

Iowa Integrated Health Planning and Advisory Council (I-PAC)
July 15, 2026, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

IOWA INTEGRATED HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Angela Albers	
Teresa Bomhoff	Roxanne Petersen
Jennifer Day	Brad Richardson
Linda Dettmann	Travis Robinson
Sue Gehling	Kristin Rooff
Skye Hanson	Ellen Schardt
Lorien Harker	Brianna Steffe
Kyra Hawley	Monica Van Horn
Alicia Karwal	Melissa Walker
Todd Lange	Ashley Watts
Lily Lockwood-Keil	Edward Wollner
Megan Marsh	Kelly Yeggy

IOWA INTEGRATED HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Quin Eckard	Hannah Olson
Jessica Goltz	Carlos Vela
Michael Kaufmann	William Veltri
Jennifer Riley	
Dr. Shaad Swim	

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Justin Edwards	Jerilyn Oshel
Maggie Ferguson	Jim Pender
Nicole Hathaway	Krys Purscell
Sarah Jacob	Flora A Schmidt
Patti Manna	Libby Whelan
Lin Nibbelink	

Materials Referenced:

I_PAC Monitoring and Oversight Report July 15 2026
Behavioral Health Alignment Quick Reference - 2026.03.10
CMHC Set-Aside Changes - IPAC July 2026
Employment1st Overview for Council 7-2026
Iowa State Plan for Brain Injury 07.2026
I-PAC May 20 2026 Meeting Minutes DRAFT
IPAC Presentation Health and Wellbeing Study_7.15.2026
I-PAC Workgroup Reports Summary 202607
7-15-26-Teresa's presentation

Welcome

Teresa Bomhoff called the meeting to order at 9:01am. Quorum was established with 21 members at 9:19am.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Teresa Bomhoff entertained a motion to approve the I-PAC May 20, 2026, Meeting Minutes. Lorien Harker motioned to approve the minutes; Todd Lange seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, the motion passed, and the minutes were approved.

Nominations Committee Report – Brad Richardson

Brad Richardson presented the Nominations Committee report.

The Council currently has two open seats:

- One for a parent/guardian or primary caretaker.
- One for an individual interested in supporting children with serious emotional disturbance or adults with serious mental illness and/or substance use disorder.

Member Updates

- Carlos Vela is now serving as the Vocational Rehabilitation state representative, replacing Vienna Hoang, who moved to a different role.
- Todd Noack has resigned from the Council.

Committee Vacancies

- The Nominations Committee itself has two vacancies. Teresa Bomhoff asked members if anyone would like to join the committee. Travis Robinson and Kelly Yeggy volunteered to join the nominations committee.

Monitoring and Oversight Committee – Lorien Harker

Lorien Harker provided a report for the Monitoring and Oversight Committee. The committee met with Karen Hyatt, HHS Program Manager, to review the Iowa Peer Workforce Collaborative (IPWC) program funded by the Mental Health Block Grant.

Lorien noted that IPWC, under HHS, provides virtual and in-person training for adult, family, and recovery peer support specialists, along with technical assistance, supervision, support, and continuing education funds.

Key strengths shared by Karen Hyatt (HHS) included:

- A new shared data collection system with adult wellness centers and recovery community centers to support real-time statewide peer support and strengthen funding proposals.
- Improved family peer support training, now offering a virtual option to reduce burdens on parents.

Challenges identified:

- Ongoing Medicaid billing confusion.
- Training access and financial barriers, particularly affecting parents and creating gaps in school-based peer support.
- A need for more creative marketing strategies.

The committee has requested clarification on:

- The number of peers trained versus employed, and how this is tracked.
- Whether IPWC is experiencing staffing shortages.
- Their data reporting systems.

The group discussed inviting IPWC to present at an upcoming IPAC meeting, given leadership changes.

Workgroups

Teresa Bomhoff reviewed the Council Committee and Workgroup Reports Summary. Noted below is the individual reporting and the recommendations of the workgroup.

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) – Todd Lange

- Follow up with Laura Larkin and Wendy DePhillips for additional CCBHC updates in fall 2026.
- Reach out to CCBHCs to learn how peer support services are being used.

Children's Issues – Alicia Karwal and Sue Gehling

- Increase youth involvement in Council and workgroup activities by leveraging existing HHS youth programs (Youth & Family Engagement Office, I-STEP).
- Learn more about statewide expansion of school-based mental health services (Hometown Connections, Communities of Care Co-Location).
- Learn more about PMIC/residential discharge planning processes.
- Invite Elisa Bowler from the Iowa Department of Education, whose new role focuses on placement.
- Learn more about the Iowa Youth Action Council.

