

## **The BRAIN TRUST**

### **Meeting Notes**

May 14, 2019

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

UTEP Health Sciences Center and School of Nursing Building  
(Across from the UTEP Library)  
1851 Wiggins Rd.  
El Paso, TX 79968

3rd Floor, Room 384

#### **Attendees:**

Beth Abbott  
Sharon Butterworth  
Maria Carrillo  
Manuel Castruita  
Luis Chavarria  
Adan Dominguez  
Rene Hurado  
Travis Guyer  
Angie Lozano  
Enrique Mata  
Olivia Narvaez  
Carlos Portillo  
William Thomas  
Lupe Quezada  
Denise Uga

#### **Representing:**

Mental Health Advocate  
Mental Health Advocate  
Centro de Salud Familiar-La Fe  
El Paso Independent School District  
Emergence Health Network  
Recovery Alliance  
Emergence Health Network  
Trinity Homeward Bound  
Ready One Industries  
Paso del Norte Health Foundation  
EPISD  
Empower Change  
Trinity Homeward Bound  
EPCGC  
NAMI

### **I. Welcome, Introductions**

- Maria Carrillo convened meeting at 4:33 p.m.

### **II. Special Speaker & Presentation**

- Angie Lozano of *Ready One Industries* presented on behalf of her organization. During her presentation she discussed the following items:
  - Mission overview
  - Services overview includes:
    - Garment Manufacturing
    - Call Center
    - Corrugated and 3PL
    - Documented
  - U.S. Ability One Commission

- Comprised of over 550 community-based non-profits across the nation
- The Javits-Wagner – O 'Day Act created jobs and training opportunities for individuals with significant disabilities
- Provided an overview of funding from the federal government
- Ability One Benefits
  - People who are visually impaired or have other significant disabilities
  - Provide products for federal customers
- Recruitment Under Ability One
  - People who are legally blind
  - People with significant disabilities
- Definition of Legally Blind according to the World Health Organization
  - Visual impairment is defined as a presenting visual acuity of less than 6/18; moderate or severe visual impairment as a presenting visual acuity of less than 6/18 and equal to or better than 3/60 in the better eye; and blindness as a presenting visual acuity of less than 3/60 in the better eye. The definition includes individuals with significant disability
- Support and Accommodations
  - Vocational rehabilitation counselors
  - Staff are skilled, knowledgeable and experienced at working with individuals with disabilities
- Job Accommodations Overview
  - Matched based on physical needs
  - Pictorial guides
  - Modified work duties
  - Modified, flexible and part-time schedules
  - Modified work schedules
  - On-site independent medical clinic
  - Excused time off for medical appointments
- Medical Documentation
  - Diagnosis signed by a medical professional
    - Dated
    - Stamp/letterhead (authenticate)
    - Extent of medical condition (spectrum)
    - School transition/vocational programs for special education departments in schools
    - Texas Workforce Commission vocational rehabilitation counselor

- Case notes- social workers, Vocational Rehabilitation professionals, etc.

### III. Community Progress

- Maria Carrillo of *Centro de Salud La Fe* informed Brain Trust (BT) of a grand opening on May 17, 2019.
- Enrique Mata of the *Paso del Health Foundation* reminded BT of open calls for Letters of Intent that will close on Thursday, May 16, 2019 at close of business.
- Adan Dominguez of *Recovery Alliance* informed BT about new 24/7 opioid walk-in clinic. *Recovery Alliance* will receive funds soon and is looking for a clinic location. New clinic will focus on harm reduction. Mr. Dominguez hopes to share more information at next BT meeting in June.
- Manny Castruita of the *El Paso Independent School District* (EPISD) mentioned to BT that EPISD In process of reviewing an MOU with Emergence Health Network (EHN) to open 2 new site locations. Sites will be based out of high schools. The MOU with Project Vida has been approved for 4 sites.
  - SB 426 Update – 9 years and 2 months. 80% of school counselors time would have to be spent with students-Currently being reviewed by House.
  - EPISD is exploring possibility of interfacing 3 of their systems so they can be tracked altogether these include:
    - Nursing discipline
    - Counseling interfaces

EPISD is finishing up the last year of Student Alumni Association presidency.

- Lupe Quesada of the *El Paso Child Guidance Center* (EPCGC) informed BT that *Trauma and Triumph* Conference plans are being finalized.
- Denise Uga of *NAMI* shared a list of programs and events. The list can be found posted in the BT reminder email.
- Mr. Luis Chavarria of *Emergence Health Network* (EHN) addressed BT on behalf of Rene Hurtado mentioning that upcoming events will be shared at next BT meeting.
- William Thomas of *Homeward Bound* (HB) informed BT that HB will be partner in Texas Big Rally, more information will be shared at next BT meeting.
- Sharon Butterworth, *mental health advocate and Paso del Norte Health Foundation Board Chair* shared a comic-style poster created by a local artist. She wants more ideas

from BT members to create new comic-style posters that can be shared in schools on mental health. Comic-style poster can be referenced in reminder email.

- BT members mentioned that media campaigns are difficult to conduct but BT will explore creation of a media campaign for local schools
- BT will brainstorm ideas and discuss said ideas at next meeting

## **VI. Other Business**

- May is Mental Health Awareness Month

## **VI. Meeting adjourned at 5:28 pm**

### **Mission:**

The Brain Trust is a collaborative network of community stakeholders committed to changing minds and attitudes about mental illness in El Paso County to improve mental and emotional well-being for the health of children, youth and adults.

### **Vision:**

The Brain Trust Network envisions a community where mental and emotional well-being are fundamental to the quality and productivity of individuals, families, communities and nations, enabling people to experience life as meaningful and to be creative and active citizens (adapted from the World Health Organization's definition of mental health and mental well-being).

### **Next Meeting:**

*The Brain Trust now has a standing meeting time of 4:30 pm every 2nd Tuesday of the month.*

The next Brain Trust Network meeting is scheduled for 4:30 pm, **Tuesday, June 11, 2019 in room 384 at the UTEP Health Sciences Center and School of Nursing Building.**

### **Next Presenters:**

**Adan Dominguez of Recovery Alliance June 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Elizabeth Gonzalez of Border Collaborative July 8<sup>th</sup>**