

# Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Expansion

Aging & Disability Services Division

February 23, 2024



Health and  
Human Services



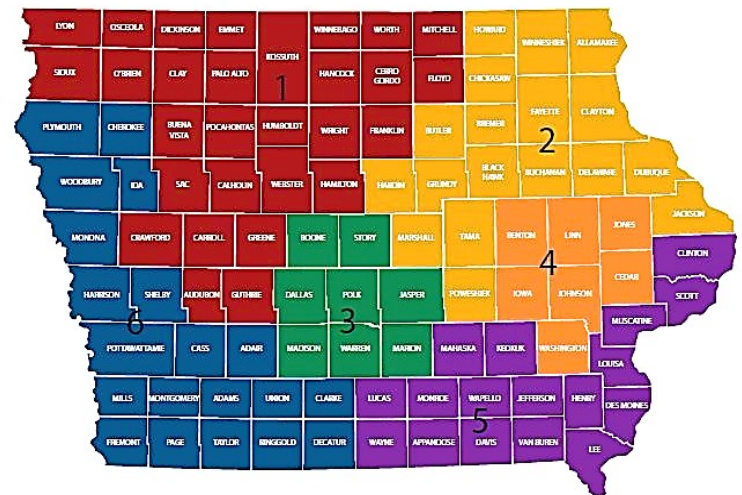
# What is an Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)?

- ▶ Provides objective information, advice, counseling and assistance
- ▶ Empowers people to make informed decisions about their long-term services and supports
- ▶ Helps people access public and private programs

# What is the current state of ADRC in Iowa?

- ▶ Iowa AAAs (six) are designated as the ADRCs
- ▶ Lack of funding and ability to serve Iowans with disabilities under age 60
- ▶ Aging focused expertise

Iowa Area Agencies on Aging



# HHS Behavioral Health Bill

## Division III – Aging and Disability

Makes the following changes effective **July 1, 2024**:

- Removes the requirement that Aging and Disability Services can only designate Area Agencies on Aging as Aging and Disability Resource Centers
- Renames 231 - HHS - Aging - Older Iowans to HHS – Aging and Disability Services
- Repeals select sections of Chapter 225C (225C.35 – 225C.42 & 225C.45)

Makes the following changes effective **July 1, 2025**:

- Moves relevant disability services sections from 225C - Mental Health and Disability Services to 231 - Aging and Disability Services
- Revises definitions of who can be served under amended chapter 231 to include:
  - Individuals with disabilities
  - Persons of all ages (not just persons with disabilities eighteen years of age and older)

# Language Changes

## 231.64 Aging and Disability Resource Center

1. The aging and disability resource ~~center~~ **centers** shall be administered by the department consistent with the federal Act. The department shall designate ~~area agencies on aging~~ **aging and disability resource centers** to establish, in consultation with other stakeholders including organizations representing the disability community, a coordinated system for providing all of the following:

- a. Comprehensive information, referral, and assistance regarding the full range of available public and private long-term living and community support services, options, service providers, and resources within a community, including information on the availability of integrated long-term care.
- b. Options counseling to assist individuals in assessing their existing or anticipated long-term care needs and developing and implementing a plan for long-term living and community support services designed to meet their specific needs and circumstances. The plan for long-term living and community support services may include support with person-centered care transitions to assist consumers and family caregivers with transitions between home and care settings.
- c. Consumer access to the range of publicly-supported long-term living and community support services for which consumers may be eligible, by serving as a convenient point of entry for such services. **The Aging and disability resource centers** shall offer information online and be available via a toll-free telephone number, electronic communications, and in person.

