

How to Join the COUNCIL

Individuals who are interested in becoming an active voice for brain injury are invited to apply for appointment to this council.

Members of the council include individuals who have personal experience and knowledge about brain injuries:

- Professionals working in the field of brain injury
- Representatives of state government with a relationship to brain injury
- Individuals appointed to the council by the governor each July (applications are due by May, but accepted on a rolling basis)

If you are interested in joining, please visit <http://openup.iowa.gov>.

For More Information:

For more information about the IDPH Brain Injury Program and the Governor's Advisory Council on Brain Injuries, visit <http://idph.iowa.gov/brain-injuries>.

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If you are interested in joining, please visit <http://openup.iowa.gov>.

Iowa Department of Public Health Advisory Council on Brain Injuries

idph.iowa.gov/brain-injuries

Serving Iowans
after brain injury

Through:

OUTREACH

EDUCATION

TRAINING

RESOURCE FACILITATION

SURVEILLANCE

PREVENTION



Brain Injury DEFINED:

A brain injury occurs when there is an event that results in damage to the brain anytime during a person's life after birth. Brain injuries are not degenerative, meaning they do not get worse over time. Brain injury may cause changes in a person's thinking, language skills, learning, emotions and behavior. It can also increase risk for epilepsy, Parkinson's disease and other brain disorders.

Brain injuries are often referred to as being either "acquired" or "traumatic."

Acquired Brain Injury (ABI):

Caused by stroke, toxic exposure or poisoning, lack of oxygen or traumatic injury. All brain injuries can be classified as "acquired."

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI):

Caused by an external force to the head such as a bump, blow, jolt, penetration or blast. Concussions are a type of TBI.

What does the Advisory Council on Brain Injuries DO?

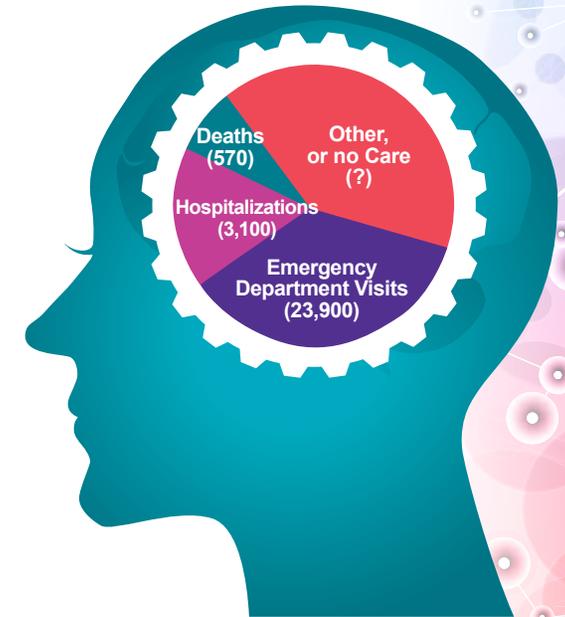
Created in 1989 by the Iowa Legislature, the council meets quarterly to discuss policy issues, provide guidance to the brain injury services program, and receive updates from state agencies and stakeholders.

Activities of the council have included:

- ➔ Statewide distribution of bicycle helmets
- ➔ Falls prevention awareness and education
- ➔ Development of the State Plan for Brain Injuries
- ➔ Creation of brain injury resource materials
- ➔ Studying the needs of individuals with brain injury and their families
- ➔ Making policy and procedure recommendations to various state agency programs serving people with brain injuries

Members of the public may attend meetings of the Brain Injury Council and serve on its task forces. Meetings are typically held in July, October, January and April on the third Friday of the month in Des Moines. Special meetings to work on specific projects are scheduled as needed. Meeting details are posted at <http://idph.iowa.gov/brain-injuries/advisory-council-on-brain-injuries/meeting-information>.

Impact of Traumatic Brain Injury in IOWA



Estimated average annual number of TBI-related Emergency Department visits, hospitalizations and deaths in Iowa, 2011-2015. Source: IDPH.

TBI in Iowa:

Nearly 2% of people in Iowa are living with longterm disabilities caused by brain injury (CDC, 2008). Leading causes of TBI in Iowa are:

