

Mental Health System and Services

1. We support the bipartisan effort to redesign the mental health system with the focus on the needs of individuals, families, and communities who seek assistance, not bureaucrats who are protecting turf.
2. We support the appropriation of \$25 million to the risk pool to eliminate MH waiting lists.
3. We advocate all disability services* along with primary care to be located within the same area of state government
 - utilizing the public health model
 - for holistic treatment
 - providing a continuum of care
 - a single system for funding and services to eliminate duplication and inefficiencies
4. We advocate for the redesigned disability health system to be
 - managed regionally
 - oversight and standards at the state level
 - with a robust core set of community based services
 - with adequate funding

**Including mental health, intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities, brain injury and substance abuse because of the prevalence of co-occurring conditions.*

TREATMENT WORKS. Individuals with severe mental illnesses can and should be treated - just as we treat individuals suffering from other medical issues. VIOLENCE IS LINKED TO UNTREATED SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS. Individuals with severe mental illnesses are no more violent than the general population – so long as they are being treated. STATES LAWS NEED TO PERMIT INTERVENTION BEFORE DANGEROUS BEHAVIOR OCCURS.

Project IOWA – Iowa Opportunities

for Workforce Advancement *An AMOS Workforce & Economic Development Initiative*

The Plan

- Increase access to career track living wage jobs over 3 years for 180 chronically under-employed and unemployed Iowans through public-private skills training and community-based support/mentoring.
- Seeking start up funding of \$350,000
- Initiate Project IOWA training in August 2011
- 3-Year Funding of \$1.4 million to train and place 180 Iowans
- Utilize existing training resources & agencies in Iowa.

We urge all Iowa legislators to support Project IOWA as an innovative economic development strategy that “upskills” workers for 21st century Iowa jobs and increases the incomes of central Iowans.

- **Support Iowa Workforce Development funding of Project IOWA.**
- **Work with AMOS to find additional resources to fund three year pilot initiative of Project IOWA**

Fundamentals of Project IOWA

1. Job commitment from Iowa employer for each position BEFORE training begins for all candidates
2. All trainees sponsored by AMOS congregations, community institutions to ensure their success
3. Training provided in cooperation with existing agencies by Des Moines Area Community College or other recognized local training resources.
4. Counselor/tutor assigned to each trainee with access to known community mentors (pastors, parents, coaches, etc) to assure timely and complete participation by trainees.
5. Accelerated remediation education provided as needed to all candidates.
6. Weekly evening class of trainees to share, learn, inspire and re-commit to success of each other held by trained counseling staff of Project IOWA. VIP Class – Vision, Initiative & Perseverance

Background for MH recommendations

The first time the Surgeon General addressed mental health was in 1999 – barely 10 years ago.

In his 1999 report, the Surgeon General said:

“Our society no longer can afford to view mental health as separate and unequal to general health. It is a misperception that mental health or mental illness is unrelated to physical health or physical illness. In fact, the two are inseparable.”

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Draft Description of a Modern Addictions and Mental Health Service System

- ... Integration of primary care and behavioral health is essential.
- ... The vision for a good and modern mental health and addiction system is grounded in a public health model.
- ... The integration of primary care, mental health and addiction services must be an integral part of the vision.
- ... Providing integrated primary care and behavioral health services will allow for cost effective management of co-morbid conditions.
- ... Coordination, communication, and linkage with primary care can no longer be optional given the prevalence of co-morbid health, mental health and substance use disorders.

The Shortage of Public Hospital Beds for Mentally Ill Persons - A Report of the Treatment Advocacy Center

Excerpt: The states with the fewest beds were Nevada (5.1) per 100,000), **Arizona (5.9)**, Arkansas (6.7), **Iowa (8.1)**, Vermont (8.9), and Michigan (9.9)
http://www.treatmentadvocacycenter.org/storage/tac/document/the_shortage_of_public_hospital_beds.pdf

March 2006 IDPH Mental Health Workforce report

excerpt: The Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) data ranks Iowa **47th** among states in psychiatrists per 100,000 population and **46th** for psychologists.
http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hpcdp/common/pdf/workforce/mentalhealth_0306.pdf

For community based services array -See State of Georgia settlement with Dept. of Justice
<http://www.namiqa.org/DOJ/index.htm>

AMOS Member Institutions

Ames United Church of Christ
Bethel AME Church
Bethesda Lutheran Church, Ames
Calvary Baptist Church
Central Presbyterian Church
Collegiate United Methodist, Ames
Des Moines Zen Center
First Christian Church, Ames
First Christian Church, Des Moines
First United Methodist
Friends Meeting Ames
Grace United Methodist Church
Living Truth Church
National Alliance on Mental Illness, DSM
Our Lady of the Americas Catholic Church
Plymouth Congregational UCC Church
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
St. Cecilia Catholic Church, Ames
St Johns Lutheran Church
St Theresa Catholic Church
St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
Temple B'nai Jeshurun
Trinity/Las Americas United Methodist
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Ames
Urbandale United Church of Christ
Walnut Hills United Methodist
Waukee Christian Church

AMOS & Project IOWA
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AMOS – Creating a Community Where All Can Succeed

A Mid Iowa Organizing Strategy

FY 2011 Legislative Priorities

**Quality Mental Health Care for All
&
Project IOWA – 21st Century
Workforce Training & Economic
Development Strategy**

