

BRAIN INJURY ADVISORY COUNCIL (BIAC)

Date: September 6, 2023

Time: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Location: Hybrid: In-person and Webinar

TYPE OF MEETING	Quarterly Meeting			
FACILITATOR	Rose Randall, Chai	r		
ATTENDEES				
NAME	PRESENT	NAME	PRESENT	
Voting Council Members		Non-Voting Council Members		GUESTS
Rosanne Randall	\square	Dreama McCoy	\boxtimes	Alisha Pruett
Pier Protz	\square	Glorina Stallworth	\boxtimes	Arnecia
Beth Overby		Lisa DeCantis		Beth Field
Betty Lilyquist	\square	Marica Gibson		Brad Blackwell
Carol Ornitz		Robin Sulfridge		Christine Phillips
Christine Fernandini		Talley Wells	\boxtimes	Crystal Foster
Daniel Pietrzak	\square	Tracy Buchanan	\boxtimes	Denene Hinton
Dr. Edward Juach				Desiree' Gorbea- Finalet
Geana Welter	\square			Ginger Yarbrough
Dr. Glenn Johnson				Gwen Sherrod
John Dickerhoff				James Osborn
Jordan Slade				Jean Andersen
Dr. Kevin Burroughs		Staff to Council		Dr. Joanne Barrnett
Laurie Stickney		Michael Brown	\boxtimes	John Giampaolo
Lynn Makor		Scott Pokorny	\boxtimes	Karee White
Melinda Munden	\square	Stephanie Jones	\boxtimes	Lamia Davis
Renee Johnson				Dr. LaTanya Sobczak
Sarah Stroud				Laura Morris
Thomas Henson, Jr				Libby Wilhelmson
Todd Bennett				Lisa Nesbitt
Virginia Knowlton Marcus				Lynette Gordon
5				Mamie Hutneck
				Michelle Merritt
				Molly Hastings
				Mya Lewis
				Nancy Kent
				Sharif Brown
				Stephanie Vinson
				Tamie Guerrier
				Wendy Church
				· ·

1. Agenda topic:	Welcome, Review of Minutes & Introdu	ctions R	ose Randall		
Discussion	 individuals sitting in proxy can't provide w meetings may be voted upon within 10 d Rose asked that all public comment be he comment period; however commentary commentar	Rose Randall, Chair, welcomed everyone to the hybrid meeting. Rose advised per the bylaws, individuals sitting in proxy can't provide votes. Matters not voted upon during the scheduled meetings may be voted upon within 10 days via email. A quorum is necessary to vote. Rose asked that all public comment be held to the end of the meeting during the public comment period; however commentary can be placed in the chat box. Scott Pokorny welcomed and introduced Ginger Yarbrough, I/DD and TBI Section Chief, DMH/DD/SUS to the attendees			
Conclusions	•				
Action Items		Person(s) Responsible	Deadline		
The meeting minutes will be sent out to voting members for approval.					

