



Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Advisory Board  
November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Meeting Minutes  
10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
In-person Meeting

Attendees: Please refer to the attached document in sheet for Board Members and Guests in attendance.

Public Participants/Special Guests: Venus Ricks, Pennsylvania's Governor's Office, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Facilitator: Kevin McDonald, Chair

Notes Completed By: Erika Pae, Department of Health (DOH), Bureau of Family Health

Agenda Item	Notes	Action Items /Recommendations	Party Responsible
Welcome and Introductions (Kevin McDonald)	Kevin McDonald chaired the meeting and welcomed Advisory Board members and participants. Introductions were made for individuals attending.	N/A	N/A
Formalities (Kevin McDonald)	The Board reviewed the meeting minutes from the August 5th, 2022, meeting. Stefanie Bauman motioned to accept the meeting minutes and Greg Janik seconded the motion. August 5th meeting minutes were accepted.	N/A	N/A

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Board member Activities	<p>Mr. Janik provided an update on the Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers Society (PATS) ConcussionWise Training. There are four new and updated ConcussionWise trainings available for the following categories: coaches, high school and college athletes, children in fourth through eighth grade, and children in kindergarten through third grade. An update was made to PATS Concussion Toolbox app to include these new trainings. The app can be found on the IOS or Google Play app store. There will be 50 new ConcussionWise Instructors added to the training program.</p> <p>Drew Nagele provided an update on the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia’s (CHOP) new virtual brain injury driving assessment. This program will evaluate a teenager’s chance of getting into an accident. Intervention strategies are available to improve the teenager’s skills. CHOP would like to partner with schools and possibly BrainSTEPS.</p> <p>Katherine Baum provided an update on developing a resource manual that will be disseminated to solely Bucks County students. CHOP and the Bucks County IU are also in the process of developing an eight-session program for all Bucks County schools on the impacts of concussion, specifically surrounding social-emotional functioning, executive functioning, and memory.</p> <p>Mr. McDonald provided an update on his non-profit ReSTART. He stated fundamentals class is ongoing. He is working with West Chester University to create a college-level course on life after brain injury. He stated Reading Hospital will be having a mini conference on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, which is sponsored by Mind Your Brain. They are still looking vendors to exhibit at the conference. He is partnering with the West Chester Fire Department to do a firefighter skills competition, with five individual events to benefit ReSTART and the West Chester Community Center. They are looking for sponsorships for each event.</p>		

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<p>Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL); Community Health Choices (CHC) Update (Randolph Nolen)</p>	<p><b>Mr. Nolen provided the following updates for the Office of Long-Term Living:</b></p> <p><b>Managed Care Organizations (MCO) Service Coordinators (SC) Role:</b> Mr. Nolen stated SCs are responsible for completing all assessments; developing and updating the person-centered participant service plan (PCSP) with the individual and their support team; explaining the PCSP process and all the appropriate services available to the individual; and resolving any issues with services, including doing another assessment or provide alternate services. He stated if SCs are not fulfilling their role, the participant or their caregivers should call the MCO participant hotline, the OLTL participant hotline, or directly reach out to him.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A discussion was had regarding the SCs role to coordinate the transition from one service to another. In particular, providers that need to discharge individuals requiring a higher level of care than they can offer, are not receiving assistance from SCs to do so. Mr. Nolen stated SCs are responsible for any type of transition from services. He also said that the MCOs and OLTL have a complex care unit to assist with these issues.</li> <li>• Mr. Nolen stated that if an individual does not know who their SC is but knows their MCO, they can call their respective MCO participant hotline to assist.</li> </ul> <p><b>CHC Procurement</b> Mr. Nolen stated the CHC contracts with the MCOs end in December of 2024. OLTL is currently in the process of reviewing the work statement for the Request for Proposal. He stated it will be available for public comment, likely within the next month. The goal is to post the RFP in the spring of 2023. It was asked if OLTL planned to have more than three MCOs. Mr. Nolen stated a decision has not been made. It was requested that if it is decided to have more than three, to have a standard reporting system for all of them. Currently, each MCO has their own reporting procedures, and it has caused a lot of challenges for providers.</p> <p><b>Bed Hold</b> In 2021, there was a 3% rate increase to help with staff vacancies. Currently, there are no plans to add a “bed hold” fee to the program. To add the fee, OLTL would need to speak with</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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	<p>Center for Medicare/Medicaid Services. One way to justify this addition would be to collect vacancy data from providers, which would include hospitalizations, vacation leave, etc.</p> <p><b>Employment of a Brain Injury Specialist within OLTL</b></p> <p>Mr. Nolen stated this was discussed with internal staff and it was determined not to pursue as it would require them to employ a specialist for each medical diagnosis they support.</p>		
<p>New Board and Meeting Structure (Nikki Adams)</p>	<p>Ms. Adams stated the structure and engagement of the last two board meetings allowed for a lot of productive work, collaboration, and information sharing. Moving forward, any updates or workgroup reports will be gathered and disseminated prior to the meeting to give more time for those activities to occur. Ms. Adams discussed her attendance at the National Association of Head Injury Administrator’s SEED Conference and an impactful keynote speaker presenting on the topic of diversity and recruitment of Board members. She stated as we look to revamp the Board, we need to look at the Board’s “why” or how everyone at the table has different backgrounds but one common mission. A new workgroup will be forming to create an improved mission statement and bylaws to ensure it is inclusive, accountable, and equitable. Anyone interested in joining this workgroup should contact Nicole Johnson.</p>	N/A	N/A
<p>Head Injury Program (HIP) and Acquired Brain Injury Update (Stefani Eichelberger and Amy Deiderick)</p>	<p><b>Ms. Deiderick and Ms. Eichelberger provided an update:</b></p> <p>Counseling and Rehabilitation Inc (C&amp;R), a Community Skills Program under the HIP, will be moving under Success Rehabilitation, another provider on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. The Participating Provider Agreement (PPA), the contract DOH holds with each provider agency to provide HIP services, will be terminated with C&amp;R. C&amp;R has been temporarily taken off the HIP provider list until the merger with Success is complete. Clients currently receiving services through C&amp;R will be given an opportunity to choose a new provider. It is anticipated that the Success Rehabilitation’s new home and community-based program will be added to the provider choice form mid-December. Under Success Rehabilitation, the Community Skills Program will</p>	N/A	N/A

