

# **Traumatic Brain Injury Fund Advisory Committee Meeting**

*February 9, 2010*

*Utah Department of Health (Room 201)*

*4:30 pm – 6:00 pm*

## Minutes

### Committee Members Present:

Natalie Whatcott, Cindy Wilmshurst, Nita Smith, Troy Roper, Ron Roskos

### Committee Members Excused:

Elaine Pollock, Adina Zahradnikova, Sarah Sanders

### UDOH Support Staff:

Kevin Condra, Trisha Keller, Missi Leak

### **Welcome:**

- Nita welcomed committee and excused Elaine and Adina.

### **Approval of January Minutes:**

- Troy Roper made a motion to approve the minutes and Cindy Wilmshurst seconded.
- The committee approved the minutes without changes.

### **Legislative Update:**

- Nita reported that funding for the TBI Fund is not in the Governor's recommended budget for next fiscal year.
- Nita indicated that the advocates have begun efforts to get at least one time funding in the budget for the next fiscal year.
- Ron and Nita indicated that the general attitude up at the legislative session is very supportive of those with TBI's and disabilities.
- There is a confidence within the group that things are going to improve and get better.
- On Wednesday, Feb 17<sup>th</sup>; from 12:30p - 1:30p is when the Coordinating Council for People with Disabilities is hosting a legislative reception after that they will be addressing letters to the legislators.
  - Email Nita if you want to participate and can be up at the Capitol at a certain time.
- Kevin passed around two legislative fact sheets that were created for UDOH on Cell Phone Use & Motor Vehicles as well as Motor Vehicle Child Restraints.
- Final changes were also made to the TBI Fund fact sheet including:
  - Color – voted to use purple/blue.
  - Change story on front page to a more positive focus.

- Trisha noted that the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers issued a presidential challenge for State Health Officers to focus on moving injury prevention policy issues forward.

### **Update on New Committee Members:**

- Kevin touched base with Jennifer Rossemer and she had just gone on maternity leave. She did say no, just not right now but she wants us to keep her in mind for future consideration.
- Adina had previously suggested Judy Casenbalm because of the interest Judy had expressed. Unfortunately the vacancy that needs to be filled is for a medical professional; perhaps we can get Judy involved on a subcommittee.
- Ron has contacted Ann Russo, and she is willing to help.
- Troy suggested Dr. Ukin at the VA.

**TASK:** Troy to email Kevin Dr. Ukin's contact information and put together a brief summary about for the nomination process.

- Cindy suggested a Medical Doctor who works with Pediatric Brain Injuries.

**TASK:** Cindy to email Kevin her name and put together a brief summary about her for the nomination process.

- Nita suggested Colby Hansen who is the new TBI Specialist at Primary Children's. He said he would be interested.

**TASK:** Nita to send Dr. Hansen's contact information and a brief summary for the nomination.

- Sarah suggested Shamy Policuris; she is the Assistant Department Head for the Special Education Program at Westminister. She has a brother that has a TBI, and is willing to work on any projects.

**TASK:** Sarah to send Dr Policuris's contact information and a brief summary for the nomination process.

- For those who are interested and would like to help, but there is not enough room on the committee, they are welcome to be a part of the sub-committees.
- There are a certain number of people of specific types of people that is mandated in the legislation and they serve as voting members on the Advisory Committee.
  - Meetings are open and anyone is welcome to attend the meeting, but the number of committee members is limited by legislation.

**TASK:** Trisha and Kevin to submit names upstairs, and send letters to individuals when the nominations and write ups are received.

### **Discussion of TBI Fund "Elevator Speech":**

- Nita passed around a list of talking points if you have a few moments with a contact for potential funding opportunities. The points discuss what the fund is currently doing.

Changes were suggested by committee members and the document now reads:

- The TBI Fund currently:
  - Helps people with TBI in Utah and their families to make the most of the existing resources.

- Intervenes early to prevent increased costs, loss of abilities, and loss of resources.
- Identifies specific individual needs and recommends treatment.
- Assists people with TBI to resume meaningful work and activities.
- With more funding, the TBI fund will help many more people by:
  - Providing training and information to increase the skills of professionals and paraprofessionals who help people with TBI.
  - Working with existing partners to improve resources for people with TBI and their families.
  - Reducing the incidence of preventable TBI.
- Nita made suggested changes to the document as discussion occurred and read the revised points back to group. The points were unanimously accepted without further changes.

**TASK:** Nita to email the current changes to everyone.

**TASK:** These points will be added to the website and to the strategic plan.

- **Congratulations!** This completes the TBI Fund State Plan Objective 2C : to develop a cohesive and succinct message about the purpose of and the services offered through the Fund.

#### **Update on TBI Fund Logos:**

- Ron has someone working on this.
- He received an email saying that he hopes to have this done ASAP.
- He has been going off of what Kevin had sent him.

#### **Continued Discussion on Strategic Plan:**

- Kevin passed around the latest version of the Plan.

**TASK:** Kevin to change the font for Troy to 32 size fonts, and email plan to Troy.

**TASK:** Staff will bring future handouts in an adequate font size for Troy to be able to read.

- New Partners discussion:
  - Nita suggested checking Grants Station – she receives emails as to grant opportunities, but someone needs to be responsible for reviewing the emails to determine appropriate grants for the Committee to apply for.
  - Sarah volunteered and was appointed to serve as chair of the Resource Development subcommittee.
  - Natalie and Cindy volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

**TASK:** Nita will forward these emails on to Sarah.

**TASK:** The Resource Development subcommittee will meet and will develop a Work plan to be presented at the next meeting.

- Community Reinvestment Corporation – non-profit business that contracts with banks
- Zions Bank
- Equa Foundation
- Steve Young Foundation
- Other Foundations

- Grants.gov – federal grants
- TBI ListServ has grant opportunities that come through
- Facebook
- Sport Associations
- Bicycle Businesses
- Harley Davidson
- Ski Resorts
- ATV industry
- Health Insurers
- IHC – the Vice President of community services

**TASK:** Cindy to contact the Vice President of Community Services at IHC by emailing him and including some of the points of the elevator speech.

- Concept of a different kind of partnering:
  - VA
  - County Mental Health Programs
  - Utah Association of Cities and Counties
  - Envoke Rehab
  - ARA funds
  - Bell Sports
  - Utah Ski Team

**Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

- Discuss subgroups to talk to partners about funding.
- Legislative Update
- Work plan from Resource Development subcommittee

Next Tentatively Scheduled Meeting

March 9, 2010  
Utah Department of Health (Room 201)  
288 North 1460 West  
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm