

Brain Injury Alliance of South Dakota Quarterly Board Meeting

April 21, 2017 at 1:30 – 3:30 PM (MST)

Present: Doris Schumacher, Glenn Schumacher, Denise Johnson, Mary Ohman, Karen Brokenleg, Mary Tommeraasen, Ron Sasso, Justine Ashokar, and Koral Olson

Doris called the meeting to order. Attendance was taken.

Updates:

Sunrise Villa - No update from Kari Severson. Independent Living Choices will assist with forming a support group.

The Brain Injury Rehabilitation Center - New Paradigms in Mental Healthcare conference received positive feedback. TBIRC has been approved to receive VA funding for services. There were 88 entries in the March poster contest, and the 3 winners were displayed on an electronic billboard, in the Rapid City Journal, and on FaceBook.

Lifescape - Two individuals were discharged in last month (one to family and one to a nursing home). Still have a wait list. Some have gotten employment in the community.

Support Groups:

Aberdeen – The group is still meeting, with 7-10 people attending regularly.

Black Hills – Christie Sandvik, brain injury survivor and artist, will be speaking at the June support group meeting.

Brookings – The new coordinator from Independent Living Choices will be co-facilitating the group. Eleven people attended last time. Dr. Willert, chiropractor was recommended to speak at the April meeting regarding laser treatment for the brain. Hyvee sold green light bulbs and raised \$400 for Brain Injury Awareness Month.

Sioux Falls – Karen took suggestions from members of what they would like others to understand about brain injury, and she will put it on her FaceBook page. The group has received some new members, and some old members returned.

The SD Traumatic Brain Injury Work Group - Disability Awareness Day, the TBIRC poster contest, green light bulb sales, Jazz Fest parking fundraiser, New Paradigms in Mental Healthcare conference, and YAMWI conference were discussed. The group is still working on a manual for the state. Mary T will report back to the work group with updates from the BIASD meeting when the group meets again in mid-June.

Meeting minutes from 9/30/16 were approved with one correction.

Updates from 9/30/16 meeting:

Interview with Senator Johnson – Karen will continue to communicate with him about meeting with BIASD in Sioux Falls.

Eight legislators responded to Ron regarding the BIASD letter written to them. BIASD needs to identify a legislator willing to bring forward a bill, and the bill needs to be clear about BIASD's intent. Justine offered to research what other states are doing regarding legislation, funding, and services and asked that all other board members email her about what they would like addressed in the bill. Justine will email BIASD members when she has info compiled.

Karen was contacted by a social worker in Pierre regarding a 15 year-old with a brain injury whose foster family is looking for counseling services in Pierre.

The rubber band bracelets had a typo, so Denise sent them back and will get them out to Board members when she receives them.

Mary O will drop off BIASD name tags to West River Board members in May when she is in Rapid City.

The Caring Grant application will be discussed during the next Board meeting.

Mary has been emailing with Kylee Kettering, aide to Kristi Noem. Mary will give her the date of our next meeting to ask whether Kristi can attend.

Footprint Fund \$200 award was used for printing materials that were included with the green light bulb fundraiser, and for printing 250 more BIASD brochures.

Ron needs a picture/bio from Karen for the BIASD website.

Mary T will contact attorney John Hamilton to inquire about his interest in becoming a BIASD Board member. Doris will contact Dr. Mary Ring and her husband Ray Ring, District 17, to inquire about their interest in becoming BIASD Board members.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved. Doris proposed that the Board develop a yearly budget. There was discussion of fundraising, purpose of BIASD, new Board members, wants/needs list, and grants. Send ideas to Doris for who should be recipients of money spent by BIASD.

The next quarterly Board meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2017 @ 1:30 PM (MST).

Doris adjourned the quarterly meeting.