2. Agenda topic DMH/DD/SUS Updates

2. Agenda topic		MH/DD/SUS Staff				
Discussion	The following updates were provided by Ginger Yarbrough re: DMH/DD/SUS					
	Ginger will be attending as many BIAC meetings as possible.					
	The following updates were provided by Scott Pokorny re: BIAC's seat composition					
	Council Seat Reappointments – Dr. Juach, Dr. Dickerhoff, Christine Fernandini., Rose Randall,					
	Laurie Stickney, Melinda Munden and Renee Johnson will be reappointed.					
	• The Governor's office is moving forward to fill the stroke survivor with American					
	The individual most be recommended by the American Heart Assoc.					
	Pier Protz has ended her appointment and a family member of an individual with	BI from Eastern				
	NC is needed.					
	The state appointees:					
	 NC Medicaid – one seat in process of being filled. 					
	 DHSR – 2 seats with Robin Sulfridge will be appointed for one of the two 	seats.				
	 Emergency Management - Tom Mitchell will be appointed. 					
	• DSS - Tracy Buchanan is retiring and looking for a candidate to fill seat.					
	 Veteran Affair – No candidates; This seat will transition off the council w 	ith new council's				
	composition.					
	Individuals who will not be going forward as a council member is able to vote un	til an individual				
	is newly appointed by September 30, 2023.					
	The Vice-Chair seat is available. The individual will be nominated. The individual will work the					
	Chair, Rose Randall.The council is developing a plan for the composition changes. The action plan will be shared					
		li de shared				
	later in the meeting.					
	The following updates were provided by Michael Brown re: SFY 22-23 State Funds Pr	ogram				
	 Expenditures Report The total funds spent during SFY22-23 by LME/MCOs is \$3,394,041.17 					
	 The total funds spent during SFY22-23 by LME/MCOs is \$3,394,041.17 The total funds spent during SFY22-23 by the BIANC-State and ACL is \$798,207. 	04				
	 The total TBI screenings during SFY22-23 is 627 individuals. 	74				
Conclusions	The following feedback was provided by a stakeholders:					
conclusions	 Do the LME/MCOs get to rollover these funds into the next year? 					
	 Trillium has a greater need for funding. My son was unable to receive needed therapies. 					
	 Sandhills also has an unusually high number of TBI screening. I wonder why? W 					
	doing differently??	nat and they				
	 Are any individuals accessing TBI fund eligible for the TBI waiver when it expand 	ls?				
	• Knowing this info will help us in requesting both expansion and increasing TBI fu					
	• Please keep stakeholders posted as I am in the Sandhills catchment area and I h					
	what's going on there.					
	• All of Trillium's funds provide residential for about 13 people. The waiver would h	elp open funds				
	to others.	-				
	The funding amount breakdown will bring a big amount of data.					
Action Items						

3. Agenda topic: Tailored Care Management (TCM)

Discussion	The following updates were provided re: Tailor Care Management (TCM)
	TCM provides extra support for Medicaid beneficiaries.
	The TCM will organize all of the individual's services.
	Core Principals of TCM:
	 Broad Access to Care Management
	 Single Care Manager taking an integrated approach
	 Provider-based care management
	 Person and family centered planning
	 Community based CM
	• Choice of care CM
	 Community Inclusion
	 Consistency across the state
	 Harness existing resources
	• Tailored Plans (TP) will cover more robust behavioral health, I/DD and TBI package than
	Standard Plans
	• Under TCM, members have a single care manager equipped to manage all their needs,
	which may include physical health, behavioral health, I/DD, TBI, pharmacy, long-term
	services and supports (LTSS), and unmet health-related resource needs.
	• A care manager may contact your treatment provider's office to:
	 Identify the agency and the member they represent and present release of
	information documentation.
	• Explain their role in the member's care and talk about participation in the member's
	care team.
	 Ask questions about symptoms, medications and treatment.
	 Share concerns about/from the member.
	• Ask questions about lifestyle changes that would promote better health for the
	member.
	 Request support/assistance for referral to other providers.
	• An individual may contact their respective LME to determine if they're eligible for TCM or to
	change their TCM.
	TCM option can be declined by the individual.
	Certain NC Medicaid beneficiaries with more intensive behavioral health needs,
	intellectual/developmental disability (I/DD) or traumatic brain injury (TBI) will be eligible to
	enroll in a Tailored Plan. These members may also choose to enroll in the Standard Plan.
	To transfer from Standard Plan to Tailored Plan submit a request to:
	https://www.ncmedicaidplans.gov/en/submit-forms-online
	• All TCM Care Management staff are required to undergo an intensive training curriculum,
	regardless of previous experience. The Tailored Plan / LME/MCO may require care
	managers, care manager extenders, and supervisors to complete additional region-specific
	trainings beyond those in the required Tailored Care Management domains. This is over 71
	hours of training.
	Transitioning to 1915(i) Services:
	 1915(i) will serve individuals with SED, MH, Severe SUD, IDD and TBI.
	• b(3) authority is ending with Tailored Plan launch and 1915(i) Services are replacing
	b(3)
	 As part of the transition to 1915(i), the Department is either retaining benefits in
	their current form or expanding the scope of existing benefits, such as making
	some benefits available to additional populations.
	For questions that are health-plan specific, please see contacts at link:
	https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/providers/provider-contracting-health-plans.

