



# Community Action in Iowa



Iowa Division  
of Community Action Agencies

2007  
Annual Report



CHESTER J. CULVER  
GOVERNOR

PATTY JUDGE  
LT. GOVERNOR

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES  
WILLIAM J. BRAND, ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Iowans,

Community action in Iowa demonstrated in 2007 that no other network in our state more effectively and comprehensively addresses the needs of low-income families in Iowa. At a time when Iowans faced unprecedented challenges in the form of natural disasters, community action was a steady and compassionate hand that reached out to over 306,000 Iowans in need.

Community action agencies were on the front lines of response to these natural disasters, providing food, shelter, and emergency services to families devastated by record floods and tornadoes. Even as their own staff and facilities were overwhelmed by rising waters and storms, community action agencies and their staff remained committed to their mission of “helping people, changing lives.”

Community action across Iowa is a leader in providing vital services, including family development, energy efficiency, child health, housing, childcare, and education. In leveraging more than \$157 million in funding from public and private sources, and engaging more than 13,000 volunteers last year, the community action network is providing creative, local solutions to poverty in our state.

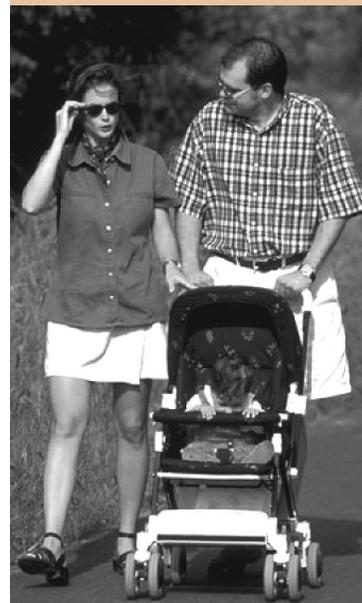
I invite you to learn more about the efforts of community action in Iowa, and the difference we are making for thousands of families in our state in this Annual Report.

Sincerely,

William Brand  
Administrator

## Table of Contents

Community Action .....	2
Division of Community Action Agencies (DCAA).....	3
Bureau of Community Services .....	3
Bureau of Weatherization .....	4
Bureau of Energy Assistance .....	5
Family Development and Self-Sufficiency Grant Program (FaDSS) .....	6-7
Community Action Agencies in Iowa .....	8-9
Community Action Agencies - 2007 Accomplishments .....	10-12
Community Action Agencies - Program Outcomes.....	13
Community Action Agencies - Services Provided .....	14-15
Community Action Agencies - Characteristics of Persons Served.....	16-17
Community Action Agencies - Funding Sources.....	18
Commission on Community Action Agencies and DCAA Staff.....	19



*“Because it is right, because it is wise, and because, for the first time in our history, it is possible to conquer poverty, I submit for the consideration of the Congress and the country, the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.”*

*– President Lyndon B. Johnson*

## Community Action

In 1964, Community Action was introduced with the enactment of the Economic Opportunity Act. The Act was the centerpiece of the “War on Poverty”, and was a major thrust of the “Great Society” legislative agenda of the Lyndon Johnson administration. The ambitious purpose of the Economic Opportunity Act was to mobilize the human and financial resources of the nation to combat the causes and consequences of poverty in the United States.

The Economic Opportunity Act developed and provided funding for a nationwide network of community action agencies. Community action agencies create, coordinate, and deliver an array of comprehensive programs and services to people living in poverty. These programs and services reduce conditions of poverty, revitalize communities, and enable low-income families and low-income individuals to secure opportunities needed for them to become self-sufficient. Today, there are more than 1,100 community action agencies throughout the United States.

Community action agencies are private nonprofit and public organizations. They are governed by a uniquely structured tripartite volunteer board of directors, comprised equally of elected public officials, private sector representatives, and low-income representatives. This structure is designed to promote the participation of the entire community in assessing local needs and attacking the causes and conditions of poverty.

In 2007 Iowa community action agencies assisted over 119,000 families and 306,000 individuals, leveraged over \$157 million, and received over \$14 million in government and business in-kind services and donated items. These agencies also partnered with 13,119 volunteers – contributing 359,842 hours of service and support to their local communities.

### *“The Promise of Community Action”*

*Community Action changes people’s lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.*



## Division of Community Action Agencies

The Division of Community Action Agencies is located within the Iowa Department of Human Rights and is the focal point for community action agency activities within Iowa government. The Division of Community Action Agencies exists to develop and expand the capacity at the community level to assist families and individuals to achieve economic and social self-sufficiency, and to ensure that the basic needs of Iowa's low-income population are met.

