

**Iowa Integrated Health Planning and Advisory Council (I-PAC)**

**May 21, 2025, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**via Zoom**

**Meeting Minutes**

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**IOWA INTEGRATED HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Teresa Bomhoff	Megan Marsh
Rod Courtney	Cayleen Mesecher
Jennifer Day	Todd Noack
LaShawna Dean	Hannah Olson
Linda Dettmann	Brad Richardson
Jenny Erdman	Jennifer Riley
Jessica Goltz	Kristin Roof
Lori Hancock-Muck	Ellen Schardt
Lorien Harker	Dr. Shaad Swim
Theresa Henderson	Monica Van Horn
Vienna Hoang	Edward Wollner
Alicia Karwal	Joel Wulf
Michael Kaufman	Kelly Yeggy
Todd Lange	

**IOWA INTEGRATED HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Kyra Hawley-Preston	William Veltri
Nancy Hunt	Senator Janice Weiner
Christina Maulsby	Representative Ann Meyer
Brianna Steffe	

**OTHER ATTENDEES:**

Jacob Appel	Patti Manna
Theresa Armstrong	Roxanne Petersen
Katie Dunmore	Libby Reekers
Julie Gibbons	Gabbie Ruggiero
Mandy Hatten	Flora A. Schmidt
Torie Keith	Dex Walker
Eugenia Kendall	

**Materials Referenced:**

*I-PAC March 19, 2025 AM Meeting Minutes DRAFT*  
*I-PAC\_MHDS Commission March 19, 2025 Joint Meeting Minutes DRAFT*  
*I-PAC Workgroup Reports Summary 202505*  
*May 21 Draft State Plan on Aging Presentation – Final*  
*Iowa REACH About Us*  
*I-PAC Polk County Opioid Settlement Funds presentation*

**Welcome**

Teresa Bomhoff called the meeting to order 9:02 am. Quorum was established with 23 members at 9:05 am. Twelve members attended in person.

## **Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Teresa Bomhoff entertained a motion to approve the I-PAC March 19, 2025, AM Meeting Minutes and the I-PAC\_MHDS Commission March 19, 2025, Joint Meeting Minutes. Jenn Day motioned to approve the minutes; Hannah Olson seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, the motion passed, and the minutes were approved.

## **Nominations Committee Report**

Brad Richardson welcomed Rod Courtney, who fulfills the role of public/private entity, LaShawna Dean, who fulfills the role of a family member of an individual in recovery, and Lori Hancock-Muck, who fulfills the role of public/private entity to the Council.

Brad Richardson shared that the nominations committee has agreed to nominate Alicia Karwal to the Council to fulfill the role of a parent, guardian, or primary caretaker of a child/adolescent with serious emotional disturbance. Alicia was in attendance and introduced herself. Brad Richardson motioned to approve the nomination; Joel Wulf seconded the motion. The motion carried and Alicia Karwal was approved as a member of the Council.

Teresa Bomhoff led a discussion on the current vacancies. The Council has one vacancy for a parent, guardian, or primary caretaker of a child/adolescent with serious emotional disturbance.

## **Workgroups**

Teresa Bomhoff reviewed the Council Committee and Workgroup Reports Summary. The chair, or their representative, of each workgroup gave a short verbal summary of the report.

Todd Lange reported the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) recommend inviting CCBHC provider representatives in the Fall of 2025 to learn how they are educating their staff and their view of the effects of the transition process, inviting a CCBHC provider and community partner in the Spring of 2026 to co-present on their collaborative process, and encouraging I-PAC members to attend CCBHC Stakeholder Engagement Committee meetings.

Jessica Goltz reported that the Children's Issues workgroup recommends the Council monitor the Behavioral Health State Plan regarding early intervention and prevention efforts for children and youth and monitoring the state legislation affecting children and youth.

Joel Wulf reported that the Older Adults workgroup recommends the Council learn more about consumer education options for older adults and their families, requests presentations from Senator Claire Celsi, John Hale, Dean Lerner and other partners as appropriate to learn about nursing home bills and other related issues. Additional recommendations are that the Council learn more about updates on the Centers for Independent Living, both at the state and federal level and about the HHS Waiver redesign status (HOME Project).

