

LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) assists qualifying low-income households in the payment of a portion of their winter heating costs and encourages energy conservation through client education and weatherization.

LIHEAP payments are weighted to award higher benefits to households with elderly, disabled, working poor, and/or children under six years of age. Additionally, benefits are weighted to account for a household's level of poverty. Households certified eligible for LIHEAP are also protected from disconnection of gas or electric service from November 1st until April 1st under Iowa's winter moratorium law.



Beyond regular LIHEAP payments, the program has two additional components: Assessment and Resolution, and the Emergency Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP). Assessment and Resolution activities include energy conservation

education, family needs assessments, household energy use assessments and planning, budget counseling, vendor negotiations, and low-cost energy efficiency measures. ECIP provides immediate assistance to households to alleviate life-threatening situations. ECIP payments are made for repair or replacement of a furnace or heating system, obtaining temporary shelter, emergency fuel deliveries, purchasing or

repairing air conditioning equipment when medically necessary, purchasing blankets and/or heaters, purchasing fans, and transporting clients to cooling centers during times of extreme heat.

LIHEAP is funded by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. In PY 2020, Iowa's LIHEAP funding was \$55.3 million.

Iowa's LIHEAP provided assistance to over 81,000 Iowa households. The statewide LIHEAP average benefit was \$460.

For more information about Iowa's Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, please visit our website.



FAMILY DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY (FaDSS)

Iowa's Family Development and Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS) grant program was created during the 1988 Iowa General Assembly. FaDSS is a supportive service to assist Family Investment Program (FIP) families with significant or multiple barriers reach self-sufficiency.

FaDSS provides services that promote, empower, and nurture families towards economic and emotional self-sufficiency. The foundation of FaDSS is regular home visits with families using a strength-based approach.

Core services include support, assessments, and goal setting. Support is given in many ways such as referrals, group activities, linking families to communities, and advocacy. Assessments help the family to identify strengths that they possess that may be used to eliminate their barriers to self-sufficiency. Goal setting helps families break down goals that seem out of reach into small steps that will lead to success.



Families that participate in FaDSS receive in-home services that support: increased employment, increased income, decreased FIP payments, achievement of educational goals, increased access to services and treatment for identified domestic violence, and increased access to services and treatment for identified mental health concerns and substance abuse.



The FaDSS Council serves as an advisory body and awards grants for the FaDSS program. The FaDSS Council consists of fourteen members. Two members are from each chamber of the general assembly serving as ex-officio members.

During PY 2020, FaDSS was funded through an appropriation of \$6,192,834 in TANF and State of Iowa general funds. In addition, other supports of \$1,522,607 were provided to supplement FaDSS services.

In PY 2020, FaDSS served 2,268 families. A total of 931 families completed the program during the reporting period, including 1,775 children.

FaDSS families earned total wages of \$5,500,240 resulting in a FIP savings of \$758,022.

For more information about Iowa's Family Development and Self-Sufficiency program, please visit our website.



WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



The Weatherization Assistance Program is the nation's largest residential energy efficiency program. The program reduces the burden of energy costs to low-income and fixed-income persons, particularly the elderly, disabled, and families with children, by improving the energy efficiency of their homes and ensuring their health and safety.

Professionally trained technicians in the program use a computerized energy audit to determine the most

appropriate and cost-effective energy-saving measures that should be applied to a home. Typical measures include sealing air leaks, installing insulation in attics, walls, and crawlspaces, tuning and upgrading heating systems, and installing low-cost energy conservation measures.

The program also conducts a health and safety check on every home weatherized. This consists of inspecting all combustion appliances for carbon monoxide and for the proper venting of gases. Unsafe furnaces are repaired or replaced. Homes are also inspected for other possible health and safety problems such as mold and unsafe electrical wiring. Carbon monoxide detectors and smoke detectors are installed in all homes.



In PY 2020, Iowa's Weatherization Assistance Program received \$6.1 million from the U. S. Department of Energy, \$7.4 million from Iowa's Low-Income Home

Energy Assistance Program, and \$3.2 million from the investor-owned utility companies.

In PY 2020, 609 Iowa homes were weatherized. Homes weatherized save an average of \$228 in first-year fuel bill costs.

For more information about Iowa's Weatherization Assistance Program, please visit our website.



COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG) is funded by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. In PY 2020, Iowa's CSBG funding was \$7.9 million.

The purpose of Iowa's CSBG is to provide financial assistance to Iowa's 16 community action agencies for the reduction of poverty, the revitalization of low-income communities, and the empowerment of low-income families and individuals in rural and urban areas to become self-sufficient.

