



**Colorado Advisory Council on Brain Injury Meeting Minutes**

Date: October 19, 2023

Time: 10:00 -12:00 AM

Location: Zoom

NAME	PRESENT	NAME	PRESENT
Board Members		Jones, Christa	x
Agtarap, Stephanie	x	Knauer, Russha	
Bowman, Kelly		Laureta, Laura	x
Boyd, Kara		Martinez, Maria	x
Dickerson, Jody		McMahon, Leah	x
Engle, Ian	x	Micciche, Denise	x
Friedman, Ronen		Munthali, Jennie	
Genzel, Ben	x	Pedler, Rhea	
Heidenreich, Steve		Snelson, Kari	
Henika, Joy	x	Wren, Louisa	
Herbstman, David		Payne, Renee	x
Grishman, Toni	x		
Janeba, Meg			
<b>Staff</b>		<b>Guests</b>	
Kelly Miller (MINDSOURCE)		Amy Engleman (ACL Grant Evaluator)	
Erin Horner (MINDSOURCE)		Marissa Oakley (BIAC)	
		Mikalia Gray (BIAC)	
		Mindy Gates (OAADS)	
		Christine Burrows (CDHS)	

**Welcomes**

Discussion	Kelly welcomed everyone to the group and Stephanie lead introductions. Kelly reviewed the group agreements.		
Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline	
NA			

**Approval of Minutes**

Discussion	Approval of the minutes was tabled.
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Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline

**Discussion**

Discussion	<p><b>State Plan Public Feedback</b></p> <p>Guiding Values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The document is clear and concise</li> <li>• Plan appears to be clear</li> <li>• Clear and accessible to me</li> <li>• The language feels straight forward, identifies need and is measurable. Strikes balance, precise but allows room for growth.</li> <li>• Clear pathways and forms of communication to services would be incredibly important</li> <li>• I fully agree and think it will simply to the point, well said.</li> <li>• No opinion/Adequate/No changes suggested</li> <li>• Appreciate the north star analogy/north star analogy doesn't resonate with everyone</li> <li>• I wonder if family members and caregivers understand that they fit within the definition of "people affected by BI."</li> <li>• The definition of brain injury should be included with stroke, so that stroke is not forgotten about as it has been for many years at the state level.</li> <li>• Differentiate between MINDSOURCE and the CO Advisory Council on Brain Injury</li> <li>• Publication on OpenDyslexic fonts opens accessibility</li> <li>• Spiritual care/community based chaplain services</li> </ul> <p>Ian commented on the idea of the "north star." He wanted to find a phrase that resonates with the broadest group of people so the language feels inclusive.</p> <p>Goal Area One: Strengthen the infrastructure and capacity of MINDSOURCE and its partners by designing a sustainable system of supports for early identification and effective referrals for individuals and families impacted by brain injury throughout Colorado.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes! Strengthen and broaden resources</li> <li>• Thank you for taking on the Resource Directory! I think this is a brilliant idea.</li> </ul>
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- This is essential for stroke as well as TBI. There are less resources available to stroke survivors across the board.
- Love it
- Solid goal.
- This is great and so needed.
- Explore lessons learned so far since previous plan. Any chance MINDSOURCE absorb BIAC's website in its entirety to aid in website update, clarity, and more accessible navigation?
- Look at streamlining referral on BIAC's website-provide an option to have someone contact them to complete the referral
- Live chat box on MINDSOURCE and BIAC website-or chat box to reach out for follow up contact
- I would also add appropriate referrals in addition to effective. There's a lot of confusion with community providers on what classifies as a BI.
- Challenges getting connected to resources upon release from hospital. Found BIAC on my own.
- Create plan to share awareness of the updated resource hub-focused approach to getting it out to the community. Highlight places who have people with lived experience working for them.
- Would peers/volunteers be paid
- Support agencies in creating their own resource hub/centers

When asked which strategy for Goal 1 would be the most impactful, 37.5% of participants said enhancing the BIAC resource directory and another 37.5% responded that establish a hospital transition plan for connecting people to community resources would have the most impact.

Ian expressed that he believes that transition from hospital to community has a huge impact on individuals. Ben thinks there should be more integration between people in brain injury services, developmental disability services and mental health services. He thinks they should be integrated. Ben also wants to ensure that brain injuries resulting from emotional trauma are included.

