

June 5, 2020

DHS Launches Community Integration Plan

(Des Moines, Iowa) - The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) is pleased to announce the launch of our [Community Integration Plan](#). This multi-year plan is the result of re-evaluating existing strategies and identifying new ones to ensure individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities have access to the least restrictive setting to support high quality of life.

The plan will initially focus on persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are currently served by a State Resource Center (SRC) or who could seek admission to an SRC. The plan calls for building out community supports and our plan includes robust dialog with guardians and loved ones. This will be a collaborative process with a person-centered approach.

“We are thrilled to be in the beginning stages of our Community Integration Plan, and eager to begin the hard work it will take to do this right. We’ve put together a thoughtful plan and look forward to collaborating with community providers, stakeholders and our Iowa Medicaid managed care partners. We are grateful for their commitment to this initiative,” said Director Kelly Garcia. “We believe with the right supports that anyone can be served in the community. We also understand that there will always be a need for resource centers and all decisions will be made by the families and loved ones of those we serve.”

Throughout implementation DHS will rely on a comprehensive, multi-channel communications strategy which will provide updates to parents, community, staff, providers, the Governor’s Office, legislators, media and our regulatory and oversight partners.

More information about the Community Integration Plan is available [here](#).

####

For more information
Matt Highland
mhighla@dhs.state.ia.us
515-281-4848