**Maryland Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board Meeting**

**Wednesday March 1, 2017 11:00am-100pm**

**Location: House Office building, Room 170 6 Bladen Street Annapolis**

<http://bha.dhmh.maryland.gov/Pages/mdtbiadvisoryboard.aspx>

Call in number (712) 432-1500 pass code 327412\*

***Attendees:***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Name*** | ***Representing*** | ***Attended*** |
| **Berlow, Bob** | **DRM** | **Yes** |
| **Carney, Joan** | **BIAMD** | **Yes** |
| **Dantzler, Joyce** | **Injury Prevention** | **Yes** |
| **Elinoff, Laurie** | **Individual with TBI** | **Yes** |
| **Farmer, Denise** | **OHS** | **Yes** |
| **Harman, Pamela** | **Professional** | **Yes (by phone)** |
| **Hutchinson-Troyer, Linda** | **BIAM** | **Yes** |
| **Kerrigan, Martin** | **Individual with TBI** | **Yes** |
| **Marion, Nikisha** | **BHA** | **Yes** |
| **Mays, Carole** | **MIEMSS** | **No** |
| **O'Dea, Stefani** | **BHA** | **Yes** |
| **Peterson, Keisha** | **OGCSHCN** | **Yes** |
| **Pugh, Bryan** | **BIAM** | **Yes** |
| **Rivera, Linnette** | **MDOD** | **Yes** |
| **Ruff, Melissa** | **Family Member** | **Yes** |
| **Schoenbrodt, Lisa** | **Professional** | **Yes** |

***Absentees:***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Boone, Judy** | **DORS** |  | **King, Nancy Senator** | **General Assembly** |
| **Cernich, Alison** | **NIH** |  | **Mosko, Raymond** | **Family Member** |
| **Walderstreicher, Delegate Jeff** | **House of Delegates** |  | **Peterson, Keisha** | **OGCSHCN** |
| **Foxwell, Raymond** | **Law Enforcement** |  | **Walker-Pittman, Adrienne** | **Individual with TBI** |
| **Bastenelli, Sandra** | **Individual with TBI** |  | **Furman, Janet** | **DDA** |
| **Eisenberg, Norma** | **Family Member** |  | **Hartman, Paul** | **Individual with TBI** |
| **Helfrich, Marny** | **MSDE** |  | **Weaver, Buddy** | **Family Member** |

**Guests**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rhinehart Mello, Catherine** | **BHA** |  | **Starr, Caitlin** | **BIAMD** |
| **Thrift Mann, Annie** | **WMHC** |  | **Downs, Debra** | **WMHC** |
| **Gross, David** | **WMHC** |  | **Paylor, Amanda** | **WMHC** |
| **Stokes, Anita** | **OCSHCN** |  | **Triplett, Diane** | **ReMed** |
| **Miller, Shelby** | **ReMed** |  | **Kirtz, Terry** | **family member** |

1. Welcome and Introductions

* New member “buddies”

1. Approval of January meeting minutes-motion to approve January meeting minutes, approved
2. SAFE subcommittee report -

* Martin Kerrigan discussed purpose of the SAFE subcommittee. Laurie Elinoff invited two survivors who receive services at a local bring injury program to attend visits with legislators with her. The Administration on Community Living (ACL)-Federal brain injury program are interested in the SAFE committee as a model for other states. Martin was invited ACL to participate in a panel focused on involving individuals with brain injury in policy and advocacy efforts. ACL would also like to attend a future Maryland TBI Advisory Board meeting.

1. Partner Sharing (5 minutes each)

* Mellissa Ruff-Caregiver of a young adult son who was in an MVC two years ago. Concerns about care since discharge from Kennedy Krieger’s program and issues with insurance coverage. Melissa has social background and found it challenging to navigate healthcare systems. Noted the changes in her life and the life of her family after her son's injury. She found out about the TBI advisory board through attendance at the BIAMD conference two years ago. Her son has held his job for the past year and a half but still struggles with impulsivity and aggression.

1. Legislative Updates- members and guests

* Martin -The Board agreed that the top priority for this year is to introduce legislation to mandate screening for student for history of brain injury. Met with Rep. Leudke who has been supportive in the past but did not have staff resources to introduce another bill this session. He will help next year if legislation is not introduced this year. He identified Rep Nick Mosby from Baltimore who will work on a bill for this year. He is new and may have an opportunity to introduce legislation late in the session. He has requested language for screening questions. An Advisory Board delegation met with him this past week to discuss legislation. Board members met with Sen Nancy King to discuss legislation, who is willing to champion in the Senate.
* Joan Carney and Lisa Schoenbroadt-investigating options through budget process of mandating brain injury screening in schools. They met with a Delegate from the eastern shore. They are asking for two questions for screening on required health questionnaire. If screen is positive school system should investigate impact of brain injury. Also advocating that questions are added to special ed screening tools. Spoke with Delegate Kittleman who has a bill going in that is similar but screens for double vision to periodic vision and hearing screenings (HB 458). Would need support from DHMH to move forward. They also met with Delegate Flannigan.
* Stefani O’Dea -Expressed that messaging about need for brain injury screening in schools should be consistent and clear. Rationale from various board members has been a bit inconsistent and has included anything from opioid addiction, sports concussion, to kids being kicked out of school.
* Suggestions for messaging: potentially create talking points for board members and advocates to use and / or drafting a from letter for stakeholders.
* Laurie -met with legislative staff today, recommended sending thank you note, sending a picture. stefani commended Laurie on being a mentor for others who are new to advocating for themselves.
* Melissa-met with staff to Susan Krebs, and brought an article about her son's accident and a good Samaritan who saved his life. This was a personal way to connect. She was also supportive related to insurance coverage issues after catastrophic motor vehicle crashes.
* Discussion about Educational transition readiness assessment that is being pushed in Health committee. Section 504 data related to how many children have special education plans due to brain injury. MSDE is not required to monitor. Federal government collects data, but it may be limited to numbers of children with a plan but did not include the reason that they have a plan. Some codes are used, but often children are miss classified so any data available may not reflect the number of children with brain injury.
* General discussion about training of staff to identify and screen children and gather data about incidence of brain injury.
* Discussion about how information is translated into getting more services and or data related to positive screening on proposed questions. Generally this should trigger additional assessments and follow up would have to be required as part of the bill. Discussion about incorporating questions and follow up in the IEP process. Concerns about whether schools under identify children as needing an IEP to limit number of IEPs particular counties.
* Discussed implementation of IEP and 504 plans in general and what is included in the law.
* Joyce Dantzler-Gave Bryan Pugh and Stefani O’Dea copies of new resource guide that includes a tab for TBI. Will send a link to other board members. Prevention Regional Network charged by CDC to focus on particular injury areas and forming national "learning teams". TBI area is going to be done by Washington state. Maryland is doing intimate partner violence. Will roll out teams in late summer early fall 2017. Joyce will send contact info for Will Hitchcock in Washington State who will be contact person for TBI related activities.
* BIAMD has a link to the regional resource guide for decision makers. Will post the state guide when the link is shared by Joyce.
* Brain Injury Awareness day on Capitol Hill is scheduled for March 22nd. NASHIA and BIAA are assisting the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force with coordinating the events. Additional federal funding has been requested for the TBI State Grant program and for the Centers for Disease control to conduct a phone survey nationally that will provide better TBI prevalence data.

VI. Meeting adjourned 1:00pm