

# IOWA DD Council

Preparation, Participation, Power

## Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council 2019 Legislative Priorities

*Ensure that all children and adults in Iowa with developmental disabilities have access to high quality services and supports that promote a life in the community.*

**Priority #1: Establish a stable, long-term funding stream for the Regional MHDS system that supports the vision of the MH/DS redesign and growth of a system that expands access to services for Iowans with developmental disabilities and brain injuries.**

Ensure that savings to the MHDS regions from the Iowa Health and Wellness plan are used to support the delivery of all core services, the development of additional core services and expansion of services other populations such as those with developmental disabilities and brain injuries. Additionally, the requirement that regional fund balances must be eliminated should be repealed

Ensure that provider reimbursement rates from all payers are set at a level that preserves the stability of services, builds community capacity and enables safety net providers to offer an array of services necessary to meet the complex needs of all who are served by the MHDS system.

Ensure that transportation related to the delivery of services is included as a core service and a reimbursable expense.

**Priority #2: Adequately fund and administer a state Medicaid program that ensures access to an array of services for Iowans with developmental disabilities.**

Ensure that there is no cost shifting or provision of services from the IA Health Link to the MH/DS regions.

Ensure that there is adequate funding to reduce waiting list numbers and waiting times for the HCBS program.

[Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council | iddcouncil.idaction.org](http://iddcouncil.idaction.org)

700 Second Avenue, Suite 101 | Des Moines, IA 50309 | 515-288-0463 |  
800-452-1936 | Fax: 515-564-4117

# IOWA DD Council

## Preparation, Participation, Power

Ensure that there are continued efforts to provide IA Health Link members with a choice of Managed Care Organizations.

Ensure that costs for transportation, including non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT), continue as benefits under the state's Medicaid program.

**Priority #3: Implement development of a statewide Children's Mental Health system that continues the recommendations from the Children's System State Board Strategic Plan submitted to the General Assembly on November 15, 2018.**

**Priority #4: Expand the availability, knowledge, skills and compensation of professionals, paraprofessionals and direct support workers to build community capacity and ensure access to a comprehensive system of mental health and disability services.**

Ensure that provider reimbursement rates are adequate to allow providers to offer wages, employment benefits and ongoing training that attract and retain qualified staff.

Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council | [iddcouncil.idaction.org](http://iddcouncil.idaction.org)

700 Second Avenue, Suite 101 | Des Moines, IA 50309 | 515-288-0463 |  
800-452-1936 | Fax: 515-564-4117