

Thank you for attending, and contributing to the first Brain and Behavioral Health Institute (BBHI) forum, held November 23rd 2013!

Our goal was to provide a forum for community partners to meet together, and to meet with scientists and clinicians who work on brain and behavioral disorders. We wanted to facilitate these important interactions and also provide an update of BBHI progress and work together identifying specific goals for the next 6 months.

The forum certainly achieved these primary goals. However, because of the tremendous efforts of a very diverse group, the event achieved a great deal more. The turn-out was impressive, particularly given the extreme weather conditions. 15 community groups were represented, as were 19 different UNM departments or programs. Attendees stepped out of their comfort zones (not the least being their warm homes), and embraced the idea of looking for new ways to collaborate. We have heard from many people who were inspired by the community support and interest, and the forum has energized support for development of the BBHI, to benefit New Mexicans throughout the state.



As discussed at the forum, follow up is key.

In the attached document, we have included all of the ideas that were suggested by the afternoon break-out groups. In the two weeks since Thanksgiving, multiple working group meetings have been held, to use this input to prioritize activities for the next 4 months. Progress on these activities will be reported at our next BBHI event (Neuroscience Day, Friday March 21st 2014). We are actively working to develop Neuroscience Day as an event with workshops and panel discussions that focus on community participation. We take this opportunity to reiterate our invitation to you, and your friends and colleagues to the March meeting. A “save-the-date” and draft agenda will be circulated in early January.

It cannot be overemphasized that the successes of the day were due to the contributions of all the attendees who made the effort to come together and discuss needs and visions. Additional special thanks are due to a number of people who worked very hard (in front of, and behind the scenes) to make the logistics of the day work:

Administrative Support:

Cassandra Misenar, Office of Research

Facilitators for the afternoon working groups:

Carli Bonham, BBHI Associate Director

Margaret Migliorati, BBHI Community Liaison

Pari Noskin, Dept Psychiatry

Tara Biehl, Dept Psychiatry

Sylvia Acosta, Dept Psychiatry

Meg Shuttleworth, Dept Neurosurgery

Students from Dept Neurosciences who helped with

poster setup, logistics throughout the day, and cleanup:

Robert Oliver

Megan Josey

Kristin Marquardt

Kisa King

Johnny Keaton

Erika Perez

