

# Report to Council on Health and Human Services Brain Injury Advisory Committee Updates February 2025

## **Brain Injury Advisory Committee**

The Brain Injury Advisory Committee met on January 31, 2025.

### Mission Statement

Per the request of the HHS Council, the committee developed the following mission statement:

*To help lowans by suggesting system changes that can stop brain injuries from happening and make things better for those who already have one.*

When developing the mission statement, it was important to committee members that the mission speak to efforts around prevention and acknowledging the need for supports at various stages post-injury (i.e. for newly injured individuals and those who are living with brain injury as a chronic condition). Members wanted to ensure that the mission statement was written in plain English.

### Meeting Cadence

The committee decided it would meet virtually on a quarterly basis, with meetings lasting no longer than three hours. Meeting virtually will facilitate participation, acknowledging it is challenging for some members to travel to Des Moines for meetings. However, members also value face-to-face interactions, so the committee will meet in person once a year with the potential of coordinating that meeting to coincide with another event of interest to the members, such as the annual brain injury conference.

### Future Topics for Brain Injury Advisory Committee Agendas

Based on upcoming activities of the Brain Injury Program and opportunities to provide input, the following topics will be included on agendas for the committee:

- Administrative Rules Review for Brain Injury-Related Rule Chapters;
- The Brain Injury Needs Assessment; and
- 2026-2030 Brain Injury State Plan Development.

## **Brain Injury Registry Outreach Activities**

The Brain Injury Program team sent 1,765 letters to individuals on the Brain Injury Registry with newly acquired traumatic brain injuries during calendar year 2024.