

# UCEDD Involvement in Rebalancing Medicaid Long Term Care Expenditures—Iowa's Story

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# What Does It Take...

...to live, learn, work and  
recreate in the community of  
one's choice?

# For Starters...

- ▶ A place to live. Affordable and accessible community housing; overcoming a state's reliance on institutional settings
  - ▶ Real jobs. Integrated jobs in the general workforce at prevailing wages; overcoming reliance on center-based programs.
  - ▶ And much more...
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Rebalancing a system to make life in the community more possible requires:

- A unifying vision
  - A readiness to partner
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# *Olmstead* Shapes the Vision...

*Olmstead v. L.C.*: It is discrimination under the ADA if a state administers its service system in such a way that individuals do not have a real choice to live in the community.

# ...and a UCEDD Can Help Build Strategic Partnerships

The Iowa UCEDD's partnerships have been essential for our rebalancing work.

*Iowans with disabilities...family members...  
Department of Human Services...Department of Public Health...Department on Aging...Department of Education...Iowa Finance Authority...Department of Transportation...Iowa Workforce Development...Iowa Civil Rights Commission...Developmental Disabilities Council...Department for the Blind...Iowa Secretary of State...Statewide Independent Living Council...and so many more...*

# *Olmstead* Implementation in Iowa

- ▶ Executive Order 27 (2003): mirrors the federal New Freedom Initiative
- ▶ Olmstead Consumer Taskforce: (2003 and on-going) Includes liaisons to 19 state agencies. Staffed by UCEDD
- ▶ 2009/10: Inter-agency collaboration in updating Iowa's Olmstead Plan
  - DHS Mental Health & Disability Services Division contracts with UCEDD to assist in writing the Plan

# Iowa's Olmstead Plan: An Organizing Framework

- ▶ Identifies goals and strategic priorities
- ▶ Explicitly aligns numerous existing initiatives with the goals
- ▶ Proposes new action steps where there are gaps--*and identifies needed program development opportunities where UCEDD could assist in leveraging resources to finance system improvements*
- ▶ [www.IowaMHDSPlan.org](http://www.IowaMHDSPlan.org)

# DHS and Stakeholders Own the Plan

- ▶ Many meaningful opportunities for stakeholder input (self-advocates, families, providers, policy makers)
  - ▶ Active participation of most state agencies
  - ▶ A backdrop of aggressive compliance efforts by the Obama administration put wind in the sails of change
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# Iowa UCEDD's Role in Leveraging Funding for Systems Change

First steps –

- ▶ 2001: UCEDD assists DHS in its application for Medicaid Infrastructure Grant funding
- ▶ UCEDD coordination of 2001 Real Choices grant begins to establish policy linkages
- ▶ 2003: Robert Wood Johnson “Cash and Counseling” grant introduces Iowa to self direction in its HCBS Waivers (rollout in 2006)

# Getting Our Feet Wet with Some Nontraditional Partnerships

Examples from Iowa's 2005 Systems Change grant (which the UCEDD wrote and helped to coordinate):

- ▶ UCEDD encouraged alignment of Department on Aging's virtual ADRC with disability Information & Referral and 211.
  - ▶ Iowa Medicaid Enterprise contracted with the Iowa Department of Transportation to help design a NEMT transportation brokerage system.
  - ▶ The Iowa Finance Authority received funds to develop a web-based Housing Registry.
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# Two Rebalancing Initiatives

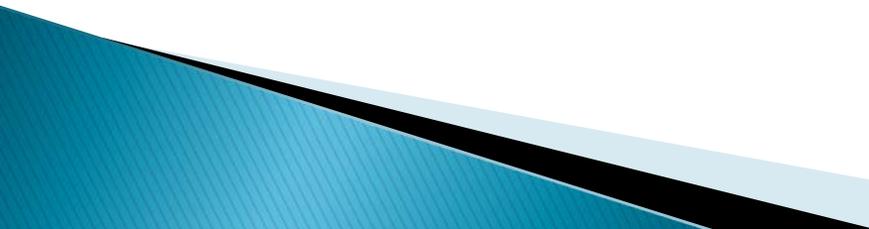
Collaborating with partners to implement *Olmstead*—and ensure the success of important federally funded initiatives:

- ▶ Addressing Iowa's over-reliance on institutional settings
  - ▶ Addressing Iowa's over-reliance on center-based employment programs
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# Reducing Over-Reliance on Institutions: MFP in Iowa

- ▶ Money Follows the Person helps individuals with ID move from ICFs/MR to the community
  - ~230 individuals have transitioned to date
- ▶ MFP “Partners Group” – state agency reps and other stakeholders
- ▶ MFP – an on-going needs assessment of what Iowa must do to build community capacity:
  - Workforce training (direct support staff)
  - Mental health/behavioral support services
  - Integrated employment opportunities

# Reducing Reliance on Center-based Employment Programs

- ▶ Community employment is an Olmstead Strategic Priority
  - ▶ On-going employment initiatives and their funding streams are pulled together into the Olmstead framework
  - ▶ Many agency partners including
    - Department of Education
    - Vocational Rehabilitation Services
    - Iowa Workforce Development
    - Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council
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# Iowa's Medicaid Infrastructure Grant Partnerships

- ▶ Supporting benefits planning (WIPA) in collaboration with Iowa Workforce Development
- ▶ Supporting the State Employment Leadership Network (SELN) as it addresses systemic barriers:
  - ❖ Revise rate structures to incent supported employment
  - ❖ Develop state data system that measures desired outcomes of employment services
  - ❖ Develop needed training and technical assistance infrastructure

# Iowa's Systems Transformation Snowball Just Got Bigger

- ▶ Spring 2012: Passage of Senate File 2315—  
Mental Health and Disability Services  
Redesign based on Olmstead principles
  - ▶ UCEDD co-chairs two legislatively mandated  
workgroups
  - ▶ Redesign requires functional assessment,  
conflict-free case management, single-point  
of entry/no wrong door
  - ▶ UCEDD drafts Balancing Incentive Payment  
Program application for DHS
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# Takeaway Messages

Having an “effectively working” Olmstead Plan has made it easier for Iowa to recognize and create needed state partnerships essential for rebalancing

AND

A UCEDD can help a state leverage resources to finance needed systems changes (that also become program development opportunities for the UCEDD)

*FINAL NOTE: Iowa UCEDD has worked with four different DHS directors over past 10 years (Democratic and Republican)*