Goal Area Two: Strengthen the infrastructure and capacity of MINDSOURCE, Colorado's Brain Injury Network, and its partners by building and sustaining a straight-forward, efficient and effective system of ongoing supports for people with brain injuries across the lifespan.

- Absolutely

- I think there is opportunity to connect with the many counseling centers and community centers that have been training on BI 101 & 102 from BIAC to check their data on outcomes.
- Support/appreciate the focus on behavioral health
- I think you have missed out on partnering with any organizations that specialize in stroke
- The Symptom Questionnaire is a good 101 resource, but not overly effective beyond that. The tips are too brief and basic.
- Simplify the process for applying for the BI waiver
- Providers need to create office spaces that are culturally welcoming
- Theme of lack of responsiveness from medical providers (wait times, lack of specialists when one leaves)
- Neurologists don't know about BIAC and other supports
- Public health resources and medical providers lack information on resource specific to those living with brain injury (pulmonologists, neuro PT, neuro OT)-ie no pamphlets on brain injury supports

When asked what strategy for Goal Two would be most impactful, most participants responded increased brain injury behavioral health services and supports.

Ian suggested this is the point where we consider reaching out to professional sport teams. Those organizations are having conversations about concussions, and the brain injury community should participate. Ben suggests consolidating all of the systems so individuals can be looked at organically. With managed care people responsible for approving care lack in depth knowledge of complexity of issues faced by people with brain injuries.

Goal Area Three: Promote inclusive communities and systems while also supporting individuals with brain injuries in engaging at home, school, work, and community in ways that are meaningful to them.

- GREAT!
- Yes. This is where I believe the community based chaplain program would be an important addition.
- An inclusive community balances power, respect, and importance which creates meaningful systems. If you do this, then this will happen

- Community Centered Boards such as our local Community Connections, Inc were developed for this purpose.
- In my experience with stroke, this is extremely unique to each individual and requires funding to support programs that are engaging people in their communities.
- Increase social media presence/messaging
- Consider ways to increase advocacy; ease the burden of needing to be your own advocate in order to get better

#### General Feedback

- Continued brain healing resources are essential to quality of life.
- I feel the language engages and inspires the heart and mind to promote person-centered care and provide seamless coordination that is efficient and equitable.
- Need the plan in plain language
- Research OpenDyslexic fonts; opens accessibility to those with dyslexia and those with BI induced dyslexia.

Laura emphasized the importance of plain language.

#### **CACBI Annual Survey Results Discussion**

What will it take for CACBI to honor the group agreements at every meeting so that everyone feels a sense of safety, inclusivity, and productivity?

#### MINDSOURCE Commitments

- Start meetings with a review of the agenda, meeting goals and the group agreements
- Consistently address off-topic comments and continuously reinforce the group agreements
- Note off-topic comments in a parking lot slide at the end of the meeting slide deck and in the minutes. Reserve the last 5 minutes to review parking lot and plan next steps on items
- Provide CACBI with training on how to be an inclusive and productive member of a council with shared accountability to the group agreements and bylaws, including how to create space for new members and resolve and repair conflicts
- Elevate the desire for cultural and geographic diversity on CACBI in recruitment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share project updates during meetings so council members can see the connections to the larger goals and monitor, inform, and contribute to the progress.</li> <li>• Continue the subcommittee structure for State Plan implementation and evaluation with subcommittees meeting once in between quarterly meetings.</li> <li>• Offer professional development to CACBI on person-centered planning and available BI services across the state in the Fall 2023 or early 2024.</li> </ul> <p>Stephanie appreciated the slides and the structure provided to allow the Council to have this discussion. Ian appreciates the work the Council is doing to create a plan that isn't just a document that is just going to sit on a shelf. Joy wondered if there were any updated stats on prevalence in Colorado. She thinks that information might help keep the group focused on the work and develop a sense of community. Kelly will bring more information about what is happening in the community to the meetings.</p>
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Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline

**Public Comment**

Discussion	There was no public comment.
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Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline
NA		

**Parking Lot**

Discussion	<p>Goal one: What does it mean to enhance the resource directory?</p> <p>Goal two: Making a professional sports connection.</p> <p>Adding a clock as a visual.</p>
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Action Items	Person(s) Responsible	Deadline
NA		

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 16, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m

Minutes collected by Lina Kyle