

Meeting Summary

Brain Injury Advisory Committee

Date: 07/17/2026

Time: 9:00 AM – 11:30 PM

Location: Zoom

Meeting Participants

Community Voices Members	Organizational Representative Members	Iowa HHS Brain Injury Program Staff
Tia Clark ✓	Marsha Burrigh (IVRS)	Maggie Ferguson ✓
Brenda Easter ✓	Catherine Johnson (Disability Rights Iowa)	Jim Pender ✓
Andrea Gomez	June Klein-Bacon (BIAIA)	Toby Yak
Laura Jess ✓	Brooke Lovelace (DD Council) ✓	
Eric Lietsch	Krys Purscell (Iowa SILC) ✓	
Brandie Richmann	Margot McComas (Iowa HHS - PH)	
Jim Torner ✓	Bekah Gomez (Iowa HHS - Medicaid) ✓	
Jordan True	Laura Leise (Iowa HHS - ADS) ✓	
Kelly Wise ✓	Angela VanPelt (LTSS Ombudsman) ✓	
Shamika Carmen	Melissa Walker (Dept of Ed) ✓	

Others in attendance:

Katy Koch, MPH student

Momina, MPH student University of Nebraska Medical Center

Meeting Summary

1. Welcome & Introductions.

Committee members took a moment to introduce themselves to start the meeting. Role was taken.

2. Student Projects

Two students from the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Public Health provided a summary of work completed with Iowa HHS Brain Injury Program as part of a Master of Public Health advanced practice experience. Each student aligned work completed with a corresponding area of the state plan.

Katy Koch provided an update on her activities and products developed.

Deliverable 1: Created a promotional sheet introducing TACT to schools.

- This product aligned with Strategy 6 – Improve concussion prevention and management, Tactic 6.2 Promote the use of the Teacher Acute Concussion Tool (TACT).

Deliverable 2: Develop a Brain Injury in Iowa Fact Sheet.

- This product aligned with Strategy 5 – Reduce preventable brain injuries using evidence-based practices, Tactic 5.2 Use data to identify populations most at risk and give prevention strategies.

Momina Tehreem Khattack provided an update on her activities and products developed.

Deliverable 1: Develop concussion awareness products and TACT utilization reports.

- These products also aligned with Strategy 6, Tactic 6.2.

Deliverable 2: Develop a comparative policy report with recommendations for potential development of new support options for Iowans after brain injury.

- This product aligned with Strategy 3 – Increase timely access to medical and community-based services, Tactic 3.2 Explore alternative options for Iowans who need support but do not qualify for Medicaid waivers.

Committee members stated the information created was well done and appreciated the eye-catching yet concise one-page documents that were developed. There were also comments that members appreciated the work they are doing to analyze and report data about brain injury and TACT utilization.

3. Discussion: Implementation, evaluation and reporting of progress 2026-3029 State Plan for Brain Injuries

Maggie Ferguson provided an update on the State Plan for Brain Injuries. The state plan was presented to the Iowa HHS Council on May 28, 2026 and approved unanimously by voice vote. Ferguson also noted that there were thoughtful questions

and comments from the Council about the document, and Council members look forward to learning more in the future about implementation and outcomes.

The Advisory Committee members discussed meeting cadence, to include meetings to work on the state plan. The group decided to meet quarterly as a full group to receive updates and discuss state plan progress. It was also determined that task force groups would be formed as state plan workgroups – one for each of the two priority areas. The task force groups will meet monthly, with the exception of months when the full committee meets.

ACTION ITEM: Ferguson will send out a schedule of meeting dates.

4. Update on TBI Grant. A notice of funding opportunity was shared with Committee members.

Ferguson provided a summary of the grant-required activities and how the Advisory Committee, as a requirement of the grant, can be included in the work. A summary of partnerships, including working with Iowa Workforce Development and building on lessons learned from the current grant and activities completed through a Leading Practices Academy hosted by the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators was also provided.

The Advisory Committee approved the following grantee workgroup recommendations for inclusion in the proposal submitted by Iowa HHS.

Based on previous grantee workgroup topic areas: Criminal & Juvenile Justice and Transition & Employment.

New groups to be created that Iowa HHS and partners would be able to provide facilitation and share knowledge: Brain Injury Resource Facilitation and Strengthening State Brain Injury Programs.

5. Public Comment.

No Public Comment was received.

For inquiries about this meeting, please email brain.injury@hhs.iowa.gov