Gwen Sherrod

• The NC Medicaid Ombudsman is a resource for members to learn more about Managed Care, understand their rights and responsibilities and assist with resolutions.

	NC Medicaid Ombudsman 1-877-201-3750 or visit	heir website at			
	https://ncmedicaidombudsman.org/.				
	<u></u>				
Conclusions	The following feedback was provided by a stakeholders	•			
conclusions	 Is there a date for Tailored Plan (TP) implementation 				
	 Do you have to be on a waiver to receive those ser 		n		
	 I thought Tailored Plan provides the same service of 				
	TP is a health plan which will provide behavio				
	services. The TP is more robust array of servi		caren		
			and		
	 Can an individual utilize Medicaid special assistance In-Home with both Tailored and Standard plans? See local DSS to determine eligibility. 				
	 Scenario: A person is gualified and has tailored car 		acility that		
	accepts Medicaid standard but does accept Medicai	• •	,		
	Standard Plan in order to receive the service and the				
	accepts provider accepts standard plan, but not dir				
	standard to receive service and then back to direct				
	 of TP to go to SP and then go back to TP or the provider could contract with TP. CMAs were certified based on population groups, including TBI. Assignments are not based 				
	• CMAS were certified based on population groups, including TBL Assignments are not based on TBI diagnosisinstead, TBI members are categorized as I/DD. Is the state considering				
	looking at this to recognize TBI at assignment to ensure services provided by qualified,				
	specialty providers when possible? (The brain injury community was pleased to see TBI				
	recognized separately.)	y community was pleased to s	See TDI		
	 Can you give more background on this: Additional trainings for care managers, care 				
	manager extenders, and supervisors serving children				
	 Child and family-centered teams; 				
	 Onlight and ranny-centered teams, Onderstanding of the System of Care approximately and the system of the system of	ach including knowledge of	child		
	welfare, school, and juvenile justice system		ciniu		
			bd		
	 Methods for effectively coordinating with school-related programming and transition-planning activities." 				
	 So once the Tailored Plan launches, there won't be a need for waivers? All of the 				
	• so once the randoled Plan adhenes, there won't be waivers will still operate under the TP.	a ficed for waivers: All OI LI			
	 When is the TBI Waiver proposed to expand statev 	vide? Unable to advice a d e	finitivo		
	date. The General Assembly would have to a				
Action Items		Person(s) Responsible	Deadline		

4. Agenda topic: BIANC Updates

Daniel Pietrzak

4. Agenua topic:	Daniel Pietizak
Discussion	The following updates were provided re: BIAC projects
	Development of course catalog for all trainings and webinars
	As a part of the ACL grant, BIANC is expanding collaboration with two Domestic Violence
	Sites named Safe Alliance and Family Network.
	Expanding to Pediatric Screenings
	Digital Advertisement
	Reviewing how to handle non-TBI and how to serve those individuals.
	 508 Complaint website is live in multiple languages.
	 Upcoming speaker information can be located in BIANC's newsletter.
	Conference is scheduled on June 27-28 located in Charlotte, N.C. in-person.
	Brad Blackwell is the statewide training coordinator and will be improving upon DEI
	initiatives.
	Continuing to work and collect data to inform decisions.
	• 40 th Anniversary tickets to the celebration on Oct. 21, 2023 can be purchased at
	bianc40.net.
	CBIS and Fundamentals Training classes will be available this fall.
Conclusions	The following feedback was provided by stakeholders:

