

## January 2014 Report to ACBI

### Iowa Department of Public Health, Office of Disability, Injury & Violence Prevention

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Department Director Dr Mariannette Miller-Meeks has resigned as department director to pursue other opportunities. Gerd Clabaugh, who is the Deputy Directory, will be stepping in as Interim Director until the Governor appoints a replacement.

#### Governor's FY15 Budget Recommendations:

Brain Injury Services Program (1.0 FTE)	891,644
ACBI	23,647

The TBI Community of Practice group is focusing on developing a "Care Plan" for children with brain injuries that can be used to help children transition from the hospital back into the community. This was identified as a need for parents and service providers to assure they know the resources and supports available to help them transition.

Improving the Health of People with Disabilities grant has finalized their public health needs assessment. An executive summary and full report will be posted to the program webpage at [http://www.idph.state.ia.us/bh/disability\\_surveillance.asp](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/bh/disability_surveillance.asp). This report includes some good local data on health conditions among people with disabilities compared to those without.

Prevention of Disabilities Policy Council held a Disability Summit in early December. Around 140 people attended to discuss ideas for policy change that would improve access to health care, improve services and reduce injuries. There was strong participation by members of the brain injury community! The final report, including recommendations for policy change, will be posted in early February and will be placed on the Council webpage – [www.pdpciowa.org](http://www.pdpciowa.org).

Community Transformation Grant program has a newsletter of activities their funded counties are involved in. The newsletters can be found on their main webpage, <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/CTG/>. One of their goal areas is "Safe and Healthy Environments", and they have focused on improving walkability and accessibility of sidewalks and trails. IDPH has also partnered with them to increase the involvement of people with disabilities in their health promotion activities.

Injury & Violence Prevention staff Binnie LeHew participates on several committees related to injury prevention. These are the Fall Prevention Coalition, the Trauma System Advisory Council and the Community Transformation Grant Leadership Team. This past few months, the groups have been communicating about policy initiatives supported by the various groups. For more information about these, go to these web links:

- Fall Prevention Coalition: <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/FallPrevention/>
- Trauma System Advisory Council: [http://www.idph.state.ia.us/ems/adv\\_council.asp](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/ems/adv_council.asp)
- Community Transformation Grant Advisory Committee  
<http://www.idph.state.ia.us/CTG/About.aspx>