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KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I



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STATE TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY ADVISORY BOARD (STBIAB)

MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2025

Present: Rita Manriquez, Bill Rodrigues, Kristen Keech, Karen Klemme, Lisa Dau, Dorothy Ali'ilua

Absent: Wayne Parsons

Others: Violet Horvath, Pacific Disabilities Center; Nicole Gustie, Queens Medical Center; Stephanie Edwards, Kauai BIG; Susan Elliot, survivor; Tani Salazar, Executive Office on Aging; Troy Furutani, UH HCAMP

DOH Staff: Michele Tong, Neurotrauma Program

I. Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 1:38 pm by STBIAB Chairperson, Bill Rodrigues

II. Approval of Minutes from November 19, 2024

Board member Karen Klemme motioned to accept the minutes with no changes or edits. Board member Lisa Dau seconded the motion. The 5 board members present at the time of voting, all voted in favor of the minutes being accepted. No questions or discussion.

Voting to accept the minutes: Ayes 5 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

No learning moment presentation for this meeting.

PDC presentations in November were on the island of Hawaii covering Medical gaslighting and Basics of advocacy. While there, Violet attended and presented at the Hawaii Community Caregiver Network education workshop. Due to illness, Violet was unable to participate in the FEMA Civil Rights Summit addressing gender violence during disaster response and also needed to postpone a trip to Indonesia to promote employment for people with disabilities. In the early stages of discussion with Dr. Stacy Brown of QMC on a TBI project looking at the higher-than-average rate at which Polynesian communities sustain TBIs.

B. Neurotrauma news across our State

Brain Injury Association of Hawaii – Violet Horvath and Dorothy Ali'ilua

December's BIOSG meeting included a presentation from Hawaii Disability Rights Center and a holiday celebration. BIHi is working on obtaining helmets to be distributed at partner events. The 2025 BIHi resource conference that will be held in Hilo is in the planning stages with BIHi actively communicating with survivors and providers on Hawaii island. BIHi is working on inviting legislators to tour RHOP in May, after the legislative season closes. NTP expressed an interest in being a part of the tour, if possible. Recent conversation with Rick Wills, CEO of BIAA, on what BIAA offers for local chapters and possible funding streams to move efforts of BIHi.

Kona Brain Injury Support Group - *Karen Klemme*

- December – Orthogonal Chiropractic Technique
- January – Scams presentation canceled and rescheduled to March. Substitute presentation was on oral hygiene and complications associated with a lack of oral care.
- February - Stroke - BEFAST

Queens Medical Center (QMC) Trauma – *Michele Tong for QMC Trauma*

Three events were planned for November. One to train on “Stop the Bleed” and 2 helmet events. No events planned for December.

Queens Medical Center (QMC) Stroke – *Nicole Gustie*

Hawaii Stroke Coalition hosted an in-person retreat on 10/26/24 with the following topics/speakers: Intracerebral Hemorrhage, Navi Sangha, MD (KP); Stroke Rehab, Joel Stein, MD (Columbia); Aneurysm Management, Ferd Hui, MD & Sam Tsappidi, MD. Community outreach events in November included World Diabetes Day and the annual Turkey Trot. Resource fair at Kuhio Park Terrace was well attended, but without a translator (Chuukese, Marshallese, Samoan) conversations were limited. STEM Fair at Leilehua allowed for conversations with students considering careers in health care. In February will be a vendor at Hawaii’s HOSA Conference, connecting with future health professionals.

Kapiolani Medical Center (KMCWC) – *Lisa Dau*

Starting 2025 with Car Seat Checks at Wilcox and Mililani. Through KIPC Safe Kids and a DOT grant, doing a new “Pedestrian Safety” program for keiki to kupuna. Members are invited to contact Lisa with events where learning about

pedestrian safety would be suitable. 2 bills coming up in the 2025 legislative session that will be watched:

Senate Bill 30 – helmet requirement for all moped riders/drivers, regardless of age

Senate Bill 98 – regulation of low speed e-bikes; defining an e-bike and raising legal operating age from 15 years to 16 years old.

TBI Survivor – Rita Manriquez

Shared about her personal living situation. Members offered resources to help address residential needs.

University of Hawaii (UH) BrainSpace– Troy Furutani

Contract with DOH to update guidelines for concussion management of BrainSpace curriculum for middle and high school athletes, parents of athletes and gaming officials. Current curriculum is most used by middle schoolers. Focus will be to update information, define roles of athlete, parents, officials, and provide resources to prevent and/or live with concussion. Olelo is assisting with production of video that is expected to be complete by March 2025.

Executive Office on Aging – Tani Salazar

Focus groups on Alzheimer's have just been completed for our work on public health campaign. Also engaged in planning activities for our 2025 CDC grant.

TBI Survivor – Bill Rodriguez

At the last December 2024 BIOSG, a representative from HDRC presented on getting paperwork in order for decision making, in the event you are incapacitated or need assistance to make a life decision. Bill met with the HDRC representative yesterday to complete paperwork legally detailing his wishes. Bill attended a recent

legislative session where discussion surrounded upcoming laws and bills affecting first responders.

Occupational Therapist – Kristen Keech

Continuing teaching of OT students at Hawaii Pacific University. Working on checklist for clinicians to prepare for interviewing a person with a brain injury. Purpose of the checklist is to increase comfort of interviewer and interviewee, thereby increasing the accuracy of assessments. The paper associated with the use of the checklist has been written and accepted. On a personal note, participating in Kapalua half marathon and using it as a fundraising effort for BIHi. Kristen expressed interest in learning more about the work Violet will be doing on TBI with QMC's Dr. Brown. Caregiver survey mentioned at last STBIAB is being vetted by clinicians before it will be ready for distribution.

Kauai BIG – Stephanie Edwards

Presenter at December's meeting was a TBI survivor who now helps others recover through the use of biofeedback. Comfort level of members increases with each meeting. Some who earlier declined to participate in the art projects offered after each meeting, have begun to show interest. January and February meeting dates land on State holidays making the regular meeting space unavailable. Kauai Museum has agreed to host the January meeting. The location of the February meeting has yet to be decided. The theme for 2025's meetings will be recovery and growth.

VI. DOH Update – Neurotrauma Program - Michele Tong

Helped out at recent skateboard, helmet giveaway event in Aala Park with helmets provided through Skate Posse (<https://superskateposse.org/>) . Helmets distributed

at the event were inadequate as protective gear. NTP met with representative from Trust for Public Land to discuss concerns and provide information on safe helmet practices.

NTP opened discussion on NTP Strategic Plan FY25-30, Goal 1 “In coordination with community partners, expand educational opportunities to the public sector on all neurotrauma injuries to increase awareness on the effects of neurotrauma and how to respond to an injury.” At NTAB’s December 12, 2024 meeting, NTAB members provided suggestions in accordance with goal 1 and its objectives. NTP reviewed NTAB suggestions (reviving stroke brochure, getting support groups involved, trauma resource booklet, and a magnet with frequently called numbers) and STBIAB members provided additional input. KMCWC has seen a number of children for surfer’s myelopathy, all of them were visitors to the islands. EOA can share a booklet created for youth that teaches about the brain. PDC mentioned work being done by First Tee and how we might think about patterning our efforts to enjoy similar success in reaching 1st and 2nd graders with our curriculum.

VII. Announcements

None

VIII. Next State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board Meeting

Date: March 11, 2025

Time: 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Location: Diamond Head Health Center and Zoom

I. 2025 STBIAB Meeting Dates

January 14, March 11, May 13, July 8, September 9, November 4

Meeting Adjourned at 3:46pm