The events hosted aren't consumer friendly.
Don't forget the quarterly workshops at Moss Flower Farm, the Statewide Brain Injury
Survivor and Family Day at the farm in October. Inviting community and political
representatives from across the state as well.
Champions and Community Day is October 14 (Saturday) between 10 a.m 4:00 p.m.
Everyone welcome: bring your family and friends. Put this date on your calendar and invite
someone to bring you for the day. Come for all or part of the day or spend the night in the
area with friends, at a hotel or at Moss Flower Abbey. Let us know if you need to discuss
options. This is a free event to showcase talent in the brain injury community. Champions
are those with personal experience with brain injury. Please plan to come to the farm and
share your talents. We will have a tent, microphone and you can read a story, share a skill,
show your artand you may be able to sell some of your work if desired. There will be
sports competitions, medals to be won, food trucks, a fire pit with s'mores and so much
more. Duke University students will be on hand to video and record some of your amazing
stories and parts of your journey that could help others or shine a light on brain injury.
Action Items Person(s) Responsible Deadline
Can we get the Needs survey results in a clear format? The multi-color
background prevents legibility.

5. Agenda topic:	TBI Waiver Updates	Alliance Health Staff
Discussion	The following updates were provided re: TBI Waiver	
	CMS renewal approved for TBI Waiver services effective 4.1.	2023 with expansion to
	Mecklenburg and Orange counties effective 6.1.2023.	
	 Individuals may inquire about the waiver at 800-510-9132 or 	Behavioral Health Crisis Line
	@ 877-223-4617.	
	When Alliance receive interest calls about the TBI Waiver the	
	 Staff need consent (permission) to share information 	n with anyone other than a legal
	guardian.	
	• Staff will ask initial TBI information such as how old	
	happened, how it happened, and if the person was u	
	Alliance identifies individuals possibly eligible for TBI Waiver	
	 When a caller appears to meet BASIC TBI waiver qui 	
	Alliance's TBI Waiver Registry of Interest and Allianc	
	 Referrals for TBI Waiver may also come in from external 	
	BIANC or Alliance internal teams, such as Care Coord	
	Alliance currently has a network of providers who offer treat	
	illness, substance use disorders, intellectual/developmental c	lisabilities (I/DD) and traumatic
	brain injury (TBI).	NOT have a second of
	TBI Waiver applications are carefully reviewed. Some provide into the methyladius to look of understanding of the TBI Particular to the second s	
	into the network, due to lack of understanding of the TBI Po training before entering Alliance's TBI Network. Some have a	
	holding the correct type of National Accreditation required by	
	 Alliance strongly encourages all TBI Waiver Providers to ensu 	
	their team who is available to help train Direct Support Staff.	
	first TBI Provider Network, under Medicaid C, built in North (
	 Two new services added to the services array: Remote Supp 	
	 Onboarding Success include the following activities: 	onts and Supported Living
	 Members are now able to exceed traditional Medicaid 	d financial limitations - 300%
	poverty level.	
	 When Medical records are NOT readily available, Allia 	ance has been able to utilize
	an alternative procedure to verify injury date and im	
	 Alliance is now able to (per CMS approval) bring Ora 	
	members onto the waiver.	<u> </u>
	Onboarding Barriers include the following:	
	 Obtaining documentation to verify occurrence of a tr 	aumatic brain injury from

Conclusions	 medical records. Requesting historical medical records from hospitals takes time and may not include the specific information needed. Members not having current evaluations available to demonstrate the level of care or member deficits. Lack of natural supports when members are onboarding. Individuals applying for TBI waiver, who are not covered by Alliance Medicaid (Standard Plan or uninsured) or who do not wish to apply for Medicaid. TBI Waiver Update as of Sept. 1, 2023: 60 individuals are currently active on the waiver. 118 individuals are currently interested in the waiver and receiving waiver education from Alliance staff, seeking supporting documentation, or have ISPs in development. This makes a total of 178 members receiving support or direct outreach about the waiver. Community Health and Well Being (CWHB) Team has made amazing strides in reaching community members and stakeholders in Orange and Mecklenburg Counties. Over 70+ TBI Waiver Community Education and Awareness presentations have occurred since June 1, 2023. CHWB Team continues to provide TBI Waiver trainings month. Alliance Health like to have a training for their group or agency or hospital system, we are more than happy to coordinate one with you! The following feedback was provided by stakeholders: Coup Conte-Coup brain injuries where the brain is shaken inside the skull and is injured for example, the percussive injury from an explosion or a fall where one does not hit their head but the brain is severely shaken, are certainly traumatic injuries even those they are not blunt force trauma. Where does Alliance stand in serving these people that suffer from these injuries? Rear end vehicle collisions can also cause this injury. It has very difficult to tap into the Justice System, but the TBI team does have a justice related contract forthcoming. More information will be shared in future
	• How do they determine what counties are covered? The counties approved by CMS.
	 What needs would extend beyond the limits of the waiver that prevent eligibility? If an individual with higher needs to be served in a facility-based setting instead of a setting in the community.
Action Items:	•

6. Agenda topic: Justice: Re-Entry & Reintegration Initiative Sharif Brown Discussion The following updates were provided re: Justice: Re-Entry & Reintegration Pilot Alliance of Disability Advocates North Carolina (ADANC) is a center for independent living • located in Raleigh, NC. • Alliance of Disability Advocates has a catchment area of 5 counties: Wake, Durham, Johnston, Orange, and Franklin and is currently expanding to Beaufort Pitt and Greenville counties. In order to be a center for Independent Living, there are certain requirements and • regulations that must be followed: 51% of the staff must have a disability. 0 • 51% of the board of directors must have a disability. • All programs and services are consumer (client) controlled. Alliance of Disability Advocates does not require any medical documentation or 0 proof of having a disability in order for consumers clients to obtain services or resources. The consumer (client) must self-identify with having a disability but is not required 0 to divulge the nature of the disability. Five Core Services includes:

	0	Information and referral convices is provided in accessible formate to all individuals
	0	Information and referral services is provided in accessible formats to all individuals
		who contact ADANC.
	0	Independent Living Skills Training
		Peer Support (including cross-disability peer support)
		Individual and Systems Advocacy
	0	Transition Services: Youth, and Transition from Institution and Diversion (keeping
		consumers out facility-based care)
		the occasional success story of a former inmate building a successful life, research
		es to show that as many as 75% of Justice-involved individuals find themselves back
		riminal justice system within the first year. Successful performance management of
	reentry	programs and other resources are critical to change those outcomes. At the end of
	the day	, successful reentry is important for both individuals and communities.
•	ADANC	has a history of providing Reentry Transitional Services since 2016. The IRP model
	was firs	t tested at Butner FCI, which is located in Butner, NC. Currently to date, over 200
	individu	als in Butner have benefitted from ADA Reentry IRP services, with many of the
-	justice-i	nvolved individuals being released to the Triangle area and continuing with their
	Post-rel	ease Reentry Services.
•	Of all th	e individuals enrolled in the ADA Reentry Program at Butner, only two have
		ded and returned in the first 2 years of release. That is a 98% success rate.
•	The Ind	ividualized Re-entry Plan (IRP) includes:
	0	The IRP begins at the initial meeting with the justice involved-individual. Prior to
		Covid, ADANC had the ability to meet face to face with our justice-involved
		consumers. During Covid, ADANC was still able to facilitate the IRP model with
		assistance from the Department of Public Safety (Now known as the Department of
		Adult Corrections). ADANC recognizes that successful reentry doesn't start the day
		someone is released from prison or jail. The best outcomes occur when there are
		preparation and supports before, during, and after release.
	0	The most important facet of the IRP is listening to the individual when it comes to
		reentry as far as what they think they need to be successful and not return to
		prison. This approach allows anxieties about reentry to be expressed. ADANC will sit
		with them, listen to their story, ask about their goals. Empowering individuals to
		make decisions in their reentry now gives them a voice, which is something they
		lost as soon as incarceration began. They are no longer a number or another face
		during count. Empowering individuals shows that ADANC is invested in THEIR plan
		for success. There is no such thing as "one size fits all," which is why ADANC
		reentry offers a commitment to individualized reentry plans.
	0	In practice, that might mean matching them with a therapeutic approach that
		appeals to their individual needs/wants. It can mean providing a range of
		educational and vocational opportunities, or it can mean integrating the client back
		with family to help create a more supportive and successful home environment.
	0	Programs and strategies that are built on this framework targets resources to those
		offenders who are at higher risk of reoffending and provides individualized services
		to address barriers that each consumer may be expecting or experiencing.
	0	Once the IRP is constructed, it is hand delivered and discussed at the prison to
		facilitate and support our consumers with a successful reentry plan.
•		provide and connect individuals to:
		Housing Opportunities/ Information
		Employment Assistance / Interview Prep Training
	0	Suitcessful (ADANC provides free business and business casual clothing to our
		consumers in need)
		Food Pantry Resources
		Benefits Assistance and Counseling
		Independent Living Skills Training
		Free Individualized GED Training and Testing with Duke University
		Behavioral / Mental Health Resource information
	0	Peer Recovery Support Services and Mentoring
	0	Vital Records (Birth Certificate, Social Security Card)

