

ACTION ALERT

MARCH 17, 2014

SUPPORT IOWA BRAIN INJURY SERVICES

Please help us educate and influence key Iowa Legislators **THIS WEEK**. Key appropriations decisions are now being made at the Statehouse. Contact one or more (or all) of the legislators listed below and ask them to ensure funding to eliminate Iowa's Medicaid Brain Injury Waiver Waiting List.

SUMMARY:

- There are more than 900 individuals on the brain injury waiver waiting list at present.
- This waiver program provides a range of community based services essential for individuals with brain injury to stay **OUT** of nursing homes, jails, prisons, and homeless shelters and to **LIVE** in their own homes and communities.
- The waiting time for a "slot" is now more than two years.
- It is simply medically, legally, and morally wrong to wait so long for services.
- What is needed is \$8 million dollars to reduce and eliminate this waiting list.

WHAT TO DO:

Please call or email the key Appropriation and Legislative leaders listed below and share:

"Hi, my name is (your name) and I am calling from (your hometown) to ask for your support for Iowans with brain injury. More than 900 Iowans are on a waiting list for Medicaid Home and Community Based Services for individuals with brain injury. This is double the number waiting from this time last year. These individuals now have to wait more than two years for a services. Please fix this by allocating \$8 million dollars for the Iowa Medicaid Brain Injury Waiver Waiting List. Thank you."

CONTACT ONE OR MORE OF THESE 8 LEGISLATORS:

Contact Rep. Chuck Soderberg at:

chuck.soderberg@legis.iowa.gov

or call him at: (515)281-3221 (Statehouse) or (712)546-6136 (home)

Contact Rep. Linda Upmeyer at:

linda.upmeyer@legis.iowa.gov

or call her at: 641-923-3398

Contact Rep. David Heaton at:

dave.heaton@legis.iowa.gov

or call him at: (515)281-3221 (Statehouse), or (319)385-9342 (home)

Contact Rep. Kraig Paulsen at:

kraig.paulsen@legis.iowa.gov

or call him at: (515)281-3521 (Statehouse)

Contact Sen. Michael Gronstal at:

mike.gronstal@legis.iowa.gov

or call him at: (515)281-4610 (Statehouse), or (712)328-2808 (home)

Contact Sen. Robert Dvorsky at

robert.dvorsky@legis.iowa.gov

or call him at: (319)351-0988 (home)

Contact Sen. Jack Hatch at jack.hatch@legis.iowa.gov

or call him at: (515)243-4675

Contact Sen. Pam Jochum at pam.jochum@legis.iowa.gov

or call him at: (563)580-2980 (Cell)

Thank you for your efforts to create a better future for Iowans with brain injury and their families.

Geoffrey Lauer

Executive Director

Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa