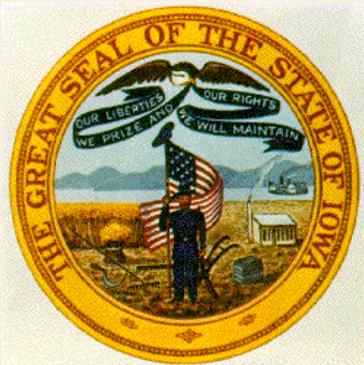


# Transforming Iowa's Mental Health and Disability Services Systems: a Community Discussion



September 2009

**Iowa Needs a Plan:  
A Roadmap To Transformation  
Through Values -Driven  
Practice**

Iowa Department of Human Services  
Division of Mental Health & Disability Services

# Why a Plan?

**For a clear and consistent understanding:**

- **Regarding the need for transformation**
- **The desired outcomes**
- **The variety of roles in transformation, and corresponding performance expectations**
- **To allow us to measure progress and**
- **Keep us focused in difficult times**



# Why Do We All Need to Work Together?

- **Education—50 percent of children with severe emotional disturbances drop out of high school.**
- **Employment—approx. 52% of Iowans with disabilities are unemployed.**
- **Corrections—34% of Iowa DOC inmates have a mental illness.**
- **Veterans--Many of our veterans are returning home with physical and mental disabilities, including brain injuries.**

# If We Follow the Same Map We All Arrive Together!

- **Housing - 20 to 25 percent of individuals who are homeless have serious mental illnesses, and there is an acute shortage of accessible, affordable housing.**
- **Institutionalization – MH & SA commitments increased in last 5 years, 10% for adults and 138% for children and youth.**
- **Iowa is 2<sup>nd</sup> highest state in nation for out of home placement of all children.**
- **Iowa is 2nd in nation for use of large institutional facilities (ICF/MR and RCF over 16 beds)**
- **Over 200 individuals with disabilities are served out-of-state.**

# **A Clear Plan:**

**Reflects and promotes a common set of:**

- **Iowa values**
- **Strategies**
- **Outcome measures**

## **A Clear Plan Will:**

- **Increase efficiency.**
- **Facilitate integration of fragmented and disparate initiatives.**
- **Provide consistent outcome measures.**
- **Lead to evidence-based decision making.**
- **Set the framework for continuous quality improvement.**

## Previous “Redesign” Efforts in Iowa

- **Legislative Human Services Restructuring Task Force (1997)**
- **MH Planning Council: Quick Fixes or Structural Reform (1998)**
- **CPC Restructuring Task Force (1999)**
- **Olmstead Plan for Community Development (2001)**
- **Creating a System of MH Services for Children in Iowa (2001)**
- **MHDD Adult MH System Redesign (2002-4)**
- **MHDD Child System Redesign (2004-6)**
- **MDHS Mental Health Systems Transformation (2007)**

# **A Roadmap to Values-Driven Transformation: Next Steps**

**A series of community discussions focused  
on...**

- 1. Transformation principles and past workgroup recommendations.**
- 2. Existing services and systems; needs assessment & initial thoughts on what a transformed mental health and disability services system should look like in Iowa.**
- 3. Identifying goals and actions needed to start the transformation within available resources.**
- 4. The draft plan.**

# MHDS Communications Plan

- **Community discussion meetings**
  - In person
  - ICN
- **DHS Web site – new web page**
  - Post comments and ideas
  - Post meeting notices
  - Share documents
- **Email and phone**

# Transformation Through Values-Driven Practice

## Principles Guiding the Transformation

# Principles Guiding the Transformation

- 1. Public awareness and support for inclusion ... foster welcoming communities that recognize and respect the potential of all Iowans, and are receptive to their participation in and contributions to society...ensure that the public is well informed about mental health and disability, and ready to take responsibility for prevention and early intervention.**
- 2. Access to Services and supports ... promote policies and practices that facilitate timely access to appropriate services and supports.**

# Principles Guiding the Transformation

3. **Empowerment...emphasize the ability of people (1) to make informed choices about their personal goals, about the activities that will make their lives meaningful, and about the amounts and types of services to be received; and (2) to understand the consequences and accept responsibility for those choices.**

# Principles Guiding the Transformation

4. Collaboration and partnership in building community capacity...align State and local policies and programs to support the legislative vision of resiliency and recovery for lowans with mental illness, and the ability of lowans with disabilities to live, learn, work, and recreate in communities of their choice.
5. Quality... improve quality by measuring results and fund services that achieve results.

# Principles Guiding the Transformation

6. Individualized and Person-centered... provide a comprehensive, integrated and consistent array of supports and services that are individualized and flexible.
  
7. Consumer and Family Driven... persons and their families are active participants in developing policies and in evaluating effectiveness of providers, supports and services.

# Principles Guiding the Transformation

8. Provider accountability... insure high quality mental health and disability supports and services by focusing on client goals and outcomes.
  
9. Government responsibility and accountability... adequately fund and manage supports and services that promote the ability of lowans to live, learn, work and recreate in communities of their choice.

# **We are Asking and Listening**

**Iowans have been telling us what a transformed Mental Health and Disabilities Service System should look like:**



**What Iowa Consumers and Families are  
telling us:  
What the system looks like now:**

- **I get out once a month to go to the doctor. I want more of a life than that.**
- **The current system makes people fit into programs. We need individualized services.**
- **The greatest need is for affordable transportation. Rural Iowa is hurting badly.**
- **I live in low income housing. The rent is high even though the quality is low. I'm in a wheelchair. I can't go anywhere.**

# What Consumers and Families are Telling Us

## In Iowa's Transformed System ...

- There is no fear of improving; then losing my services and needing them again.
- People get help before they lose everything.
- People are able to work and not lose needed services.
- The public is educated about mental illness and disabilities and there is no stigma.

# **What Consumers and Families are Telling Us**

## **In Iowa's Transformed System ...**

- **People see me as having a purpose in life, intelligent enough to work, capable of responsibility.**
- **Locating and accessing services is easy.**
- **Resources available are out in the open.**
- **The way out of the system is always visible.**

# In a Transformed Services System...

(Your statement here)

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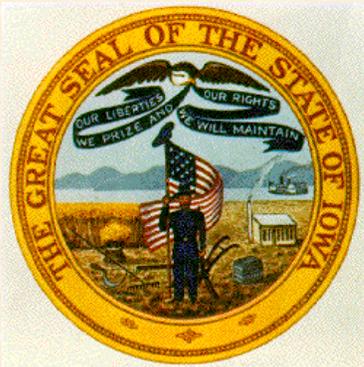
**We want to hear from you!**



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## Thank you!

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