

Important Update for Iowa Medicaid Partners & Providers

Iowa Medicaid has announced an upcoming transition for the Core Standardized Assessment (CSA) contract. Effective July 1, 2026, CareStar, Inc. will assume responsibility for CSA operations, succeeding Telligen, Inc.

To ensure a smooth transition, Iowa HHS, Telligen, and CareStar are working together to maintain continuity and minimize disruption for members, providers, case managers, and partners.

Key Dates to Know:

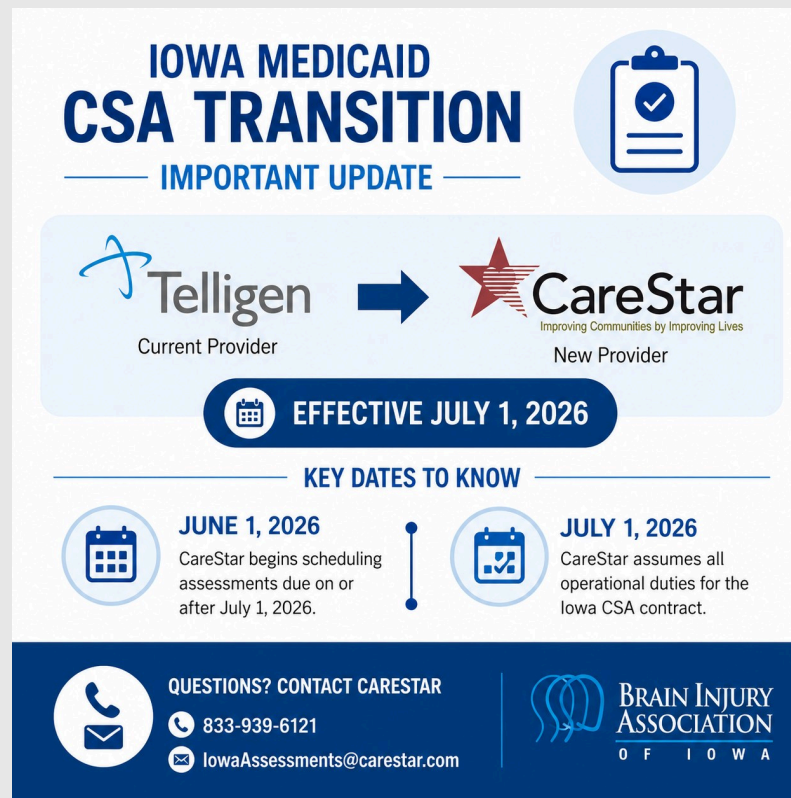
- June 1, 2026 – CareStar begins scheduling assessments for dates on/after July 1
- July 1, 2026 – CareStar officially takes over CSA operations

CareStar Contact Information:


Phone: 833-939-6121



Email: IowaAssessments@carestar.com


BIAIA encourages our community partners to stay informed and share this update with your teams. We're here to support you through changes that impact individuals with brain injury and the providers who serve them.




**IOWA MEDICAID
CSA TRANSITION**
— IMPORTANT UPDATE —







 **Telligen** →  **CareStar**
Current Provider New Provider
Improving Communities by Improving Lives


 **EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026**

KEY DATES TO KNOW

 **JUNE 1, 2026**
CareStar begins scheduling assessments due on or after July 1, 2026.

 **JULY 1, 2026**
CareStar assumes all operational duties for the Iowa CSA contract.

 **QUESTIONS? CONTACT CARESTAR**
 833-939-6121
 IowaAssessments@carestar.com

 **BRAIN INJURY
ASSOCIATION**
O F I O W A



On May 21, the House Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously passed the Traumatic Brain Injury Reauthorization Act by a vote of 43-0. Many Members spoke about the importance of this legislation and the legacy of Congressman Bill Pascrell.