	 Post-Release wrap-around services In 2020, the NCCDD awarded ADANC a 3-year grant to test this IRP model in state prisons targeting individuals with an I/DD diagnosis. Under the initiative from NCCDD, ADANC Reentry to date has: Received 194 referrals for Individualized Reentry Plans (IRPs). Even with the pandemic the success rate for this initiative is 88% without ever being able to see/contact our consumers directly until April 2022. Many pre-release consumers are now actively receiving post-release wrap-around services and have obtained housing, have sustainable employment; have applied and received state benefits; and, most importantly, have not reoffended. According to NCDPS, only 55% of inmates with an intellectual disabilities diagnosis have aftercare plans developed prior to leaving the prison system. We assume there are many inmates with I/DD who are not identified/diagnosed based on this language. With a recidivism rate of 47% for all inmates within the first 13 months of release, the likelihood of successful transition to productive community life for an incarcerated individual with I/DD is extremely low without proper planning, training, and supports. DHHS will be partnering with ADA in the 8-county service area.
Conclusions	The following feedback was provided by stakeholders:
	• Do you work with Re-entry Councils in your 8-county service area? Yes, for Wake,
	Orange and Durham counties.
	 Can an individual who was released some time ago but still struggling participate in the program? As long as the individual live in NC, they can get a referral from ADANC but if they are located in the counties served ADANC can complete an IRP.
	• Do you have connections with Veteran Courts throughout NC? I think it would be mutually beneficial. Yes, in Orange County. ADANC is still trying to collaborate with federal
	and veteran courts.
	Great work that you are doing!
	Wonderful presentation.
Action Items:	 Sharif Brown can be contacted at <u>sharif@adanc.org</u>.

7. Agenda topic: Standing Sub-Committees Undate

7. Agenda topic:	Standi	ing Sub-Committees Update	Committee Chairs
Discussion	•	Service Delivery Sub-Committee – Laurie Stickney advised - focus or	n TCM activities.
	•	Public Policy Sub-Committee – Pier Protz advised – the committee sp	olit into two
		subcommittees to focus on:	
		 Recreating the language in statutes for BIAC composition ch 	anges prior to the
		December meeting	
		 Creating a plan for meeting with legislators. 	
	•	Beth Overby advised the Policy committee can cross support the oth	er sub-committees as
		there is initiative overlap.	
	•	Children and Youth Committee – Lynn Makor advised - Unfortunatel	y, there has not been an
		interest in others taking over leadership of this committee, so Lynn	2
		co-chairing of this committee with Karin, who has agreed to remain	
		will have more of an update when we are able to convene later this	Fall. We expect to have
		a report out in the December meeting.	
Conclusions	•		
Action Items:	•		

8. Agenda topic: Public Comment Period

Discussion	Jean Anderson provided the following public comment:
	• Four representatives from TBI State Consumer and Family Advisory Committee (SCFAC)
	were present in the meeting. It would be helpful in individuals could attend both meetings.
	This would require moving three BIAC meeting dates. In addition, what are the goals and
	objectives that the council will focus on?

Attendees

	 There is no BI representation on the NCCDD council. Crystal Foster - The SCFAC has sub-committees that is open to recommendations.
Conclusions	•
Action Items:	•

Respectfully submitted: Stephanie Jones, Michael Brown and Scott Pokorny