

# Disability Rights Iowa



## Protect and Advocate for Iowans with Mental Illness Join the Mental Health Advisory Council

### What does Disability Rights Iowa do?

Disability Rights Iowa is a non-profit law center that provides information and referral, education, legally-based advocacy and legal representation to Iowans with disabilities, including Iowans with significant mental illness. DRI primarily receives funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the US Department of Human Services for its advocacy work on behalf of Iowans with mental illnesses. For more information, go to [www.driowa.org](http://www.driowa.org).



*“Behavioral health is essential to overall health, prevention works, treatment is effective, and people can and do recover ... Recovery is a process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life and strive to reach their full potential”*

- from the website of the Substance Abuse  
Mental Health Services Administration  
(SAMSHA)

## What does the Mental Health Advisory Council do?

- Work with DRI's Board of Directors to develop policies and priorities
- Work with DRI staff to provide "Know Your Rights" trainings to Iowa's adults, youth and children with mental illness
- Build coalitions with other mental health organizations.
- Get feedback from Iowans with mental illness living in the community and facilities, such as the mental health institutes and residential treatment facilities
- Serve a term of 4 years

## Who can be a member of the Council?

- Individuals who are receiving or have received mental health services
- Family members of an individual who has received or is receiving mental health services
- Attorneys
- Mental Health Professionals
- Individuals who are knowledgeable about mental illness
- A provider of mental health services



## What are the benefits of the Mental Health Advisory Council?

You get to be part of a community service, increase your advocacy skills, and build a coalition that serves Iowans with mental illness. Additionally, expenses are paid for council members to attend council meetings and some local or national conferences about mental health.

## Apply for the Mental Health Advisory Council now!

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