The Division is comprised of the Bureau of Community Services, the Bureau of Energy Assistance, and the Bureau of Weatherization.



## Bureau of Community Services

The Bureau of Community Services administers two anti-poverty programs: Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), and Family Development and Self-Sufficiency grant program (FaDSS).

The Community Services Block Grant is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. These federal funds are distributed to Iowa's 18 community action agencies, which create, coordinate, and deliver many programs and services to low-income Iowans. The CSBG program funds the central management and core activities of these agencies. The agencies use the funds to mobilize additional public and private resources to combat the central causes of poverty in their communities and to assist low-income individuals to achieve self-sufficiency and ensure their basic needs are met.

Iowa's community action agencies provide the following activities to help low-income Iowans:

- 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 the immediate and urgent family needs;
- Achieve greater participation in the affairs of communities; and
- Address the needs of youth in low-income communities.

In FY 2007, Iowa CSBG funding was over \$6.7 million. Iowa's community action agencies used their CSBG funding to serve over 119,000 families and 306,000 individuals. The agencies also received over \$157 million in federal, state, local, and private funding.

In partnership with the Iowa Department of Human Services, the Bureau administers the FaDSS Grant program. FaDSS provides services to Family Investment Program families facing multiple barriers to self-sufficiency. The FaDSS program provides comprehensive in-home services through certified Family Development Specialists. The FaDSS program is a nationally recognized model which has demonstrated that it pays off, both in social and economic terms, to invest in high quality intensive services by partnering with families at risk of long term welfare dependency.

**Additional information on the FaDSS program can be found on pages 6 and 7.**

The Bureau of Weatherization administers the federal grant program – Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). This 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. In 2007, 1,920 homes were weatherized, of which, 33% of the households served included at least one elderly person, 44% included at least one disabled person and 18% included young children (below age 6).

The Iowa Weatherization Program partners with Iowa’s Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). While the LIHEAP Program provides crisis relief by helping clients who have an immediate need for financial assistance with energy costs, the Weatherization Program provides clients with long-term financial relief by reducing the amount of energy their homes use. It addresses the core problem that low-income clients have with respect to their energy burden.

In addition to \$5 million in federal Department of Energy funds, the Bureau also received \$5.5 million from LIHEAP and \$4.8 million from investor-owned utility companies to supplement the federal funds. Low-income houses weatherized in 2006 saved an average of \$435 in first-year fuel bill costs.

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 the house. 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 certain situations.

Besides the benefits of reducing low-income households’ energy use and ameliorating many health and safety problems in the homes, the program also provides these additional benefits:

- Provides households with education in energy-saving practices
- Increases the comfort in the homes that are weatherized
- Reduces the nation’s dependence on foreign oil
- Reduces carbon emissions and other air pollutants
- Preserves housing stock for low-income households



# Bureau of Energy Assistance

The Bureau of Energy Assistance administers the federally funded Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). LIHEAP is designed to assist qualifying low-income households in the payment of a portion of their winter heating costs, and to encourage energy conservation through client education and weatherization. All households applying for LIHEAP are simultaneously making application for weatherization assistance. The program provided assistance to over 85,000 Iowa households in FY 2007.

LIHEAP payments are weighted to award higher benefits to targeted households. These households include the elderly, disabled, working poor and households with children under six years of age. Additionally, benefits are weighted to account for a household's level of poverty. Beyond regular assistance payments, LIHEAP has two additional components: Assessment and Resolution and Emergency Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP).

Activities covered under the Assessment and Resolution component include delivering client energy conservation education, referral to outside services, family needs assessment, budget counseling, vendor negotiation, household energy use assessment, household energy use planning, and low-cost energy efficiency measures.

