



Iowa Department of Human Services

Kim Reynolds
Governor

Adam Gregg
Lt. Governor

Jerry R. Foxhoven
Director

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Children's Board Issues Strategic Plan with Recommendations to Create a Children's Behavioral Health System

(Des Moines, Iowa) – The State of Iowa has reached a milestone in creating a Children's Behavioral Health System (Children's System). The Department of Human Services (DHS) is proud to announce that the Children's System State Board (Children's Board), has issued their strategic plan with recommendations on establishing a statewide children's behavioral health system. This system will be committed to improving children's well-being, building healthy and resilient children, providing for educational growth, and coordinating medical and mental health care for those in need, as directed by Governor Reynolds.

"While there is still much work ahead, this is an important day for the families and loved ones of children who've experienced mental illness. I have made children's mental health a priority and am proud we are tackling this critical issue. I will be closely reviewing the strategic plan and working with DHS and the stakeholders of this work group to identify the important next steps. I am grateful to everyone involved in this effort for their hard work and commitment," said Governor Kim Reynolds.

"It's clear we had the right group of people to take on this important issue. This group of stakeholders included family members, advocates, mental health and substance use disorder professionals, educators, the judiciary, law enforcement, key administrators, and legislators. I am proud of the work they did and am confident we are on a path that will lead to real results." said Director Jerry Foxhoven.

The Children's System State Board Strategic Plan can be found [here](#).

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