

Budget Unit Brief

FY 2017



Community Capacity

Purpose and History

The [Iowa Department of Public Health](#) (IDPH) Community Capacity appropriation provides funding intended to strengthen the public health system at the local level. This is achieved through programs run by the IDPH and programs run by third-party entities through sole source contracts, awards, and requests for proposal. The following programs and initiatives are currently being funded in whole or in part through this appropriation:

- [Primary Care Recruitment and Retention Endeavor](#) (PRIMECARRE) Program: Established in Iowa Code section [135.107](#), the program transfers funds to the [College Student Aid Commission](#) for deposit in the Rural Iowa Primary Care Loan Repayment Program and Trust Fund to implement a Program to repay education loans of primary care clinical services located in rural, federally designated health care professional shortage areas. State funds are used for a 1:1 match for the Federal Loan Repayment Grant. Loan repayment awards are made to an average of eight health professionals a year who commit to serve in shortage areas for two years. Funds are also transferred for the [Iowa Primary Care Trust Fund](#).
- [Fulfilling Iowa's Need for Dentists \(FIND\) Loan Repayment Project](#): The Iowa FIND Project fills a niche that the PRIMECARRE Program cannot, due to federal criteria. The FIND Project award recipients agree to practice in a designated dentist shortage area and devote at least 35.0% of their practice to Medicaid-eligible, elderly, disabled, and other underserved patients over a three-year period. The FIND project is a collaborative effort with Delta Dental of Iowa, the Iowa Area Development Group, the IDPH, and the University of Iowa College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics.
- Psychology Postdoctoral Internship Program: The Psychology Internship Program is separate from the PRIMECARRE Program and fills a niche for Iowa that PRIMECARRE cannot due to federal criteria. The Program is not a loan repayment program, but increases access through creating new opportunities for doctoral level psychologists to complete a required rotation in Iowa as opposed to leaving the state. The Program targets health professional shortage areas and rural areas. The IDPH contracts with the [Iowa Psychological Association](#) (IPA) to develop psychologist postdoctoral training programs in rural and underserved areas.
- [Bureau of Oral and Health Delivery System](#): Created in Iowa Code section [135.15](#), the Bureau of Oral Health strives to achieve open access to oral health care and optimal oral health care for all Iowans.
- [Bureau of Local Public Health Services](#): Promotes and supports development of public health infrastructure at the local and state level. This includes consultation by Regional Community Health Consultants with local boards of health and provision of technical assistance regarding the role and responsibilities of local boards. General Funds for the local public health liaison are used for maintenance of effort match for the [Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant](#) from the U.S. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). County Boards of Health also receive funds to support core public health functions, including home health care and public health nursing services, through the Healthy Aging appropriation.
- [Iowa KidSight!](#): A child vision screening program that is a joint project of the University of Iowa Children's Hospital, the Lions Clubs of Iowa, and Early Childhood Iowa areas. The goal of the Program is to enhance the early detection and treatment of vision impairments in young children (target population, six months of age through kindergarten) in Iowa communities through screening and public education.
- [Prevent Blindness Iowa](#): The Program seeks to increase statewide vision screening programs to children through volunteers and nurses, specifically targeted at children in child care centers and schools. The Program includes training, certification, and all necessary vision screening materials.
- Mental Health Workforce Initiatives: This group of programs includes several recruitment and training projects targeting mental health workforce, including the UI Mental Health Training Program, the Cherokee Mental Health Training Program, and a Psychologist Intern Program.

More Information

Iowa Department of Public Health: <http://www.idph.iowa.gov>

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

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- [Public Health Modernization](#): A transfer of funds for the work and administration of the Public Health Modernization Act in Iowa Code chapter [135A](#). Of the funds available, at least 70.0% must be for local boards of health, and up to 30.0% may be used by the IDPH.
- [E-Health](#) also known as the Iowa Health Information Network (IHIN): Provides partial funding for staffing support for the operation of the IHIN. The rest of the operational costs of the IHIN are derived from fees. Pursuant to 2015 Iowa Acts, chapter [73](#) (IHIN Transition Act), the IDPH is currently seeking to transition the governance and administration to a nonprofit entity.
- [Volunteer Health Care Provider Program](#): Established in Iowa Code section [135.24](#), the Program goal is to increase volunteerism by competent health care professionals by offering employer tort claim protection to eligible volunteer health care providers and eligible clinics providing free health care services in Iowa.
- Iowa Donor Registry: Funding to the [Iowa Donor Network](#) to administer the Iowa Donor Registry in Iowa Code chapter [142C](#).
- [Iowa Primary Care Association](#): Funding to implement Iowa Code section [135.153](#). Funding includes statewide coordination, the Pharmaceutical Infrastructure Program, free clinics, Sexual Assault Response Team member training, and specialty health care initiatives. There have been a number of previous pilots and initiatives also previously funded.
- [Direct Care Workers Initiative](#): There are multiple funding allocations and entities involved in the Direct Care Workers initiative. There is an allocation for the [Advisory Council](#) established pursuant to 2008 Iowa Acts, chapter [1188](#) (Health Care Reform and Funding Act). The Council is administered through a contract with the [State Public Policy Group \(SPPG\)](#), and is responsible for promoting the [Prepare to Care \(P2C\)](#) curriculum. The P2C curriculum is a comprehensive, cross-discipline training package that prepares people to work in a variety of direct care settings. The curriculum includes a Core training course that provides basic foundational knowledge, an introduction to the profession, and five advanced training courses. Advanced certificates as a Community Living Professional, Personal Support Professional, or Health Support Professional are achieved by taking a written examination at any Iowa community college after completion of required courses. The [University of Iowa College of Nursing](#) is responsible for updating, maintaining, and disseminating the curriculum and instructor training. Funding is also provided for supporting the promotion and education on direct care workforce issues. The [Upper Midwest Center for Public Health Preparedness](#) receives funds to manage the Learning Management System training site for the online Core curriculum. After a recent RFP, the [Iowa CareGivers](#) was selected as an independent statewide organization to conduct outreach and stakeholder engagement, collect data about the direct care workforce in Iowa, and identify emerging trends including supply and demand and shortage areas or work settings.
- Medical Residency Training Program: Pursuant to Iowa Code section [135.176](#), the Program seeks to establish, expand, or support medical residency training programs with priority given to Family Practice or Psychiatric residency programs.
- A new initiative to improve outcomes for mental health treatment in primary care settings operated by the UIHC.

Funding — State General Fund

The Community Capacity General Fund budget unit appropriation is included in the Health and Human Services Appropriations Act. Community Capacity received a General Fund appropriation of \$8.8 million in FY 2016 and \$7.3 million in estimated FY 2017. Prior to FY 2011, appropriations to the IDPH Community Capacity Programs were also provided from the Healthy Iowans Tobacco Trust Fund and the Health Care Trust Fund.

Funding — Other Sources of Revenue

Depending on the Program, there are additional federal funds, other funds, and fees that play a part in the operation of these programs. Generally, if these are programs operated by the IDPH, the funds are tracked separately in the IDPH Gifts & Grants Fund.

Related Code and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [135](#), 135 Division XXI, and [142C](#).
Iowa Code sections [135.15](#), [135.24](#), [135.107](#), [135.153](#), and [135.176](#).
[641](#) Iowa Administrative Code, [50](#), [80](#), [88](#), [108](#), [110](#), and [206](#).

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