

MEETING MINUTES

DIVISION	Department of Health and Human Services, Iowa Medicaid		
MEETING TITLE	REACH Implementation Team		
FACILITATOR	Jenny Erdman		
DATE	02/12/2025	TIME	4 pm CT
LOCATION	Virtual		

MEETING OBJECTIVES

Implementation Team meetings create the opportunity for key stakeholders to facilitate and support the adherence to the Iowa REACH Initiative Implementation Plan objectives and activities and to provide coordinated oversight and recommendations to ensure the success of the Iowa REACH Initiative.

MEETING PARTICIPANTS

- Amy Berg-Theison
- Ann Starr
- Anne Crotty-Catherine Turvey
- Dree LaToure
- Gretchen Hammer
- Kevin Carroll
- Laura Larkin
- Liam Healy
- Mary Beth O'Neil
- Megan Simpson
- Will Linder
- Steve Mueller
- Jen Royer
- Joella Gerber
- Nikki Thomson
- Morgan Casey
- Oliver Kristie
- Nick Enderle
- Megan Simpson

AGENDA TOPICS

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Overall REACH Updates

- On January 24, a federal court approved a preliminary agreement. The final approval hearing is set for early May.
- As part of the agreement, Iowa will develop new REACH services.
- Relevant web pages:
 - <https://hhs.iowa.gov/media/15374/download?inline>
 - <https://hhs.iowa.gov/iowa-reach>
 - <https://hhs.iowa.gov/initiatives>

Subcommittee
Updates

- The Assessment Tool Subcommittee is reviewing options for a uniform assessment tool.
- The Services and Providers Subcommittee and Intensive Care Coordination Subcommittee are reviewing defined services in the Implementation Plan.
- The Communications Subcommittee will develop a plan for communicating about REACH.
- The Quality Subcommittee will review the quality requirements of the Implementation Plan.
- The Consumer Steering Committee is highly engaged informed and will provide input on the work of the other subcommittees and the implementation of the REACH Initiative.

Assessment

- Mathematica shared an overview of assessment tools under consideration (Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths, Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale, Child and Adolescent Service Intensity Instrument, Daily Living Activities 20)
- Participants discussed what else we may want to consider when learning about the tools.
- It would be helpful to have information on how implementation has gone in other states.
- There will need to be careful consideration about where assessments take place and which providers administer them. It should be considered to allow non clinicians to administer assessments with clinician oversight or sign off. Being flexible about who can complete an assessment can be helpful.
- The person who completes vs analyzes an assessment could be different.
- The cost of assessment and provider training for the tools needs to be considered.

Intensive In-
Home and
Community
Therapeutic
Services

- There was discussion about how the Implementation Plan defines Intensive In-Home and Community Therapeutic Services.
- Children on a waiver can receive the services, but children don't need to be on a waiver to receive the services.
- One barrier to accessing services is lack of providers. Some states use providers with Bachelors supervised by people with Masters to extend provider capacity.
- The committee discussed that education for providers should be culturally informed. The committee also



Public Comment

discussed the need for provider support in all settings, such as childcare.

- The committee discussed the importance of culture and implementing the guiding principles of the Implementation Plan.
- None

VOTES

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	MOTION	SECOND	VOTE
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA