

## Report to the Board of Directors for Arc of Iowa

I met with Liz Mathis who is the ranking member of the Senate Human services committee. She was helpful in pointing us in the right direction. She is interested in the "Social determinant of health" and the importance of LTSS under the HCBS waivers. We talked about Billing Codes being expanded in NC to include supports needed for home and community based services and supports being provided by Families/Kinship care, Foster Care, Direct Care and the need for the expansion of CMH services. She has asked that we work with Di Finley with Iowa Caregivers Network and the Iowa Medical Society. She mentioned two grant makers areas we should examine-Future Ready Iowa and the need to examine Iowa's healthcare workforce issues. She spoke of the Land and Legacy concerns, Primarily :Home Rule, Infrastructure and Property Tax Relief. The new director of the Department of Human Service joined the Department, November 1<sup>st</sup>. She is from Kansas, her name is Kelly Collins Garcia.

One of the Long term goals should be the expansion of Direct Care under LTSS. I mentioned my plans was to meet with Mike Randall and with the new director.

Mike Wood, Dave Heaton and I met with the two MCO's-Iowa Total Care and Amerigroup Iowa. Both were very appreciative of our concerns and want to be able to reach out to us if we hear of concerns.

Stacie Maass is Vice President of Legislative and Government Affairs for Iowa Total and Bryan Sanders is Vice President of Long Term Care and Product Development. They were very encourage by our willingness to reach out and develop good relationships.

Kyle Carlson, Government Relations Director at Amerigroup, Blaine Beatty who serves as the ombudsman Liaison, and John McCalley who is the program director who mother and father were very involved in the Black Hawk County Arc. Again very supportive of our effort to expand the Arc's in policy for all Iowans with ID/DD issues. Delaine, Mike and Julie met to identify four action items we wish to address this next session: Outreach, Identify players, Advocacy and Direct Care needs.