly and participate on at least one subcommittee.
- Subcommittee meetings are scheduled in addition to the full board meetings and typically happen monthly or every other month depending on the need.

I feel honored to be in the company of such an esteemed panel of experts, and I am proud of the programs we oversee. If you are interested in learning more about the Trust Fund Board, please let me know and I will put the Director, Liz Gerdeman, in touch with you. Or, you are certainly welcome to proceed with applying for a position on the Board by downloading and completing



a <u>CDHS Boards and Commissions Application</u>. From there, application materials for the board position can be found, click on the 'Apply for a State Board or Commission' link.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration regarding the Trust Fund Board and your commitment to meet the needs of the brain injury community in Colorado.

Warm regards,

Cheryl Catsoulis Board Chair

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