Iowa community action agencies use their CSBG funds to support activities that are designed to assist low-income families and individuals to:

- Remove obstacles and solve problems that block the achievement of self-sufficiency
- Secure and retain meaningful employment
- Attain an adequate education
- Make better use of available income
- Obtain and maintain adequate housing and a suitable living environment
- Obtain emergency assistance to meet immediate and urgent family and individual needs
- Achieve greater participation in the affairs of the communities
- Address the needs of youth in low-income communities
- Make more effective use of, and to coordinate with, other programs with a similar purpose

In PY 2020, Iowa's community action agencies assisted over 120,000 families and 291,000 individuals. The agencies administered approximately \$229 million in federal, state, local, and private funding.

For more information about Iowa's Community Services Block Grant Program, please visit our website.

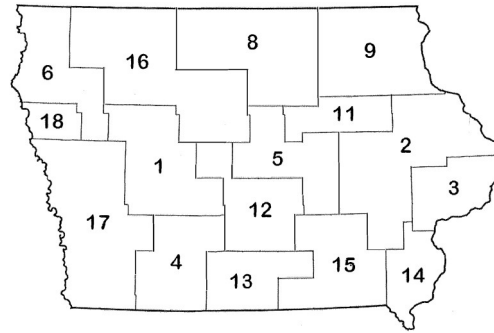


COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES

The Commission on Community Action Agencies was created by legislative action and is composed of nine members who are appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Iowa Senate.

The purpose of the Commission is to review the progress of programs of the Division of Community Action Agencies.

PHONE: (515) 281-3861 WEBSITE: <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/dcaa>



COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES IN IOWA

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. New Opportunities, Inc. | (712) 792-9266 |
| Counties served: Audubon, Calhoun, Carroll, Dallas, Greene, Guthrie, Sac | |
| 2. Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc. | (319) 393-7811 |
| Counties served: Benton, Delaware, Dubuque, Iowa, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Linn, Washington | |
| 3. Community Action of Eastern Iowa | (563) 324-3236 |
| Counties served: Cedar, Clinton, Muscatine, Scott | |
| 4. MATURA Action Corporation | (641) 782-8431 |
| Counties served: Adair, Adams, Madison, Ringgold, Taylor, Union | |
| 5. Mid-Iowa Community Action, Inc. | (641) 752-7162 |
| Counties served: Hardin, Marshall, Poweshiek, Story, and Tama | |
| 6. Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc. | (712) 786-2001 |
| Counties served: Cherokee, Ida, Lyon, Plymouth, Sioux | |
| 8. North Iowa Community Action Organization | (641) 423-8993 |
| Counties served: Butler, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Kossuth, Mitchell, Winnebago, Worth | |
| 9. Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation | (563) 382-8436 |
| Counties served: Allamakee, Bremer, Chickasaw, Clayton, Fayette, Howard, Winneshiek | |
| 11. Operation Threshold | (319) 291-2065 |
| Counties served: Black Hawk, Buchanan, Grundy | |
| 12. IMPACT Community Action Partnership | (515) 274-1334 |
| Counties served: Boone, Jasper, Marion, Polk, Warren | |
| 13. South Central Iowa Community Action Program, Inc. | (641) 774-8133 |
| Counties served: Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, Monroe, and Wayne | |
| 14. Community Action of Southeast Iowa | (319) 753-0193 |
| Counties served: Des Moines, Henry, Lee, Louisa | |
| 15. Sieda Community Action | (641) 682-8741 |
| Counties served: Appanoose, Davis, Jefferson, Keokuk, Mahaska, Van Buren, Wapello | |
| 16. Upper Des Moines Opportunity, Inc. | (712) 859-3885 |
| Counties served: Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Hamilton, Humboldt, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Pocahontas, Webster, Wright | |
| 17. West Central Community Action | (712) 755-5135 |
| Counties served: Cass, Crawford, Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, Shelby | |
| 18. Community Action of Siouxland | (712) 274-1610 |
| County served: Woodbury | |

COMMUNITY ACTION IN IOWA

Iowa Department of Human Rights Division of Community Action Agencies 2020 Annual Report Summary



DIVISION OF COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES

The Division of Community Action Agencies (DCAA) is located within the Iowa Department of Human Rights and is the focal point for community action agency activities within Iowa government.

The purpose of the DCAA is to strengthen, supplement, and coordinate efforts to develop the full potential of each citizen by recognizing certain community action agencies and supporting certain community-based programs delivered by community action agencies.

The DCAA administers four anti-poverty programs: Community Services Block Grant Program, Weatherization Assistance Program, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and the Family Development and Self-Sufficiency Program.

PHONE: (515) 281-3861 WEBSITE: <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/dcaa>