



COLORADO
Department of Human Services

August 28, 2019

The Honorable Rhonda Fields
Chair, Senate Health and Human Services Committee
200 East Colfax Avenue, Room 269
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Senator Fields:

Enclosed please find a legislative report to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee from the Department of Human Services regarding the operations of the Colorado Traumatic Brain Injury Trust Fund.

Pursuant to Section 26-1-310 C.R.S., the Department of Human Services, MINDSOURCE-Brain Injury Network shall submit an annual report to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee on the operations of the trust fund, the moneys expended, the number of individuals with traumatic brain injuries offered services, the research grants awarded and the progress on such grants, and the educational information provided pursuant to this article.

If you require further information or have additional questions, please contact the Department's Legislative Liaison, Emily Hanson, at emily.hanson@state.co.us or 303-866-3019.

Sincerely,

Michelle Barnes
Executive Director
Colorado Department of Human Services

Enclosure
cc:

Senator Brittany Pettersen, Vice Chair
Senator Larry W. Crowder
Senator Jim Smallwood
Senator Faith Winter
Elizabeth Haskell, Committee Staff
Perry May, Deputy Executive Director of Facilities, Colorado Department of Human Services
Jeremy Hill, Deputy Executive Director of Administrative Solutions, Colorado Department of Human Services
Ronald Vestman, Chief Financial Officer, Colorado Department of Human Services
Yolanda Webb, Director, Office Community Access and Independence, Colorado Department of Human Services
Mark Techmeyer, Communications Director, Colorado Department of Human Services
Emily Hanson, Legislative Liaison, Colorado Department of Human Services



**MINDSOURCE – Brain Injury Network
Report to the Joint Budget Committee and
Health and Human Services Committees
July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019**

Program Overview

MINDSOURCE – Brain Injury Network (MINDSOURCE), formerly the Colorado Brain Injury Program, was created by Title 26, Article 1, Part 3 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, to improve the lives of Colorado residents who have survived traumatic brain injuries (TBI). This statute created the Colorado Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Trust Fund (Trust Fund) to finance program activities and the Trust Fund Board to advise the program on Trust Fund operations. The board is administered within the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS). Three board members are designated in statute and 10 members are appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate. Please see below for a list of board members. The Board has established three ongoing committees to assist staff in policy-setting of program goals and strategic planning for the Trust Fund: Program Evaluation and Research, Revenue, and Vision and Outreach.

Trust Fund Board of Directors

Name	Employment/Affiliation
Brittany Bell	The Sturdy Life
Theresa Chase, PhD	Colorado Mesa University
Cheryl Catsoulis	Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado
Dawn Comstock, PhD	University of Colorado, School of Public Health
Shannon Henrich	inVentiv Health
Catharine Johnston-Brooks, PhD	Denver Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Thomas McCause	Mesa County Valley School District 51
Danny Mistry, MD	Western Orthopedics & Sports Medicine, P.C.
Helen Morgan	Denver District Court
Jennie Munthali, MPH	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Victoria Ortega	City and County of Denver
Gretchen Russo, RN, BSN, JD	Colorado Department of Human Services
Kenneth Scott, PhD	Denver Public Health

Program Administration

CDHS administers MINDSOURCE, which is housed within the Office of Community Access and Independence. MINDSOURCE staff work closely with the Trust Fund Board to perform the following functions for the program: financial management, policy development, program development and implementation, contract management, program monitoring, administrative support, website maintenance, public assistance and information, reporting, marketing and public relations.

Revenue and Expenditures

Through the TBI Trust Fund, MINDSOURCE receives revenue from surcharges assessed for convictions of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol (DUI), driving while ability is impaired (DWAI), speeding, and riding a motorcycle or motorized bicycle without a helmet (for youth under the age of 18). The surcharges are \$20.00 for DUI/DWAI convictions and \$15.00 for speeding and helmet convictions.

