



Colorado Brain Injury Trust Fund Board Meeting

Date: December 16, 2022
Location: Via Zoom

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00

TYPE OF MEETING		Board Meeting	
ATTENDEES			
NAME	POSITION	PRESENT	STAFF Present
(Board Members)			Liz Gerdeman (MINDSOURCE)
Jennifer Coker	Board Chair	x	Kelly Miller (MINDSOURCE)
Renee Charlifue-Smith	Board Member	x	Lina Kyle (MINDSOURCE)
Angie Goodger	Board Member	x	Kelly Miller (MINDSOURCE)
Jamal Long Soldier	Board Member	x	
Jason Kacmarski	Board Member	x	
Russha Knauer	Board Member	x	
Daniel Lindberg	Board Member	x	
James Graham	Board Member	x	Public Guests
Victoria Ortega	Board Member	x	Jim Tatten
Gretchen Russo	Board Member		
Kenneth Scott	Board Member		
Rebecca Wasil	Board Member	x	
Angie Wickersham	Board Member	x	
Anthony Young			
Veronica (Vicky) Zarlingo	Board Member	x	

*All attendees were present through video and telephone options

1. Agenda topic: Welcome, Introductions, & Board Business

Discussion	Jenn led introductions of the board members. Dr. Anthony Young introduced himself as the new standing member to the board representing Colorado Department of Human Services. He is replacing Gretchen Russo.		
Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline	

2. Approval of Minutes

All

Discussion	Vicky Ortega requested that additional information be included in the minutes regarding the conversation with BIAC concerning the likelihood that MINDSOURCE funds could be used to provide services to a future resident at Valor on the Fax who does not have a brain injury. A draft of that language will be sent to the board via email. With their approval of that language, it will be added to the minutes and the minutes will be approved without additional changes.		
Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Oct. meeting recording and add information about concerns expressed about MINDSOURCE funds being used to provide services for individuals without a brain injury Follow up with BIAC for clarification on ensuring MINDSOURCE funds are not spent providing services for individuals without a brain injury. 	Lina Liz		

3. Governance

Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By-laws- Angie Wickersham asked for clarification on the standing member position for the President of the Brain Injury Alliance Board of Directors. That position is mandated by the statute governing the Trust Fund. She wanted to be sure we have at least one member who has a family member who has a brain injury. Renee suggested that the words "Trust Fund" be capitalized throughout the document and "speech pathologists" be modified to be "speech-language pathologists." Russha wanted language to clarify that MINDSOURCE does not provide
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	<p>services directly to clients. She also asked that MINDSOURCE verify the open meetings and records section reflects the current state requirements. Russha suggested adding "political affiliation" to the list of diversity guidelines because that is information specifically collected by the State in the application process. Vicky Ortega requested footnotes be added to sections that are based specifically based on statutory language. Russha suggested adding online links to the statute in those footnotes. Jamal suggested adding language regarding fiduciary responsibility of the Board Members. He also wanted clarification regarding what "diversity" means in relations to board member membership. Jenn wanted to stress the section requiring attendance to meetings. The current language states that if board members miss three meetings in a year they can be removed from the Board. Liz suggested that three may be too many meetings since the Board only meets six times a year. Jenn agreed that three missed meetings is too many and that board members be required to provide notice to the board chair. Dan suggested modifying the language to identify the number of meetings members must attend annually and the group agreed with that. Jenn suggested adding language allowing for a meeting to be rescheduled if a meeting is canceled. She also suggested recruiting additional members for the committees. She would like language included that being a board or committee member does not preclude individuals from applying for grants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission Statement- Jenn asked the Board to consider rewriting the mission statement. It should be shorter and more clearly express the goals of the board. Liz suggested that it be included at the top of all agendas and minutes. 	
Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline

4. Committee Reports

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Client Services- Angie Goodger provided the report for this committee. They are working on connecting with other state organizations to get the word out about the PSA. • Vision and Outreach- Angie Wickersham gave an update on their projects. They have submitted a request for a proclamation to the governor. They are focused on giving providers and community partners tools to get the word out for the PSA and awareness campaign. Kelly updated on the status of the PSA. The production team has nearly completed their work. The landing page for the campaign is currently being drafted. • Research and Program Evaluation- Dan gave an update on the supplemental research grant. The grant is for one year with a goal of increasing diversity in the brain injury research community. They received six applications, four of which were very strong. They awarded the grant to a study using vocational rehab for individuals with brain injury. They will be using an existing data set. 	
Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline
N/A		

5. Presentation- Lisa Brenner, PHD

All

<p>Discussion</p>	<p>University of Colorado researcher, Lisa Brenner, PHD presented information on her MINDSOURCE funded research. She provided information on a completed grant, and grant in process now, and a grant that will begin in the near future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first grant funded Strength and Awareness in Action: A Feasibility Study of Yoga for Post-Acute TBI Headaches (SAA-TBI). This grant was written before the COVID 19 pandemic and was intended for in-person intervention. They used texting to get real-time feedback from study participants. They had to find yoga instructors who were willing to participate in the research and adhere to the methods and language prescribed by the study. They struggled to find participants who were able to come twice a week. They switched to once a week in person and once via video. This dramatically increased participation. The results of the study were that participants reported that they felt better after the classes. They measured cortisol before and after the in-person classes and did not see significant changes in levels each day but did see a decrease over the span of the project. • The second grant funded mTBI ED Study: Overview. They compared baseline blood, skin, oral and gut biome of individuals immediately following a TBI and over time. They completed structured clinical interviews, participants took mental health surveys. This research took place in the pandemic, and collecting data was a challenge but they were able to collect samples from 53 individuals over time. They were able to collect enough samples that they will be able to publish a paper. They will start working on analysis of the data soon. • Soon they will begin a study to evaluate the efficacy of a computerized Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia program augmented with support from a licensed mental health professional among those with moderate to severe TBI and insomnia. 	
Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline

6. Program Updates

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governor Polis was reelected and has asked CDHS existing leadership to stay on in their positions. They have all agreed, so there are no anticipated changes.• Liz has joined the board of the National Association of State Head Injuries Administrators (NASHIA) as their treasurer.• The needs assessment has been extended to allow for three additional focus groups. The report should be completed in February.• There is a meeting of the Joint Budget Committee on Monday that will include the Trust Fund program. MINDSOURCE has not requested any modifications to funding, but staff will be available to answer questions that may arise.• Liz and Angie Wickersham presented at a youth detention conference earlier this year. Gretchen has been a fantastic resource for the Board.
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Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline
N/A		

7. Wrap Up and Public Comments

Discussion	<p>Jim expressed concerns about the changes to the definition of brain injury in the statute. His concerns regarding this are related to program funding. He also brought up that the Bronco's quarterback Russel Williams took a blow to the head on Sunday's game. Jim thought this would be an opportunity to increase the public's awareness of sports related injury.</p> <p>James moved to adjourn, Jamal seconded and the motion passed.</p>
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Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline

The next Board meeting: Friday, February 17, 2023 9:00 – 12:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

By Lina Kyle