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PERI L. NEARON
Executive Director

**The New Jersey Advisory Council on Traumatic Brain Injury &
The New Jersey Traumatic Brain Injury Survivor Board
State Action Plan Kick Off Meeting**

AGENDA

Date: October 15th, 2024

Time: 9:30am – 4:00pm

Location: NJ Hospital Association Conference Center
760 Alexander Road
Princeton NJ 08540

TIME	ACTIVITY	PRESENTER/FACILITATOR
9:30am – 10:00am	Breakfast and registration	
10:00am – 10:15am	Welcome address and introduction to Guest speaker	Peri L. Nearon Executive Director, DDS Chair, NJ Advisory Council on TBI
10:15am – 11:15am	Guest speaker	Robert Franklin II, Co- Founder and Executive Educator, Seven Focus and Jamie Villarreal-Bassett, Co-Founder and Executive Visionary, Seven Focus
11:15am – 11:30am	BREAK	
11:30am – 12:00pm	Group work with Guest speaker	Robert Franklin II, Co- Founder and Executive Educator, Seven Focus and Jamie Villarreal-Bassett, Co-Founder and Executive Visionary, Seven Focus
12:00pm – 1:00pm	LUNCH BREAK	
1:00pm – 2:00pm	NASHIA introduction to state action plan	Kelly Miller, Senior Manager for Technical Assistance, NASHIA
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Break out rooms	
3:00pm – 3:15pm	BREAK	
3:15pm – 4:00pm	Workgroup presentations and wrap-up	

GUEST SPEAKERS

Robert Franklin II



Co- Founder and Executive Educator, Seven Focus

Robert (he/him), also known as Mr. RAWbert, has over 20 years of experience as a practitioner in several arenas and industries. Robert has worked with the community serving organizations throughout the nation in training, advocacy, program development, change management and change leadership, racial, gender, language and ability justice and equity. A youth-focused educator by trade, in training and passion, Robert works to impact the lives of young people, their families and communities through advocacy, allyship and facilitated learning. Focused on creating new and inclusive opportunities for learning and engaging, Robert and his wife, Melissa, built MNMR, LLC to further their passions, merging entertaining performances and opportunities to learn through immersive storytelling – Talking Differences. Each Talking Differences experience, program and initiative had been designed to engage an audience, and in doing so, provide lasting, memorable, and tangible moments of brilliance.

Robert currently leads diversity, health, equity and inclusion efforts at Children's Hospital Colorado. The work of his position involves challenging an entire health system to realize the impacts of the differences that create significant change on work and care in our communities. Guided by a coordinated and strategic framework, Robert's team, programs and interventions challenge caregivers to learn, engage, celebrate and take action in an effort to realize health equity.

At Colorado State University, Robert co-chaired the Diversity Catalyst Team, delivering unique training programs and culturally responsive inclusion strategy for staff and volunteers throughout Colorado's 64 counties. As a trainer and coach with Denver Parks and Recreation, Robert developed and delivered interventions to improve access and impact for thousands of youths and their families, engaging hundreds of youth development staff.

Jamie Villarreal-Bassett



**Co-Founder and Executive Visionary,
Seven Focus**

Jamie (she/her), is an experienced leader with 18 years of experience, including more than seven years leading equity, diversity, and inclusion work. As a Mexican-American woman, Jamie has a proven track record of impactful contributions, driven leadership, and passion for ensuring team members feel included, honored, and uplifted regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sex, sexual orientation, or other social identity markers. Her formal education in Sociology at Colorado College and a Master's of Science in Organizational Leadership at Colorado State University provides a foundation for her life's work to advance a more just, inclusive, diverse, and equitable experience for all.

She has set visions for, led, and empowered teams throughout her career providing a high standard of equity, inclusion, and diversity. Her personal and professional experiences have prepared her to excel in her 10+ year tenure in Denver Public Schools, most recently as the Director of Culturally Responsive Education and in her current role as the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Pinnacol Assurance. Jamie partners with multiple stakeholders to guarantee every single team member and community member, especially those who are Black, Indigenous, People of Color, and other marginalized identities, thrive, not by accident, but by design. Jamie has successfully guided DEI initiatives with foundations, boards, for-profits, non-profits, educators, leaders, and executives. Jamie is married and has two kids. Jamie enjoys spending time with her family and walking around her neighborhood when not at work.

Facilitator: Kelly Miller



**Senior Manager for Technical Assistance
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators**

Kelly's experience in the brain injury field began in 2020 as a Project Manager at MINDSOURCE, Colorado's lead agency on brain injury. In that role Kelly supported the Colorado Advisory Council on Brain Injury, facilitated the creation of a new state plan on brain injury and managed multiple priorities related to the Administration for Community Living Brain Injury State Partnership Program Grant. She joined NASHIA in June 2024 in the role of Senior Manager for Technical Assistance.

Kelly also worked in the criminal justice field for 10 years as a Probation Supervisor in Colorado's 5th Judicial District. Her areas of expertise during that time included Juvenile Justice, Sex Offender Supervision, Victims' Rights, Program Quality Assurance and Motivational Interviewing. Prior to her work in the judicial system, Kelly worked in the realm of child welfare for 12 years in various roles including Child Protection Caseworker, Youth in Transition Supervisor, Placement Services Supervisor and Executive Director of a child advocacy agency. Kelly is motivated by meaningful work, and she is a social worker at heart. She earned a Master's Degree of Social Work from the University of Wyoming.