

## **Brain Injury Alliance of SD 2010 Annual Meeting**

November 6, 2010  
Sunrise Villa – Irene, SD

Board Members Present – Ron Hoops, Ron Sasso, Mary Ohman, Karen Brokenleg and Denise Gannon.

Board Members Absent – Ellery Schreurs, Robert Woodring, Michael Gilleland and Shelly Pfaff.

Others Present – Rodney Sletten, Lori Sletten, William (Buddy) Brose, Teresa Bernie Fresquez, Savannah Bernie.

OPEN MEETING – Board President, Ron Hoops, called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 PM (CST).

### *INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES*

*APPROVAL OF AGENDA* – Ron H. asked if there were any changes to the proposed agenda. Hearing none – **MOTION TO APPROVE** Agenda – **MSC**.

*APPROVAL OF MINUTES* – Mary O. read the minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting. **MOTION TO APPROVE** minutes of December 5, 2009 – **MSC**.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT** – Discussion was held regarding whether to call for 2011 membership. No call for 2010 membership was done. Twenty-seven notices were mailed to 29 individuals for the 2009 annual meeting. Further discussion was tabled to the next board meeting in 2011.

**TREASURER'S** – Reviewed Treasurers report submitted by email as of October 31, 2010. The checking account had a balance of \$3,039.63. **MOTION TO ACCEPT TREASURER'S REPORT** – **MSC**.

*PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE* – BIASD is an all-volunteer nine-board organization that meet three times each year. The mission is to help brain injury survivors and their families. Highlights of this past year included:

- BIASD was represented at Disability Awareness Day in Pierre during the legislative session.
- TBI needs survey now on BIASD website.
- Ron Hoops, Robert Woodring, Shelly Pfaff and Ellery Schreurs submitted their resignation.

### OTHER REPORTS:

**SUNRISE VILLA** – Prior to the meeting interested attendees were given a casual tour of Sunrise Villa, South Dakota's first long-term care facility specifically designed for Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) patients, was given by Becky McManus, CEO of Sunset Manor/Avera. They currently have 8 individuals. They work at Ability Building Services in Yankton daily. Holidays, and occasionally a sick day or doctor appointment, allow for a day or two off. The individuals seem to enjoy their work and the routine that it provides.

**SD ACHIEVE** – Denise Gannon reported the residential facility is assisting seven individuals and there are three individuals using transitional services. Three individuals are working in the community. They are also working with another individual transitioning into their own apartment from the residential facility. SD Achieve now has a day-service program with no age restrictions. Five staff members have passed their brain injury specialist training. They celebrated the two-year anniversary in September of their day care service program at Killian College which provides more individualized services. They accepted a donation from Killian College; have attended numerous conferences and hired a new counselor with TBI experience.

**COMMUNITY TRANSITIONS** – Ron Sasso reported they have been providing 24-hour care for slightly more than a year now. They are exploring how to serve more individuals and have received referrals from out-of-state. They are actively looking into what needs to be done to be designated with an assisted living diagnosis. Ron is going to meet with Deb Bowman, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Social Services. Their driving simulator has been great. He reported clients need a score of 70 or better to pass but they have been recommending clients reach a score of 80 or better because the simulator doesn't have an impulse control component.

Ron reported that Behavior Specialist, Justine Ashokar will be leaving CT, but will remain at the main agency. Justine will be working on her doctorate in Clinical Psychology. CT continues to have on-going discussions regarding their facility. One of their success stories this year is they have an individual who has completed high school and will continue on to college. Their 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Brain Injury Conference will be held in Rapid City on May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Their keynote speaker has not yet been determined.

### SUPPORT GROUPS:

- Aberdeen – Meets the third Tuesday of every month from 7 PM to 8:30 PM at the Rehabilitation Center at Avera St. Luke's Hospital. This is an intense sharing group. They usually have 10 to 15 attendees.
- Sioux Falls – The group meets the second Saturday of every month, from September through May at The Center for Active Generations at 2300 W. 46th Street. They have videos, discussions, sharing groups and speakers. They are working on having breakout groups for survivors and families. They have four facilitators and usually have between 15 and 20 attendees. One of the highlights of this group is their annual trip to “My Fishing Pond” in Bridgewater, SD.
- Rapid City - The group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at Community Transitions in the Conference Room. Each meeting has a topic and they divide into breakout sessions for survivors and family. This group meets all year long and has been in existence for seven years. They serve pizza and soda. They usually have 15 to 25 attendees.

### OTHER BUSINESS:

Ron Sasso reported he created a Facebook page for the BIASD.

**BOARD MEMBERS:** The floor was open to nominations. The following individuals were nominated: Mary Tomarrison of Sioux Falls,, Karen Brokenleg of Sioux Falls, Teresa Fresquez of Vermillion and Lori Sletten of Viborg. **MOTION TO CEASE NOMINATIONS AND ELECT** the above individuals – **MSC** by unanimous ballot to two-year terms.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Ron H thanked everyone for their participation today and their commitment to the organization. **MOTION TO ADJOURN – MSC.** Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 PM (CST).