

I-PAC Workgroups Report Summary

Date

May 20th, 2026

CCBHC Workgroup Recommendations

Item #	Description
1.	CCBHC Updates The CCBHC Workgroup recommends that the Council follows up with Laura Larkin and Wendy DePhillips for additional updates in the fall of 2026.
2.	Peer Support The CCBHC Workgroup recommends that the Council reach out to CCBHC's and see how they are using peer support services.

Children's Issues Workgroup Recommendations

Item #	Description
1.	Youth Representation The Children's Workgroup recommends the Council increase youth involvement in Council and workgroup activities , leveraging existing HHS youth programs (Youth & Family Engagement Office, I-STEP).
2.	Rural Health Transformation The Children's Workgroup recommends that IPAC learn more about statewide expansion and coordination of school-based mental health services (Hometown Connections, Communities of Care Co-Location).
3.	PMIC Discharge Planning The Children's Workgroup recommends that IPAC learn more discharge planning for youth exiting PMIC/residential programs.
4.	Capacity The Children's Workgroup recommends that IPAC prioritize strengthening in-state behavioral health capacity , to reduce out-of-state placements and improve continuity of care.

Older Iowans Workgroup Recommendations

Item #	Description
1.	Continue monitoring PASRR issues The Older Adults Workgroup recommends the Council track implementation of corrected procedures, especially ensuring medical recommendations from Maximus cannot be overruled.

	The Older Adults Workgroup recommends the Council monitor impacts from previous overruling that contributed to facility closures and placement delays.
2.	Invite Robert Payne (HHS LTSS Policy Program Manager) back for updates The Older Adults Workgroup recommends the Council request a follow-up presentation in a few months on progress, remaining challenges, and department plans to expand or restore NIFME-level care.
3.	Invite a representative from DIA/DIAL The Older Adults Workgroup recommends the Council obtain clarification on how nursing homes will be evaluated for providing mental health services, especially for the middle level of care. The Older Adults Workgroup recommends the Council address concerns from nursing homes about unclear expectations and potential regulatory changes.
4.	Review and consider issues raised in previously introduced nursing home bills The Older Adults Workgroup recommends the Council utilize the packet of ~10–11 bills (shared with HHS) to guide discussion on systemic problems in nursing homes and identify opportunities for advocacy.
5.	Evaluate mental health service expectations within nursing homes The Older Adults Workgroup recommends the Council seek clearer definitions of required services (e.g., therapy, medication management, community-based recovery supports). The Older Adults Workgroup recommends the Council work with DIA/HHS to ensure expectations are realistic and align with staffing realities.

Public Safety Workgroup Recommendations

Item #	Description
1.	Legal Involved Initiative <i>Information gained from meeting with Justin Edwards, HHS</i> The Public Safety workgroup recommends the Council learn more about the HHS Legal Involved Initiative, which focuses on intersections between behavioral health and corrections, criminal justice and judicial systems. Five priority areas have been identified:

1. Jail diversion / deflection
 2. Jail-based services
 3. Post-incarceration / re-entry support
 4. Civil committals
 5. Competency restoration
- AOT falls under civil committal.*

Strategic Planning Workgroup Recommendations

Item #	Description
1.	Workgroup recommendations: The Strategic Planning workgroup recommends that members remain informed about the following topics: • Monitor HHS Behavioral Health District Development • Request HHS to Develop a Public Contact Flowchart • Monitor HCBS Waiver System Redesign (2026-2027) • Track Implementation of New HHS IT Systems • Monitor Spending and Guidance on Opioid Settlement Funds • Ensure Follow-up on Rural Health Transformation Programs • Share Waiver System Changes With Full Council • Continue Tracking HHS Leadership Status

Substance Use Disorder Workgroup Recommendations

Item #	Description
1.	Opioid Settlement Funds The SUD Workgroup recommends the Council learn more about what opioid settlement funds the Attorney General's office is utilizing and/or tracking the funds they receive or how the money is spent.
2.	Opioid Settlement Funds The SUD Workgroup recommends the Council learn more about the unspent dollars received by the counties that was mentioned by Kevin Gabbert at his last presentation.