

May 12, 2020

Dear Members of the Arkansas Trauma System Rehabilitation Sub-Committee:

Since our February report, the activities of the TBI State Partnership Program, UAMS Trauma Rehabilitation Resources Program (TRRP), and the TBI Advisory Board Workgroup include the following accomplishments:

- In March, Terri Imus, Kim Lamb, and Joe Page attended the annual meeting of the Administration for Community Living (ACL) TBI State Partnership Program (TBI SPP) in Washington, D.C. Mr. Page, a warden with the Arkansas Department of Corrections and a TBI survivor, served on a criminal justice panel with other experts across the nation to discuss TBI within the incarcerated population.

The group also participated in the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA) "Hill Day". NASHIA created opportunities for Mr. Page to meet with Arkansas legislators and be a voice for the state's TBI population. The meetings provided an opportunity for Mr. Page to share his story and be an advocate for Arkansans living with brain injury.

- Governor Asa Hutchinson signed a proclamation declaring March as Brain Injury Awareness Month. The proclamation was promoted on the TBI SPP website and TRRP social media. The proclamation was to be announced at the Miracles for Mary-Thon on May 21; however, the event was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The spring issue of the Brain Waves Newsletter featured the story of Crystal Payne. After being contacted to attend the Brain Injury Workshop in Jacksonville, she offered to share her story at the event. Since that time, she has shared her story with other groups and has joined the TBI Advisory Board Workgroup. She is passionate about being an advocate and a voice for those recovering from traumatic injuries. The newsletter was delivered to the TBI community in paper and digital formats.
- The enhancement and maintenance of the TBI SPP website continued in an effort to educate and inform the public about TBI SPP and the current work that is taking place in Arkansas. All meetings of the TBI Advisory Board Workgroup are open to the public, and access information is published on the site.
- The TBI SPP submitted a journal article about the TBI SPP to the Journal of the Arkansas Medical Society, a nonprofit dedicated to helping Arkansas healthcare providers deliver quality care. Jim Mather (TBI Advisory Board Workgroup, State Plan Sub-Workgroup) contributed a brief analysis of the data collected through surveys. Expected date of publication is August.

- Terri Imus and Kim Lamb met with David King, Chief Executive Officer, Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance/Minnesota Stroke Association about the possibility of representation from the Brain Injury Alliance in Arkansas. Information links were distributed and discussion was held during the May 12 virtual TBI Advisory Board Workgroup meeting.
- Terri Imus and Kim Lamb began meeting with the technical assistance team at NASHIA to develop an action plan for Arkansas. NASHIA is committed to helping Arkansas achieve goals set through the grant.
- Survivor stories are now being documented on video to celebrate survivors and to support the need for infrastructure in the state. The stories of Tony Thornton and Crystal Payne are now available: <https://idhi.uams.edu/tbi-survivor-story-repository-video/>.
- The TBI SPP and TRRP met with the team managing the Alabama TBI Registry to learn how they “close the communication loop” in their registry. This meeting supports the need to standardize documentation and support a case management system in Arkansas.
- A survey was sent to state agency and organization partners to assess effectiveness, improvements, and future commitments to the Brain Injury Regional Workshops.
- The TBI SPP and TRRP met with case managers from Missouri to benchmark their program and find ways to gain support for TBI case management in Arkansas.
- The TBI SPP ordered and received 450 copies of, “Moderate to Severe Brain Injury: A Practical Guide for Families,” from the Brain Injury of America. The guides will be given to patients leaving rehabilitation facilities, attending brain injury workshops, and as needed.
- The TBI SPP ordered and received 500 drawstring backpacks to use at Brain Injury Regional Workshops.
- The TBI SPP team continued to participate and contribute in three Administration for Community Living (ACL) national workgroups – Advisory Boards, Trust Funds; Underserved Populations. The Arkansas Model for Rural Outreach will become a focus for documentation and replication in year 3 of the ACL grant for the Underserved Populations Workgroup.

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- The TBI SPP team continued to engage with NASHIA through committee involvement to develop national relationships with others serving those living with brain injury, obtain education, and promote the use of technology in TBI healthcare.
- The TBI SPP team is in the process of completing a six-month update of activities in Arkansas for the Administration of Community Living (ACL), which provides grant funding for the TBI SPP.

Since mid-March and the onset of COVID-19, Arkansans have felt the impact on workflow and events. Specific responses related to COVID-19 include:

- A postcard offering support and contact information for the 24x7 Nurse Call Center and the TRRP program was mailed to 1,334 TBI survivors on the AR TBI Registry.
- The TRRP resource website was updated with COVID-19 resources.
- The TRRP team worked to increase offerings and facilitation of telemedicine consultations.
- The TBI SPP team has been attending bi-weekly ACL networking meetings to discuss state responses to COVID-19 from across the country.
- The TBI SPP team has begun tentatively planning a workshop in Monticello for early October.
- The quarterly TBI Advisory Board Workgroup meeting was held virtually.

