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### Keep the Brain Injury Awareness Month Momentum Going!

Sharing your story matters. Your brain injury journey as a brain injury survivor, caregiver or professional serving your community helps to spread awareness about brain injury. Join us in keeping the momentum by promoting brain injury awareness all year long. Share your story on social media and tag Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa and include the #BrainInjuryAwareness2025. Prefer to email your story and have it considered by BIAIA to post on social media or a future newsletter or other platforms email us at [info@biaia.org](mailto:info@biaia.org) ?



We are participating in Johnson County Great Give Day - a day of raising dollars and awareness for the important work of Johnson County nonprofit organizations.

Visit the [Johnson County Great Give Day website](#) to participate!

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### Iowa Presents Behavioral Health Statewide Service System Plan

DES MOINES, IA – The State of Iowa has released its [Behavioral Health Statewide Service System Plan](#)—an ambitious, forward-looking roadmap aimed at transforming access to behavioral health services across the state. This dynamic and innovative document reflects Iowa's deep commitment to ensuring every Iowan can access the behavioral health care they need, when they need it.

For more information, visit <https://hhs.iowa.gov/initiatives/system-alignment/behavioral-health-service-system>.

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### HOME Project Timeline Update

Many Iowans face challenges when trying to access behavioral health care, disability services, and aging support. With valuable input from Medicaid members and providers, Iowa HHS is working to improve these processes—making services easier to get to and use.

A new timeline was developed to show where we are in the Community-Based Services improvement process—and when you can expect to see meaningful results. [View the timeline here.](#)

For a more detailed look at what the HOME project looks like, visit [Hope and Opportunity in Many Environments \(HOME\) | Health & Human Services](#).

## Hands Free Driving Bill (SF 22) Signed by the Governor

The Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa (BIAIA) supported the Hands Free Driving Bill in an effort to reduce brain injury as a result of distracted driving. [Read an article from The Gazette](#) and learn more about the signing, remarks from the Governor, and interviews with survivor families.

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## Apply for Youth Leadership Academy 2025

The 2025 Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) program is now accepting applications! YLA is a great way to connect with peers with disabilities and learn leadership skills. Spend two hours per day for five days this summer and gain skills for a lifetime! All sessions are virtual and FREE.

Training Dates: Monday, July 28 - Friday, August 1 from 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Application Deadline: June 16

For more details and to apply, go to [www.iowaddcouncil.org/yla](http://www.iowaddcouncil.org/yla).

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## New Virtual Aging & Disability Town Halls

The original link to sign up for the Aging & Disability Services Provider Town Hall was not working correctly. We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused. To ensure you have the correct information moving forward, please use the updated links below to register:

**Provider Town Hall Sign-Up Form:**

<https://forms.office.com/g/fLR89LiG3b>

**Member Town Hall Sign-Up Form:**

<https://forms.office.com/g/kqFc2e2NvH>

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## Office of Recovery Services Annual Community Feedback Survey

The [Office of Recovery Services Annual Community Feedback Survey](#) is a great way for individuals living with mental health conditions and/or addictive disorders as well as their loved ones to share their experiences accessing services in Iowa's behavioral health system. The information collected from this survey is used to elevate concerns and promote solutions for a more impactful and person-centered behavioral health system. The survey only takes 5-10 minutes to complete, and all answers are de-identified to protect anonymity. All feedback is very much appreciated.

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## Webinars

FREE CEU opportunities available for these webinars!

Visit our [webinar page](#) to learn more and register.

**Brain Injury Alliance IOWA**

## Family Bike Safety

Nicky Stansell  
Program Manager, Injury Prevention and Community Outreach  
Iowa Health Care, Stead Family Children's Hospital

Webinar  
May 20, 2025  
12:00-1:00 PM CST

www.biaia.org  
info@biaia.org  
1-855-444-6443




**Brain Injury Alliance IOWA**

## EXPANDING YOUR REACH:

Tools and Benefits of the Iowa Brain Injury Resource Network (IBIRN)

Courtney Sand, MS, LBA, BCBA, CBIST  
Training and Education Coordinator  
Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa

Webinar  
May 28, 2025  
12:00-1:00 PM CST

www.biaia.org  
info@biaia.org  
1-855-444-6443




**Brain Injury Alliance IOWA**

## ESSENTIAL AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION (AAC):

A Training to Assist You in Communicating with Individuals with Limited Speech

Krista Davidson, MS, CCC-SLP  
Speech and Language Pathologist  
Clinical Professor, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Iowa  
Inventor, RescueVoice

Wednesday, June 18, 2025  
12:00-1:00 PM CST

www.biaia.org  
info@biaia.org  
1-855-444-6443




**Brain Injury Alliance IOWA**

## Aphasia Essentials and the Speech and Language Pathologist's Role

Missey Heinrichs, MS, CCC-SLP,  
Program Director – Empower House

Claire Motto Steil, MNA, MS, CCC-SLP, CBIS,  
Executive Director – Empower House

WEBINAR  
June 26, 2025  
12:00-1:00 PM CST

www.biaia.org  
info@biaia.org  
1-855-444-6443




**BIAIA Website Feedback Survey**



The Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa is working to improve our website to better serve survivors, caregivers, and professionals. Your feedback will help us make sure the resources you need are easy to find, accessible, and meaningful. Please take a few minutes to complete our [website feedback survey](#) and let us know what's working - and what could be better. Thank you!



### Educational Topics Survey

What topics related to brain injury would you like to see in upcoming webinars hosted by the Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa? Your feedback is valued and appreciated!

[Participate in the survey.](#)

### Call for Webinar Proposals

The Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa is looking for presenters to deliver webinars on topics related to brain injury treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and support. Presentations can target professionals or survivors and their loved ones.

[Submit proposal](#)



Brain Injury Resource Facilitation



Brain Injury Resource Facilitators are available to serve lowans; to answer questions and connect those with a brain injury to resources and information. [Learn more about this program](#). BIAIA is one call away.

[BIAIA Satisfaction Survey](#)



**Our mission at the Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa is to create a better future through brain injury prevention, advocacy, education, research and support. Join us on our platforms to obtain the latest and most relevant information pertaining to brain injury.**