Edward Wollner reported the substance use disorder (SUD) workgroup recommends the Council invites the CEO of Community & Family Resources (CFR) to talk about the nature wellness recovery campus, continues to monitor the Behavioral Health alignment, continues to monitor federal changes effects on services in Iowa.

Kristin Rooff reported that the Strategic Planning workgroup is working on a drafted logo for consideration and a shared document to track pertinent changes in federal and state action and policy.

Lori Hancock-Muck reported that the Public Safety workgroup recommends that Council members monitor and be aware of the school safety assessment teams recently signed into law, consider future presentations on Competency Restoration, learn about criminal diversion programs for individuals with mental health and substance use conditions, and monitor past and pending litigation related to injuries to staff and patients at the Mental Health Institutes.

### **Behavioral Health and Disability Services – Theresa Armstrong**

Theresa Armstrong, Behavioral Health Division, Iowa Health and Human Services (HHS) provided an overview of the changes occurring with the Iowa HHS Behavioral Health and Disability Services.

The new Behavioral Health Service System starts on July 1, 2025, and will make it easier for mental health and substance use providers to help Iowans get the care they need, no matter where they go for help. Iowa HHS is working with Iowa Primary Care (Iowa PCA) Association to ensure services continue without disruption.

Iowa HHS and Iowa PCA are working on what system navigation will look like and how to ensure access and assistance to navigate the system. Your Life Iowa (YLI) will be the brightly lit front door for assistance. Conversations on where the system navigators will be located have begun.

The final administrative rules have been published for the Behavioral Health Administrative Organization (BH-ASO), system access standards, and services funded. These will also be effective July 1, 2025.

District Advisory Councils have begun meeting. These councils will assist Iowa PCA in planning and identifying gaps. There are still openings left on the councils, especially for individuals with lived experience. The fee schedule for providers has been released, which outlines proposed rates for a comprehensive range of services to support provider planning and operational readiness. Provider contracts have been reviewed and will soon be disseminated.

The Behavioral Health Service System Statewide Plan, Iowa's guide to improving behavioral health services across the state, was published in April 2025. The plan includes a continuum of services: prevention, early intervention, treatment, recovery and crisis services. Priorities have been placed on prevention and early intervention.

### **Draft State Plan on Aging – Eugenia Kendall, HHS**

Eugenia Kendall provided an overview of the FFY 2026-2029 Draft State Plan on Aging. This included a review of the state plan submission and implementation timeline, with a final draft expected in July of 2025.

The federal and state requirements for the development of the state plan were reviewed. These included completing a needs assessment, completing an aging and disability service assessment, and identifying a priority population. Identified aging network challenges included a decrease in state funds per lowan aged 60+ with an increase in Iowa's older adult population. Goals and objectives developed for the plan were reviewed with four main goal areas: maximize independence, improve health and wellness, improve safety and quality of life, and maintain engagement.

### **Public Comment**

There was an opportunity for public comment, with none offered.

### **Lunch Break**

There was a lunch break from 12:10pm-1:00pm.

### **Iowa REACH – Dex Walker**

Dex Walker provided an overview of the Iowa REACH initiative, which is a new Medicaid initiative focused on developing and improving home and community based behavioral health services for children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances.

Iowa REACH will serve Medicaid-eligible Iowa children under 21 with serious emotional disturbance that is not attributable to an intellectual or developmental disability in need of intensive home and community-based services.

The initiative has developed an implementation plan that outlines the approach Iowa will take to improve the delivery of home and community-based mental health services. The goals of the plan are to develop, improve, and strengthen the relevant services and to implement a quality management and accountability structure.

### **Polk County Opioid Settlement Funds – Gabbie Ruggiero**

Gabbie Ruggiero provided an overview of the Polk County Opioid Settlement Funds. Iowa is projected to receive \$316 million+ through FY40, with 50% percent of Iowa's opioid settlement funds controlled by the legislature and 50% for the "local share". Use of the funds will include opioid abatement strategies to prevent further opioid misuse and address the effects of those "injured" by the opioid epidemic. Allowable expenditures for core strategies, Polk County's guiding principles, and strategic plan were reviewed.

### **Planning for Future Meetings – Teresa Bomhoff**

Teresa Bomhoff led a discussion on general business and planning for future meetings. Council members were asked to send suggestions for future presentations to the Council Chair.

### **Public Comment**

There was an opportunity for public comment, with none offered.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:43 pm.

*Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Patti Manna.*