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	continue to serve the same counties. All staff from C&R will be transferring to Success Rehabilitation.		
Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania Update (Monica Vaccaro)	<p><b>Ms. Vaccaro provided the update for the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania (BIAPA):</b> The Council on Brain Injury (CoBI) announced they will no longer be in operation in early 2023. Starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, BIAPA will be taking over the following CoBI programs: ReDiscover U, the Clinical Forum, and the David Strauss Scholarship fund.</p>	N/A	N/A
Workgroup Meetings	<p><b>Health Equity Workgroup.</b> Ms. Bauman summarized the work outlined in the workgroup summary handout. The workgroup has been developing an informational document to recruit individuals to join the Board.</p> <p><b>Education and Resource Facilitation Workgroup.</b> Ms. Pae and Ms. Reale summarized the work outlined in the workgroup summary handout and discussions were held. The workgroup continues to develop resources and information for the DOH TBI website.</p> <p><b>Systems Workgroup.</b> Mr. Nagele summarized the work outlined in the workgroup summary handout. The workgroup met with executive directors from the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS). Ms. Adams stated she also reached out to Maria Crowley, the National Association of Head Injury Administrators Lead, to talk about the potential obstacles OMHSAS discussed, such as requiring another screening tool for case workers to complete. Mr. Nagele discussed other funding possibilities to assist with this project. Ms. Vaccaro stated that when discussing resources for individuals with a brain injury and substance use, many of these individuals have an anoxic brain injury or in other words, a non-traumatic brain injury. These individuals are not eligible for HIP because it requires the individual to have a non-traumatic injury or the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Program because of the age restriction of 18-25. There is not a lot of assistance for these individuals. The Title V Block Grant currently funds the ABI program and DOH is limited in their ability to expand the age requirement. Mr. Nagele stated if we do more screening, additional funding will need to be allocated for NeuroResource Facilitation to assist. It was discussed to attempt to include this in a line item in the Governor’s Budget. Pattiann Berton asked what screening was in</p>	Invitation to a member of the School Board Association to discuss embedding brain injury screening into annual school physicals.	Pattiann Berton/Board



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	place for children. The group discussed collaborating with the Department of Education to try to embed brain injury screening into children’s annual or sports physical. Ms. Berton requested to invite a member of the School Board Association to a Board meeting to discuss this.		
Public Comments	Ms. Berton requested a representative from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) attend a future Board meeting to discuss Blind and Deaf Services. Lee Ann Stewart, the OVR liaison to the Board, stated OVR has a specialist that could come to a Board Meeting and speak to these services.	Request an OVR representative to present on Blind and Deaf Services.	Erika Pae (DOH) and Lee Ann Stewart (OVR)
Review Upcoming Meeting	Next TBI Advisory Board Meeting is <b>February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022</b> TIME: <b>10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.</b> Location: <b>PaTANN</b> <b>6340 Flank Drive</b> <b>Harrisburg, PA 17112</b>	N/A	N/A

Handouts: May Meeting Minutes, Agenda, HIP Activity Report and Referrals, and Workgroup Summaries.

Facilitator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_