"Millions of our fellow citizens are impacted by brain injury... brain injury does not discriminate. This gap in authorization has been unacceptable, and I'm looking forward to closing it... This bill is also a tribute to former Rep. Bill Pascrell's honor." Congressman Pallone (D-NJ)

"The bill will continue important resources to states and other entities to ensure there are better rehabilitation and community supports." Congressman Griffith (R-VA)

"I am proud this bill is passing through Committee with bipartisan support today. This bill builds on Rep. Pascrell's vital advocacy and will help the nation better recognize brain injury as a chronic condition." Congressman Menendez (D-NJ)

NASHIA, in partnership with the Brain Injury Association of America, has been working with both the House and the Senate to move forward with the legislation and is grateful to the Committee and the legislative champions for taking this important step. The Senate had recent action on the legislation as well and we are working to coordinate with both chambers to ultimately have a final bill sent to the President's desk.



Work. Well. Iowa.

Work. Well. Iowa. is a statewide initiative from Iowa ACEs 360 advancing supportive workplace policies that reflect how people actually live and work. Policies like paid leave, health insurance, child care support, etc. make a real difference for Iowans' well being.

They would love to hear a short story from your own experience. Every Iowan carries responsibilities—health needs, caregiving, community commitments, personal wellbeing—and policies make it easier or harder to navigate them. Stories help us see patterns. They show what is working, where gaps exist, and how supportive policies strengthen real lives.

If you have a moment, share:

- What policy made a difference—positive or negative?
- What changed for you?
- What changed for your team or workplace?
- What ripple effects did you notice?

Share your story today!

BIAA's Caregiver Support Survey

The Brain Injury Association of America is gathering feedback to better understand how caregivers can be more supported and involved during inpatient rehabilitation. From therapy sessions to care team meetings and discharge planning, your voice can help shape a more accessible and responsive system of care.

They are hoping to learn:

- What would help you attend or be more involved in these visits?
- What gets in the way?
- What are better ways to help get you information and answers, when you need advice or have questions?

Your feedback will help improve support for caregivers and families. Thank you for everything you do!

Take the Survey

Brain Injury Research

ILLINOIS TECH

HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED A BRAIN INJURY?

HELP IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE
RESEARCH BY TAKING A SHORT 15-20
MINUTE SURVEY

What is the study about?

We are studying how social support and emotional experiences relate to quality of life after brain injury.

Your responses may help improve support services and outcomes for individuals living with a brain injury.

Your Privacy Matters

Your responses are completely anonymous. No identifying information will be linked to your survey. You may stop at any time.

Questions? Contact:

Kristen Swain, Ph.D.

WHAT DOES PARTICIPATION INVOLVE?

A **15-20 minute** anonymous online survey covering:

- Demographics
- Your brain injury history
- Quality of life and daily functioning
- Emotion regulation
- Social Support

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

- 18+ years old and your own guardian
- Have a medically diagnosed TBI
- Are 6+ months post-injury
- Able to complete an online survey independently

COMPENSATION

Enter a drawing for one of five \$25 gift cards!

Entry optional; contact information is stored separately from responses

Scan to take the survey!



Webinars

FREE CEU opportunities available for our Webinars!
Visit BIAIA's [webinar page](#) to learn more and register.



RESILIENCE IN ACTION: TURNING SETBACKS INTO COMEBACKS

DANIELLE PARISE, BRAIN INJURY SURVIVOR

WEBINAR
June 5, 2026
12:00-1:00 PM CST



- Open to adults with TBI
- Optional entry into a gift card raffle

Support Groups

For questions, contact: tbiqol_study@outlook.com



Our support groups are where individuals can connect, share experiences, and find encouragement. Together, we provide understanding, resources, and community to help one another navigate challenges and celebrate successes. Visit our [Support Group page](#) for more information.

What topics related to brain injury would you like to see in upcoming webinars hosted by the Brain Injury Association of Iowa? Your feedback is valued and appreciated! [Participate in the survey.](#)

[Call for Webinar Proposals](#)

The Brain Injury Association 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 Iowans, to answer questions and connect those with a brain injury to resources and information.

[Learn more about this program.](#) BIAIA is one call away.



Our mission at the Brain Injury Association 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.