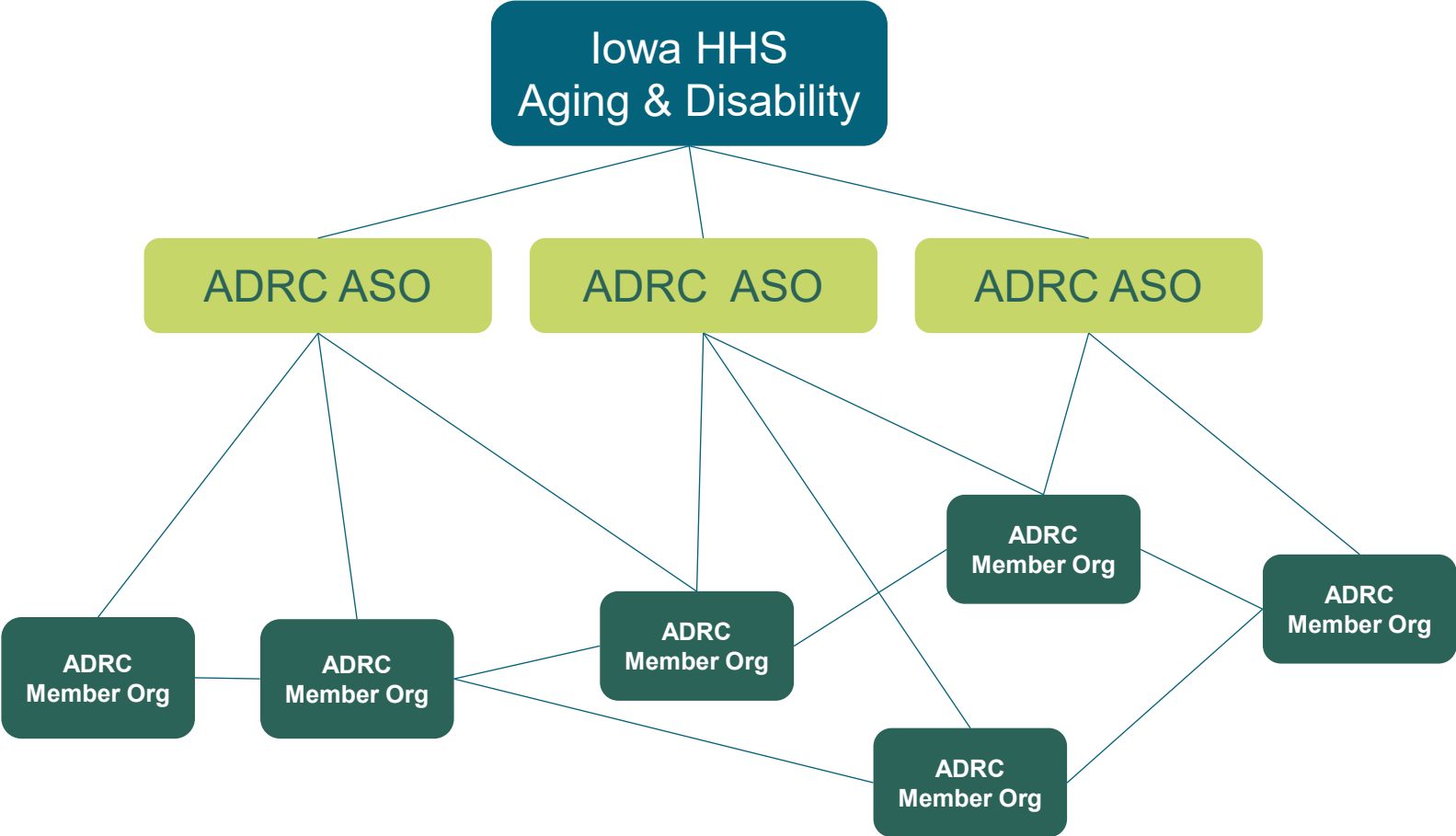
2. The aging and disability resource center shall assist older individuals, persons with disabilities ~~age eighteen or older~~, family caregivers, and people who inquire about or request assistance on behalf of members of these groups, as they seek long-term living and community support services

# Goals: ADRC Expansion

- ▶ Serve Individuals with Disabilities
- ▶ Include Accessible Physical Locations
- ▶ Co-location of key ADRC partners (AAA, CIL, Community Action Agencies, local/regional Disability-focused nonprofits)
- ▶ Expandable: We can add additional services
- ▶ Follow the Behavioral Health ASO model
- ▶ Build on existing infrastructure



# New ADRC System



# Role of HHS

- Administer funding to ASOs
- Develop service definitions and reporting standards
- Provide training curriculum
- Define performance outcomes
- Approve district plans





# ASO Requirements



Ensure adequate Service Provision in every county within District



Develops comprehensive ADRC network of member organizations within district



Responsible for training and technical assistance of ADRC partners in region



Ensures service quality and performance outcomes



Develops and maintains data system for tracking



Acts as intermediary for funding



Ensure that locations clearly identify as an ADRC

## **ADRC Member Organization Requirements**

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Provides Minimum Services

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Identify as ADRC member

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Navigation & Person-centered Planning

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Coordinates with/among ADRC organizations

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Maintains knowledge of local resources

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Receives pass through funding from ASO

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Participate in Medicaid Administrative Claiming

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# ADRC Minimum Requirements: **Who is served?**

Older Iowans

Iowans with  
Disabilities

Caregivers

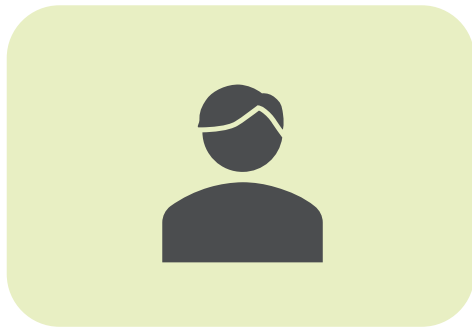
Anyone who  
calls with I&A

# ADRC Minimum Requirements: **What services must be provided?**



- ▶ Information and Referral
- ▶ Person-Centered Planning (Options Counseling)
- ▶ Application assistance to all HHS programs and services (Medicaid & Medicaid adjacent)
- ▶ Waitlist prioritization screening
- ▶ Connection to concrete services and supports

## ADRC Minimum Requirements: **How do they access services?**



In-person



Phone



E-mail/web

Accessible and easy to navigate

# Proposed Iowa ADRC Expansion: **Demonstration**

## Competitive bid/RFP application for limited number of ASOs

- Collaboration
- Proposals must include:
  - Letters of support from local ADRC members
  - Commitment to co-location

