

Zachary Rhein

Aging and Disability Services Division Director



Zachary Rhein currently serves as the Director of the Aging and Disability Services Division within the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). In this role, he leads statewide efforts to support older adults and individuals with disabilities through strategic program development and service delivery.

With more than 20 years of experience across federal and state government and nonprofit sectors, Rhein has dedicated his career to designing and implementing programs that address essential needs and promote individual well-being.

Previously, he served as Director of Programs at the Iowa Department on Aging, where he led key initiatives aimed at helping older Iowans maintain independence. His roles included RSVP Program Director, where he oversaw volunteer recruitment and program development, and Compliance Officer, responsible for monitoring Iowa's six Area Agencies

on Aging to ensure alignment with the Older Americans Act.

Following the state's agency alignment initiative in July 2023, the Department on Aging's functions were integrated into Iowa HHS, enhancing coordination and service delivery across related areas.

In addition to his public service, Rhein has been an adjunct faculty member at Des Moines Area Community College, Iowa State University, George Mason University, and Washburn University, teaching courses in persuasive writing, communication, and interviewing skills.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Kentucky and a Master of Arts in English Literature from Southern Illinois University.

Rhein resides in West Des Moines with his wife, Sara, and their four children.