Funds are divided across program areas based on the following percentage minimums: 55 percent for services, 25 percent for research, and 5 percent for education. This leaves 15 percent of funds available

adults, assistive technology basics, brain injury basics, cooking, education workshop for youth and families, energy conservation, financial health, financial literacy, grief and loss, improvisational, Medicare 101, music therapy, needlework, neuropsychology 101, Parent Workshop, poetry, Public Safety, smart shopping, and the mindful brain. The county by number of workshop detail is as follows:

- Denver - 117
- Eagle - 1
- El Paso - 24
- La Plata - 1
- Larimer - 20
- Mesa - 5
- Weld - 3
- Statewide Webinar - 1

As indicated previously, MINDSOURCE has an interagency agreement with CDE. The focus of the CDE interagency agreement is to build the capacity of school and community providers to better support and serve children/youth with brain injury. CDE has been involved in many activities this year including:

- Hosting Concussion Action Team (CAT) bi-monthly meetings.
- Managing the CAT listserv with over 383 members (CAT is comprised of school district personnel with the purpose of connecting school districts who are working on concussion issues and providing guidance on best practices).
- Consulting with Brain Injury Teams in the schools.
- Developing concussion management and Return to Activity protocols for non-athletes via a Concussion Committee.
- Developing a new model to support students with brain injury across the continuum of mild to severe brain injuries. This model includes the development of school-based Concussion Management Teams (trained through a recently developed online course).
- Continued development of BrainSTEPS (Strategies Teaching Educators, Parents and Students) teams to support youth with protracted recovery from concussion and those with moderate to severe brain injury. This program is modeled after a successful program in Pennsylvania. During FY 2018-19 CDE hosted one, two-day, statewide BrainSTEPS team trainings and a one-day Team Leader Training workshop. Currently 26 school districts and four Boards of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) have BrainSTEPS teams.

Outreach

MINDSOURCE contracts with BIAC to provide training and outreach. During FY 2018-19, BIAC coordinated 103 outreach and training activities across the State: 65% in Denver Metro, 13% in Southern CO, 9% in Northern CO, 1% in Western CO, 12% Statewide. Outreach typically consists of meeting with community providers to share information about services and to encourage referrals to brain injury supports and services.

Research

MINDSOURCE awards grants to support research in Colorado related to the treatment and understanding of traumatic brain injuries. The Research Program has established the following three research priorities: basic science, clinical science, and health services and outcome research. Research is funded at two levels: Type I (up to \$50,000/year for two years) and Type II (up to \$150,000/year for two years).

During FY 2018-19, four grants were active. One of the four requested and was granted a no-cost extension through FY 2019-20. The other three concluded at the end of FY 2018-19. Expenditure for research grants totaled \$774,099 for FY 2018-19. The research grants funded are summarized below. In addition, MINDSOURCE issued an RFP, conducted independent and panel reviews, and awarded five

grants that will begin in FY 2019-20. Three of these grants are clinical science, one is basic science, and one is a new investigator award.

Title: *“Role and Neuroanatomic Basis of Concurrent Medical Conditions in Outcome Following Moderate to Severe Traumatic Brain Injury: Development of a TBI-specific Index”*

Principal Investigator: Gale Whiteneck, PhD, FACRM

Institution: Craig Hospital

Award: \$348,498

Status: Type II project began July 1, 2017 and ended June 30, 2019

Title: *“Decision Making about Intracranial Pressure Monitoring in Children with TBI”*

Principal Investigator: Tellen D. Bennett, MD, MS

Institution: University of Colorado, Denver

Award: \$374,254

Status: Type II project began July 1, 2017 and ended June 30, 2019

Title: *“Strength and Awareness in Action: an Intervention for Post-Acute TBI Headaches”*

Principal Investigator: Lisa A. Brenner, Ph.D.

Institution: University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus

Award: \$363,183

Status: Type II project began July 1, 2017 and ended June 30, 2019

Title: *“A Longitudinal, Multi-Dimensional Assessment of Recovery and Added Benefit of a Behavioral Health Intervention for Children with Abusive Head Trauma”*

Principal Investigator: Terri Hoar Lewis, Ph.D.

