

# THI/SCI TRUST FUND

## QUARTERLY ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

### May 12, 2016

**Attending Board Members:** Andrew Kuyoro, Stephanie Patrick, Michael Chafetz, Paul Harch, Anne Olivier, Chris Anthony

**Agency Staff:** Alicia Smith, Anastasia Webb, Sherlyn Sullivan, Valencia Roberts

**Contractors:** Kimberly Hill, Paul Genco

**Public:** Muhammed Khan, Donna Thomas

**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Andrew Kuyoro.

**Introductions.** Board members and others in attendance introduced themselves.

**Minutes.** Everyone reviewed the minutes from the last meeting held on November 10, 2015. Stephanie Patrick suggested to remove the date of August 11, 2016 as the date of the next board meeting. The board agreed that there were no changes to be made to the November 10, 2015 minutes. Anne Olivier made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted; seconded by Paul Harch and approved.

#### **Resource Center Updates – BIALA**

Paul Genco stated that Catherine Howard left BIALA two or three months ago. Paul Genco introduced Kim Hill who is the research coordinator for BIALA. BIALA recently held an annual conference in which 230 people attended.

#### **PROGRAM UPDATES**

**Financial Report** – Alicia pointed out that there is a big drop in case management due to losing case management contracts. Sherlyn explained that we have not opened a lot of cases and most agencies have a case manager and there is not enough work to keep one full-time case manager. Alicia explained that two case management contracts were just approved. The new agencies that will spread the caseload to their already existing caseload through the waivers.

Stephanie Patrick asked how is the trust fund making sure people is getting the information that they need. Alicia stated that the participants were informed of the changes and to contact the state office and that she and Anastasia are taking on case management duties until the new contracts are up and running.

The deposits and expenditures are the same and we're still expecting to collect 1.7 million. Dr. Harch gave the program an "atta boy" for keeping administrative costs below the average of

20-21% for non-profit and look-a-likes. Dr. Chafetz asked if the information is public and he could share the good work with the Louisiana Psychological Association. Alicia stated that the information is posted on the Boards and Commissions website so it is public information and that would be fine.

Stephanie Patrick asked the status of the current legislative session and if the program would be swept again. Sherlyn stated that we have no idea since things change minute by minute. Although the trust fund has not been mentioned other similar programs were discussed so we just don't know.

#### **Program Status – Alicia Smith**

Currently the Trust Fund is serving 646 individuals with a wait list of 288 and 18 new applicants in the last quarter. We have one applicant with both a TBI and SCI, seven with a TBI and 9 with a SCI. In the last quarter we've had 4 denials for services. One of the denials was for an elevator. Two of the denials was for an all-terrain wheelchair and the other was for repairs. Chris Anthony asked what's the general time frame to be on the waitlist. Alicia stated that the waitlist was moving swiftly and now we're on clients who applied in 2013. Sherlyn stated as long as the legislation stays stable we will open cases from 2013. Mike Chafetz stated the he still sees the term head injury being used and wanted to know when will it be switched to the appropriate term. Sherlyn assured Mike that it's not totally off the table and that they will propose a bill for it after legislation. Paul Genco asked if the parishes are stilling paying what's owed to the trust fund. Sherlyn stated that the trust fund reached out to the ones that wasn't paying and now they're paying. Sherlyn stated that we're close to 100% with paying parishes.

**Other.** Alicia stated that we're short 3 board members and have reached out to several organizations dealing with head and spinal cord injuries. Paul Harch stated that we should reach out to Sage Rehab Hospital regarding the open positions on the board. Paul Genco stated that he made a few phone calls and a family member and neuro psychologist may be interested. Paul Harch stated that BIALA should post the information regarding the vacancies on their website and Paul Genco agreed.

**Public Comment.** Muhammed Khan stated that the THSCI trust fund have the largest payout in the U.S. and that he makes customizable wheelchairs. Donna Thomas is a parent of a quadriplegic that is currently on the THSCI waiting list. She questioned the board about how long the wait for the program is and can the clients that's already in the program be placed as inactive if they haven't used their money in a couple of years.

**Advisory Board Appeal Hearing.** None

**Adjourn.** Andrew Kuyoro adjourned the meeting to go into Executive Session.

**THE DATE OF THE NEXT TH/SCI ADVISORY BOARD MEETING IS  
August 11, 2016 and begins at 10:00 a.m. held at PACE, 7436 Bishop Ott Dr., Baton Rouge, La  
70806**

Respectfully submitted,  
Anastasia Webb, Admin. Coordinator

**2016 Dates for TH/SCI Trust Fund Board Meetings\***

**10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**~~February 11, 2016~~**

**~~May 12, 2016~~**

**~~August 11, 2016~~**

**November 10, 2016**

**\*PACE, located at 7436 Bishop Ott Dr. Baton Rouge, La 70806. Conference room has been reserved for all 2016 meetings.**

