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GOVERNOR OF HAWAI'I
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I



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In reply, please refer to:
File:

STATE TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY ADVISORY BOARD (STBIAB)

MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 2024

Present: Rita Manriquez, Bill Rodrigues, Kristen Keech, Karen Klemme,
Absent: Dorothy Ali'ilua, Wayne Parsons, Lisa Dau
Others: BJ Wade, Brain Injury Association of Hawaii; Violet Horvath, Pacific Disabilities Center; Kiana Kaupiko, Chronic Disease Management; Tani Kalei Kagesa, Executive Office on Aging; Gita Dwijayati, visiting student
DOH Staff: Michele Tong, Neurotrauma Program

I. Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 1:35 pm by Chair Bill Rodrigues

II. Approval of Minutes from March 12, 2024

Board member Karen Klemme motioned to accept the minutes with no changes or edits. Board member Kristen Keech seconded the motion. All board members present voted in favor of the minutes being accepted as written. No questions. Discussion focused on the need for long term care options for the Big Island. There is a need for long term care professionals, paraprofessionals, and training programs. Would DOH work on finding a way to help students cover tuition for such a program? Recipients of the tuition funding could be obligated to serve the

community for a pre-determined number of years in return for the tuition assistance.

Voting to accept the minutes: Ayes 4 Nays 0 Abstentions 0

III. Review of Agenda

Agenda accepted as written. No questions or discussions.

IV. New Business

None

V. Old Business

A. Pacific Disabilities Center – *Violet Horvath*

Presentation on Supported Decision Making. Hawaii does not have a law regarding Supported Decision Making and there is no court involvement. There are drawbacks and legal considerations that should be considered prior to engaging in such a process.

Supported Decision Making **is** a process which:

- Allows an individual to choose trusted persons to assist them in making important life decisions.
- Looks different for each person.

Supported Decision Making **is not**:

- A durable power of attorney allowing for decisions to be made on behalf of an individual.
- Guardianship/ conservatorship of an individual and does not come with those rights or responsibilities.

In other news, Hawaii Disabilities and Healthcare Coalition, (HDHC), is planning an event tentatively for 10/5/24, on Maui. The ½ day event will provide the disability community the opportunity to hear and share stories and thoughts on the future of health care. HDHC meets quarterly and plans to host one event annually.

Anyone who is interested can join the group. 2 stroke PSAs created with Hawaii Stroke Coalition, (HSC) shared.

B. Brain Injury Association of Hawaii – *BJ Wade*

BIOSG presentations by AILH on housing and FBI on scams. Outreach at YMCA Healthy Kids Day (helmets and brain injury prevention). Attended Emme Tomimbang’s (TBI survivor and BIHi supporter) celebration of life. Sienna Byne a TBI survivor (sponsored by BIHi) won 3rd runner up at Miss Hawaii pageant. Since the March 2 brain injury conference, 3 attendees have notified BIHi that the information provided via the conference “saved them”.

C. Neurotrauma news across our State – Brief neurotrauma related share from each attendee

TBI Survivor – *Rita Manriquez*

Adding onto discussion of Supported Decision Making, Rita shared that she recently escorted an elderly friend to the hospital and by default, fell into the role of assisting the friend to make medical decisions about her care. Recently, Rita went to the ophthalmologist and needed to educate the doctor on how the blinking lights test, adversely affects persons with a brain injury.

TBI Survivor – *Bill Rodrigues*

Continuing to help church members access the community.

Kona Brain Injury Support Group – *Karen Klemme*

The biggest news is that in May, the support group will be celebrating their 30th anniversary. The longest continuously running brain injury support group in Hawaii. The group’s co-founder is flying in from Texas for the event. Media has

been invited, there will be Hawaiian music for entertainment and food will be served. There will be a moment of remembrance to honor the contribution and memory of Emme Tomimbang. The monthly meetings will continue as announced.

Occupational Therapist – Kristen Keech

In response to Rita’s experience with her eye doctor Kristen noted that a physician’s assistant, who is also her co-worker, is looking at the effects of medical care on a person with a TBI and gathering these people’s experiences. With the information, the PA intends to create an informational guide for doctors and care givers on ways to help the TBI survivor.

D. DOH Update – Neurotrauma Program - Michele Tong

Continuing work on the NTP Strategic Plan. Also continuing to collaborate with QMC, KMCWC and BIHi to do injury prevention and awareness events at YMCA Nuuanu, Keoneula Elementary, Pali Hongwanji, and Ko’Olina resort.

VI. Announcements

None

VII. Next State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board Meeting

Date: September 10, 2024

Time: 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Location: Diamond Head Health Center and Zoom

VIII. 2024 STBIAB Meeting Dates

January 9, March 12, May 14, July 9, September 10, November 12

Meeting Adjourned at 3:12pm