Many events have been impacted by the onset of COVID-19:

- TBI Advisory Board Workgroup Retreat – Rescheduled for August 11, 2020
- Miracles for Mary-Thon – To Be Rescheduled
- Survivor’s Conference – To Be Rescheduled
- Trauma Symposium – Cancelled
- Brain Injury Conference – Cancelled

Thank you for your support as we continue our efforts to build a stronger infrastructure for the underserved TBI population.

TBI Advisory Board Workgroup Participants

<p>FranSha' Anderson, MBA, DD Executive Director Arkansas State Independent Living Council</p> <p>Leader, State Plan Sub-Workgroup</p>	
<p>Sheila Beck, MSPT, CCI, CBIS Therapy Coordinator Easterseals Arkansas</p> <p>Trust Fund/Waiver Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Charlotte Bishop State Long Term Care Ombudsman Arkansas Division of Aging and Adult Services</p> <p>Underserved Populations Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Jenny Frederickson Baptist Health Rehabilitation Program</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Amy Goddard Arkansas Department of Education</p>	
<p>Stacy Gravett, MA, CRC Certified Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Arkansas Department of Career Education Rehabilitation Services Division</p> <p>Underserved Populations Sub-Workgroup</p>	
<p>Sara Hodge, MCD, CCC-SLP, CBIS Clinical Evaluator NeuroRestorative Timber Ridge</p> <p>Leader, Underserved Populations Sub-Workgroup</p>	

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<p>Kelsey Ingle, MS, CCC-SLP, CBIS Administrative Speech Pathologist Baptist Health Rehabilitation Institute</p> <p>Underserved Populations Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Rani Lindberg, MD Psychiatrist UAMS/Baptist Health Medical Center</p> <p>Co-Leader, Trust Fund/Waiver Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/2/20</p>
<p>Steven Long ICAN Assistive Technology</p> <p>Underserved Populations Sub-Workgroup</p>	
<p>Tom Masseur Executive Director Disability Rights Arkansas</p> <p>Trust Fund/Waiver Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Jim Mather, PhD Director Sources for Community Independent Living Services</p> <p>State Plan Development Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Miranda Morris ACO Executive Director Aledade, Inc.</p> <p>Trust Fund/Waiver Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Valerie Oji, PharmD IPAC Innovative Pharm & Consulting</p>	

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<p>Joe Page, MS Warden Arkansas Department of Corrections Person Living with Brain Injury</p> <p>Underserved Populations Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Dan Parker, MSN, RN, MBA Retired Nurse and Administrator Caregiver to Person Living with Brain Injury</p> <p>Trust Fund/Waiver Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Gigi Parker, SLP Speech Language Pathologist Caregiver to Person Living with Brain Injury</p> <p>Trust Fund/Waiver Sub-Workgroup</p>	
<p>Crystal Payne Survivor</p>	
<p>Susan Pierce Director of Policy and Planning Disability Rights Arkansas</p> <p>Trust Fund/Waiver Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Kevin Sexton, MD Physician Person Living with Brain Injury</p> <p>Co-Leader, Trust Fund/Waiver Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Kerrie Snyder Person Living with Brain Injury</p> <p>State Plan Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/27/20</p>

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<p>Aleecia Starkey, MSP, CCC-SLP Retired</p> <p>Underserved Populations Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/27/20</p>
<p>Jon Wilkerson, MSPT</p> <p>Trust Fund/Waiver Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Stanley Ellis, EdD Director of Education UAMS, IDHI</p> <p>State Plan Development Sub-Workgroup</p>	
<p>Terri Imus, RN, BSN TBI SPP Grant PI Clinical Director – Go Live Team UAMS IDHI</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Renee Joiner, RN Director of Operations Stroke and Trauma Programs IDHI, UAMS</p>	
<p>Daniel Bercher, PhD, NRP, CBIS Assistant Director Trauma Rehabilitation Resources Program UAMS, IDHI</p> <p>Co-Leader, Trust Fund/Waiver Sub-Workgroup</p>	<p>Approved via email 5/26/20</p>
<p>Kristen Alexander, MPH, MPS Health Educator Trauma Rehabilitation Resources Program UAMS, IDHI</p> <p>State Plan Development Sub-Workgroup</p>	

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Amber Watson, MBA Administrative Coordinator UAMS, IDHI	Approved via email 5/27/20
Eddie Williams, RN, BSN, CBIS Nurse Educator Trauma Rehabilitation Resources Program UAMS, IDHI, Underserved Populationsderserved Populations Sub- Workgroup	Approved via email 5/26/20