Older Iowans – Kelly Yeggy

- Continue monitoring Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) issues
- Invite Robert Payne, Health and Human Services (HHS) Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Policy Program Manager, back for updates
- Assess and address the loss of Nursing Facility for Mental Illness (NFMI) facilities
- Invite a representative from the Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing (DIAL)
- Review and consider issues raised in previously introduced nursing home bills
- Monitor the impact of out-of-state corporations purchasing Iowa nursing home
- Evaluate mental health service expectations within nursing homes

Public Safety – Kyra Hawley

- Learn more about the HHS Legal Involved Initiative, which focuses on intersections between behavioral health and corrections, criminal justice and judicial systems.
- Learn more about Mental Health Advocacy
- Learn more about Prison Farms Sales

Strategic Planning – Kristin Rooff

- Monitor HHS Behavioral Health District development
- Request HHS to develop a public contact flowchart
- Monitor Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver system redesign (2026-2027)
- Track implementation of new HHS Information Technology (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 (SUD) – Edward Wollner

- 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.
- Learn more about the unspent dollars received by the counties that was mentioned by Kevin Gabbert at his last presentation.

Behavioral Health Alignment Quick Reference – Todd Lange

Todd Lange created and shared the document *Behavioral Health Alignment Quick Reference* to provide a structured overview of Iowa's aligned Health and Human Services (HHS) system, outlining how Behavioral Health Districts and the Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Network are organized across the state.

The document includes:

- A directory of key contacts for all seven Behavioral Health Districts, including administrative oversight and district leadership roles.
- A detailed explanation of the three-part ADRC Network (Iowa Compass, Disability Access Points, and Area Agencies on Aging), along with statewide and district-level contact information and service coverage.

Peer Support Inventory – Todd Lange

Todd Lange created and shared the document *Peer Support Inventory Summary* to provide an overview of Iowa's Peer Support Inventory (PSI), a statewide collection of data on Peer Support Specialists, Family Support Specialists, and Recovery Coaches. It outlines where peer support services are delivered, the distribution of roles across Behavioral Health Districts, and employment patterns for each support type.

I-PAC Chair Update – Teresa Bomhoff

Teresa Bomhoff presenting a detailed legislative update to the Council, with Patti Manna assisting by navigating the listed websites and displaying

Teresa presented several updates during the July 15 meeting. She explained the Governor's line-item vetoes in SF2783, SF2800, and SF2484, and provided an overview of new IT contracts that will privatize data and web management functions across state government. She shared updates on the Iowa Medicaid Fraud Task Force and directed members to new resources on the HHS website, including information on the Behavioral Health System, the Rural Health Transformation Grant – Healthy Hometowns, HHS Alignment efforts, and the HHS Dashboards. Teresa also reminded members of the monthly Behavioral Health Town Halls, noting that the next session is scheduled for July 23. She outlined Iowa's current financial challenges, including the state's shift to a flat income tax, capped revenue growth for local and county governments, insufficient revenues for a balanced budget, and projections that surplus and rainy-day funds may be depleted within three years. She also highlighted SJR11, a proposed constitutional amendment that would require a two-thirds legislative majority to approve any future income or corporate tax increases. Teresa concluded by reviewing available one-time funding resources such as opioid settlement dollars, the Rural Transformation Grant, and multiple Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funding opportunities totaling more than \$900 million, including grants for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) sustainability and the

Support for Treatment and Resilience to Enhance Emergency Therapeutic Services (STREETS) program, 988 Crisis Lifeline improvements, rural Emergency Medical Services (EMS) expansion, and mental health programs for American Indian and Alaska Native communities. She briefly noted ongoing discussions about prison land sales.

Community Mental Health Block Grant awards– Justin Edwards, HHS

Justin Edwards provided a detailed explanation of recent changes to the Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) funding and how the governor's line-item vetoes in HF 2782 affect Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs). His presentation pulled together legislative context across several bills: HF 2782, HF 1038, HF 2673, and SF 626.

The governor's two line-item vetoes in HF 2782 affected both Opioid Settlement Fund (OSF) spending and the Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG). The \$3 million OSF earmark for the Thrive Now Substance Use Disorder (SUD) facility was vetoed because HF 1038 requires OSF dollars to be awarded through competitive procurement processes, and a direct earmark would not comply.

The governor also vetoed reinstating the 70% MHBG pass-through to CMHCs, noting that SF 626 had already eliminated the requirement beginning SFY 2027 to align with HF 2673's Behavioral Health Transformation framework; however, HHS remains free to continue allocating MHBG funds to CMHCs.

For FY27, CMHCs will still receive funding using the traditional allocation methodology, but their total allocation was reduced by \$1 million to support statewide behavioral-health workforce training. CMHCs must now dedicate 20% of Access Funds to outreach and early intervention and will use a new 100% Medicaid-match fee schedule intended to strengthen revenue drawdown.

