

Disability Pride Month

Disability Pride Month is celebrated each year in July. Disability Pride initially started as a day of celebration in 1990—the year that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law.

The Underrecognized Relationship

5.3 million people nationwide live with long-term disability as a result of traumatic brain injury

72% Percentage of individuals in dual treatment for **substance abuse and severe mental illness** reported a history of **at least one TBI**

50% of individuals receiving treatment may have experienced a brain injury

20% Approximate percentage of individuals that begin using substances **after an initial brain injury**



Drug overdose causes an individual to receive a lack of oxygen to the brain, which is referred to as a hypoxic brain injury

“Substance abuse is a risk factor for having a traumatic brain injury and traumatic brain injury is a risk factor for developing a substance abuse problem.” -John Corrigan

"Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a common but often undiagnosed co-occurring condition with substance use disorders. Depending on the setting you work in, one-quarter to one-half of the people you serve will report a history of brain injury with some loss of consciousness. Those who do report a history of brain injury will also have longer and more severe histories of substance use and more cooccurring behavioral health issues. For this reason, as many as 75% of the people seeking services for concurrent mental health and substance use disorders are living with the effects of brain injury. In most settings, the bottom line is that at least one out of five people presenting for treatment of a substance use disorder is also living with the effects of brain injury. " Read more on [SAMHSA issue of Traumatic Brain Injury and Substance Use Disorders: Making the Connections](#).

Click [HERE](#) for more Resources on Brain Injury and Substance Abuse.

Opioid Update from Iowa HHS Public Health

The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services offers the Opioid Update to share information about opioid use and Iowa's efforts to address the national opioid epidemic. Please feel free to submit topics at any time to the State Opioid Response team email: SOR@idph.iowa.gov.

In this issue:

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Click [HERE](#) to read more.



Hello! My name is Chelsea, I am the facilitator of the South-Central Area Support Group!

Learning to navigate life with a brain injury and/or as a support to a survivor is hard enough, add living in a rural community and the challenges seem to quickly multiply! Join the South-Central Area Support Group located in Knoxville, IA.

Participating in a support group can lead to increased socialization and social opportunities, identification of a community who understands where you have been as well as where you are going, and improving skills to cope with challenges.

Over the years I have witnessed the connections between survivors and caregivers built through attendance of a support group. Many of us have experienced the decrease of natural supports after a brain injury and the support group is a great place to start making those connections again!

In the South-Central Area Support Group, we plan to meet monthly from 6pm-7:30pm at the **Knoxville Public Library, 213 E Montgomery St, Knoxville, IA 50138**. Each meeting will consist of an educational component alongside the opportunity to speak openly and honestly in a secure setting about the triumphs and hurdles experienced in this journey.

Contact information:

Facebook Page: [South-Central Area Support Group](#)

Email: cadams@biaia.org

Phone: 515-400-6293

Download our **Support Group Listing** [HERE](#).



Neuro Resource Facilitation is a fee-free service offered by the Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa to support people with brain injury, their family members, caregivers and community navigate life after brain injury. To reach a Neuro Resource Facilitator please contact **855-444-6443** or email info@biaia.org.

BIAIA Satisfaction Survey



Our mission at the Brain Injury Alliance of Iowa is to create a better future through brain injury prevention, advocacy, education, research and support. Join us on our platforms to obtain the latest and most relevant information pertaining to brain injury.