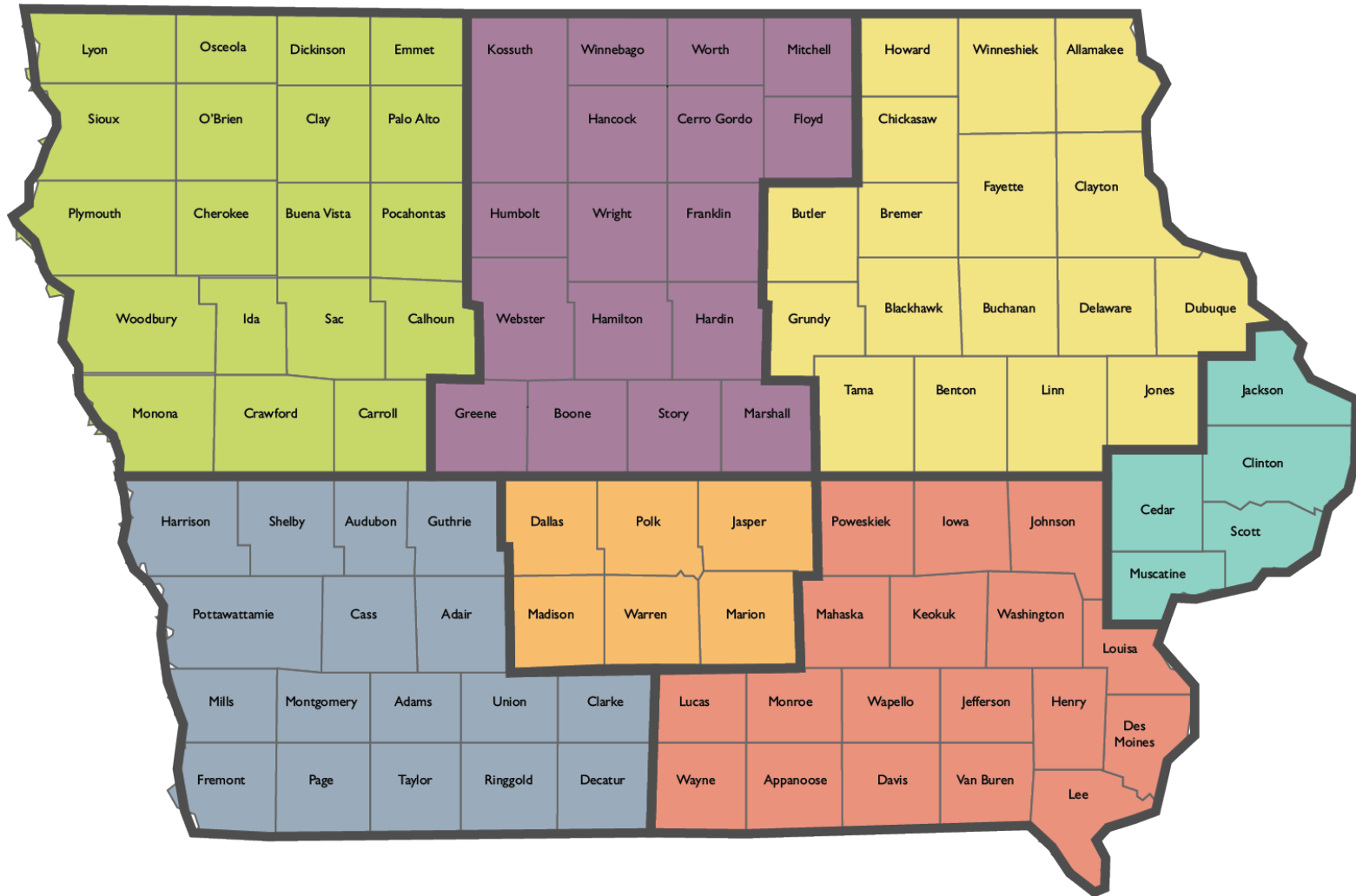
## Designate one or more ADRCs/ASOs

- Approve supporting ADRCs

## Provide ongoing support to ADRCs

- Technical assistance and training
- Evaluation and monitoring

# Behavioral Health Districts



# What is Options Counseling?


## Thrive Iowa Pathways

Service of providing an interactive process whereby individuals receive guidance in their deliberations to make informed choices about long-term supports. The process is directed by the individual and may include others whom the individual chooses or those who are legally authorized to represent the individual.

Source: Aging and Disability Services: *AAA Reporting Manual*; effective 7/1/2023; V24-1.2

1. A personal interview and assessment to discover strengths, values, and preferences of the individual and screenings for entitlement program eligibility.
2. A facilitated decision-making process which explores resources and service options and supports the individual in weighing pros and cons.
3. Developing action steps toward a goal or a long-term support plan and assistance in applying for and accessing support options
4. Follow-up to ensure supports and decisions are assisting the individual.





# Questions and Discussion



Health and  
Human Services