During discussion, Teresa emphasized the need for a clear, transparent formula showing all deductions taken off the top of the MHBG, the remaining funds available for distribution, and the categories into which projects must be placed. She noted that the Council has struggled to determine where all MHBG dollars are going. Justin confirmed that all MHBG funds for SFY27 are allocated except the training carve-out, and he agreed to collaborate with her on developing a clear public-facing funding formula and improving visibility into allocations.

Brain Injury State Plan – Maggie Ferguson, HHS and Jim Pender, HHS

Maggie Ferguson and Jim Pender, Iowa HHS, presented the updated 2026–2029 State Plan for Brain Injury (BI), outlining priorities in service delivery and prevention. 2023 data reported 8,586 traumatic brain injury cases in Iowa, with strong links to behavioral-health concerns. Public input identified strengths in resource facilitation and awareness, and challenges related to Home and Community Based Waiver Services (HCBS) waiver access, care coordination, provider training, housing, transportation, and system navigation. The Brain Injury Advisory Committee helped shape the plan, which will be updated throughout the three-year cycle with continued community engagement. Q&A topics included screening for childhood injuries and questions about BI waiver changes, with follow-up planned through Medicaid.

Public Comment

There was an opportunity for public comment. Krys Purscell, Iowa Statewide Independent Living Council, shared that the independent living network has begun developing a new State Plan, including a formal expansion strategy. They are exploring satellite-based service growth in northern Iowa and emphasizing peer support, support groups, and partnerships as sustainable approaches.

Break for lunch

12:30 pm to 1:00 pm

HHS Updates – Jerilyn Oshel HHS

Jerilyn Oshel, Bureau Chief of Operations in the HHS Division of Behavioral Health, provided updates on behalf of Theresa Armstrong, who was out of the office.

Jerilyn Oshel provided an update on recent SAMHSA grant applications, highlighting four cooperative agreements for which HHS submitted or plans to submit proposals:

- **Zero Suicide Cooperative Agreement**, aimed at implementing the Zero Suicide framework in health systems to reduce adult suicide risk. Awards range from \$400K–\$700K per year over five years.
- **988 Cooperative Agreement**, a continuation of existing funding to enhance statewide 988 crisis hotline infrastructure, including workforce training, crisis-contact follow-up, 911/988 integration, cyber protections, and post-overdose protocols.
- **Behavioral Health Mobile Crisis Team Partnerships**, a new opportunity to fund expansion of mobile crisis response services, emphasizing child, youth, and family teams and leveraging existing statewide assessment frameworks. Awards up to \$750K per year for up to four years.
- **Strategic Prevention Framework – Partnerships for Success for States**, supporting state substance use prevention services through community-level intervention strategies under the SPF model. Awards up to \$2M per year over five years.

2025 Iowa Health and Wellbeing Survey - Sarah Jacob, HHS

Sarah Jacob, Iowa HHS Division of Behavioral Health, presented key findings from the 2025 Iowa Health and Well-Being Study, a statewide survey conducted with the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) that gathered 3,890 responses from all 99 counties. The study assessed health status, service awareness, help-seeking patterns, substance use and mental health prevalence, and gambling behavior. About half of respondents rated their physical and mental health positively, with a statewide quality-of-life score of 3.9. Awareness of behavioral health resources varied widely, with Quitline showing the lowest recognition. Iowans reported greatest comfort seeking help from friends or family, followed by professional providers; awareness of naloxone remained low. Mental health indicators included 8% reporting suicidal thoughts and 30% reporting a depression diagnosis, with many noting stigma concerns. Recovery estimates showed 8% identifying as in recovery from substance use and 20% from mental illness.

Employment 1st - Lin Nibbelink, HHS

Lin Nibbelink, Aging and Disability Services, provided an overview of Employment First and its grounding in federal disability rights law, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Olmstead decision. She noted that Iowa's Olmstead Plan prioritizes economic stability

and affirms competitive, integrated employment as the expected outcome for all working-age Iowans with disabilities. Lin highlighted ongoing disparities in employment, emphasized research showing employment's strong positive impact on health and independence, and shared testimonials illustrating benefits for individuals, families, and employers. She underscored that Employment First strengthens community inclusion and reduces Medicaid costs. Lin also outlined Iowa's employment-support system, including Career Exploration, Individual Supported Employment, long-term job coaching, the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) model, Customized Employment, and self-employment options.

Public Comment

There was an opportunity for public comment. Kelly Yeggy shared that her mental health awareness fundraiser was receiving strong engagement, reporting 99 hits and 58 shares so far.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:20pm.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Patti Manna.