Institution: University of Colorado, Denver

Award: \$372,418

Status: Type II project began July 1, 2017, was granted a no-cost extension and will end June 30, 2020

Education

MINDSOURCE awards community projects to promote the awareness and education of brain injury. During Fiscal Year 2018-2019, eight community projects received year two funding from FY 2017-18 awards. The combined total grant dollars awarded was \$192,576 over two fiscal years. Grants range in amounts from \$5,000 to \$20,000 and can be for a period of one or two years with a maximum of \$10,000/year. The following entities were awarded grants: Think First; Helmet Heads; Spring Institute; Regents of University of Colorado (received two grants), 3rd Way Center Inc., Domestic Violence Initiative, and Unspoken Poetry. No RFP was issued during FY 2018-19 due to decreased revenue.

In addition to community grants, MINDSOURCE continues to collaborate with the State Unit on Aging to partner with county agencies in the provision of *A Matter of Balance*, a fall prevention curriculum for older adults, across the State of Colorado. The program also helps to support conferences and trainings facilitated by community partners. Finally, the program partners with CDHS Offices, Divisions and Programs as well as other state agencies by providing training on identification of brain injury and guidance for supporting individuals with brain injury in their respective systems to help them achieve greater outcomes.

and flexible so that the Program Director and Board of Directors can determine program areas in need of an increase in funds during the year.

The Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado (BIAC) partnered with MINDSOURCE to pass HB19-1147 which will change the surcharge structure for the Trust Fund and also adds general funds. Beginning in August 2019, the surcharges across traffic violations will increase by \$5.00 each (e.g. DUI/DWAI will go from \$20.00 to \$25.00 etc.). Additionally, this statute eliminated the voluntary municipal speeding surcharge. Finally, the statute included an appropriation of \$450,000 from the state general fund for FY 2019-20.

MINDSOURCE had a spending authority of \$3,200,000 for Fiscal Year 2018-19. The Trust Fund received \$2,014,867.44 and expended \$2,219,064 for FY 2018-19. Unexpended revenue goes into a reserve fund which is critical to maintain in order to help cover expenses when program revenue is less than anticipated. The current reserve fund is \$1,617,983. The program drew 256,674.79 from the reserves to maintain programming during the declining revenue.

Services

Every five years MINDSOURCE issues a competitive request for proposals for an entity to provide outreach, intake and eligibility, case management services (including resource navigation and self-management), and education consultation (for youth 0-21). BIAC currently holds this contract. In addition, MINDSOURCE has an interagency agreement with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). The focus of the CDE interagency agreement is to build the capacity of school and community providers to better support and serve children/youth with brain injury.

During FY 2018-19, 733 adults and 43 youth received resource navigation support. Resource navigation is intended to be a quick and responsive support. This can be provided via phone, email, or in person. Examples of resource navigation include, but are not limited to: finding medical providers, completing paper work, securing benefits, understanding brain injury, and connecting to community resources. In addition to resource navigation, 67 individuals participated in the self-management program. Self-management is a program designed and available for survivors of TBI who want to invest time in improving their skills in specific areas that can be challenging after a brain injury. During this six-month program, participants meet with their Brain Injury Advisor (Advisor) for an average of 4 hours per month to work on skill-building. Areas of focus for self-management include: communication, scheduling/planning, and prioritization/organizing. Participants have regular homework outside of meetings with their Advisor which are reviewed each time they meet. BIAC Advisors work one-on-one with each participant to assess their strengths and weaknesses, identify natural supports in their life, and develop strategies for building specific skills with the goal of greater self-sufficiency. Finally, 73 youth received education consultation support. After a brain injury, children and youth may have challenges in the classroom and their families may need support navigating the education system. BIAC has a Youth Education Liaison specialist on staff who provides consultation and support services to children and youth, ages 0-21. Consultation and support may include, but are not limited to, the following: providing parent/guardian education about services and programming options available in schools, assisting in the partnership between parents and schools, educating parents and school teams on how a student has been impacted by their brain injury, collaborating with schools on intervention planning, attending transition, individual education plan, multi-tier support systems, and other planning meetings, partnering with hospitals to help with transition to school, and any other student specific educational needs/concerns/questions.

In addition to case management services, MINDSOURCE contracts with BIAC to provide classes and workshops for clients. BIAC offered 172 classes in a variety of locations across the state. The classes combined total of attendance at the classes and workshops was 1,471. Classes and workshops range in topics. FY 2018-19 topics included; adaptive aquatic, adaptive yoga, art classes for both youth and