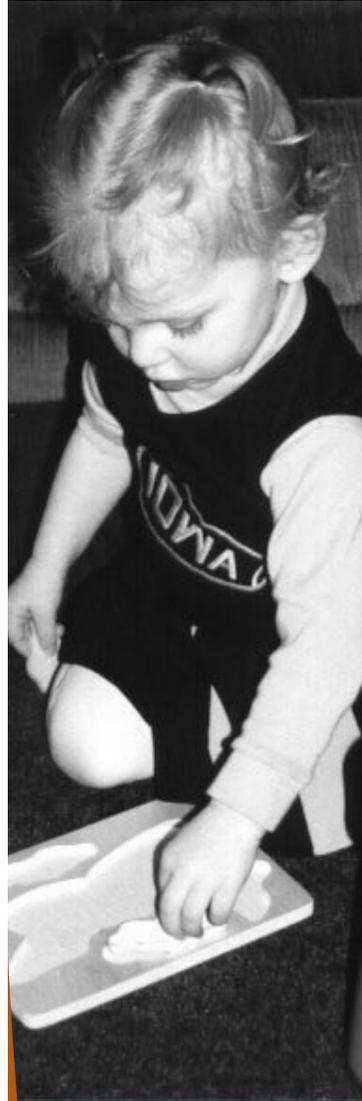
The ECIP component of LIHEAP provides immediate assistance to alleviate life-threatening situations. Assistance payments are made for repair or replacement of a furnace or heating system, obtaining temporary shelter, purchase of blankets and/or heaters, emergency fuel deliveries, purchasing or repairing air conditioning equipment when medically necessary, purchasing fans, and transporting clients to cooling centers during times of extreme heat. Households certified eligible for LIHEAP (those at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines) are protected from disconnection of gas or electric service from November 1st until April 1st under Iowa's winter moratorium law.



## 2007 LIHEAP Facts and Figures

- Iowa received \$36.5 million in federal funds
- The average statewide LIHEAP benefit was \$317
- 92% of households assisted by LIHEAP do NOT receive FIP assistance
- 60% of households assisted by LIHEAP are below 100% of federal poverty guidelines
- 47% of households assisted by LIHEAP has a disabled member
- 31% of households assisted by LIHEAP has an elderly household member
- 25% of households assisted by LIHEAP has a child under 6 years of age

# Family Development and Self-Sufficiency Grant Program (FaDSS)



FaDSS is a holistic, strength-based, in-home family program that focuses on preventive services, and facilitates long-term family change. FaDSS offers an array of comprehensive services and is the only provider that promotes both self-sufficiency and family stability to families receiving Family Investment Program (FIP) benefits.

The Family Development and Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS) Grant Program was created by the 1988 Iowa General Assembly. The Assembly also created the FaDSS Council within the Department of Human Services to study, fund, and evaluate programs that provide development services to families who are at risk of long-term welfare dependency. The Department of Human Services contracts with the Department of Human Rights, Division of Community Action Agencies to administer the FaDSS Grant Program.

During fiscal year 2007, FaDSS was funded through an appropriation of \$5,433,042 in TANF block grant funds. In addition to the TANF funds, local grantees provided \$1,092,164 in local and in-kind funds to supplement FaDSS.

FaDSS is provided in all of Iowa's 99 counties through a network of eighteen agencies (community action agencies, faith-based organizations, and other public and private non-profits) with Certified Family Development Specialists who are mandatory child abuse reporters.

FaDSS provides services to:

- The most fragile families
- Families with small children (3,745 families, with 7,300 children, of which approximately 60% were between the ages 0-5)
- Families of an ethnic minority group (35% of the families served were of an ethnic minority group)

FaDSS provides:

- Goal setting and goal attainment skills
- Parenting skill development
- Protection for children
- Families with links to informal and formal connections within their community
- Thorough assessment of strengths
- Budgeting skills
- Role modeling of healthy behaviors
- Self-advocacy skills
- Assistance to communities throughout Iowa to respond to low-income families facing multiple issues in a strength based manner

## *Mission:*

Improve the lives of families at risk of long-term welfare dependency or family instability by creating opportunities for self-sufficiency.

For more information on Iowa's FaDSS program, please contact the Division of Community Action Agencies, or visit the FaDSS website – [www.iowafadss.org](http://www.iowafadss.org)

## FaDSS PROGRAM RESULTS

### Protecting Children

(Source: FY 2007 FaDSS Activity Report and Snapshot)

- 1 out of 5 families have a child in the home that is a survivor of child abuse.
- FaDSS workers make child protection a top priority, which last year resulted in 339 children placed out of home.
- FaDSS services allowed 147 of these children to return to their families.
- In FY 2001, the Iowa Legislature designated FaDSS workers as mandatory child abuse reporters.

### Education Goals Achieved

(Source: FY 2007 FaDSS Activity Report)

103	GED/HS Diploma
182	Certification Program
85	Associate Degree
14	Bachelor Degree

### Mental Health Treatment

(Source: FY 2007 FaDSS Annual Report)

1,361 or 89% of individuals that had an individual with identified mental health issues received treatment while participating in FaDSS.

### A Sound Economic Investment

(Sources: Employment: DHS/Promise Jobs Results Report; Housing: 2007 FaDSS Activity Report)

**Employment** - For fiscal year 2007 the average hourly wage of head of households in FaDSS was \$7.57.

**Housing** - For fiscal year 2007, 1,301 families were able to access section 8 or another formal housing assistance program.

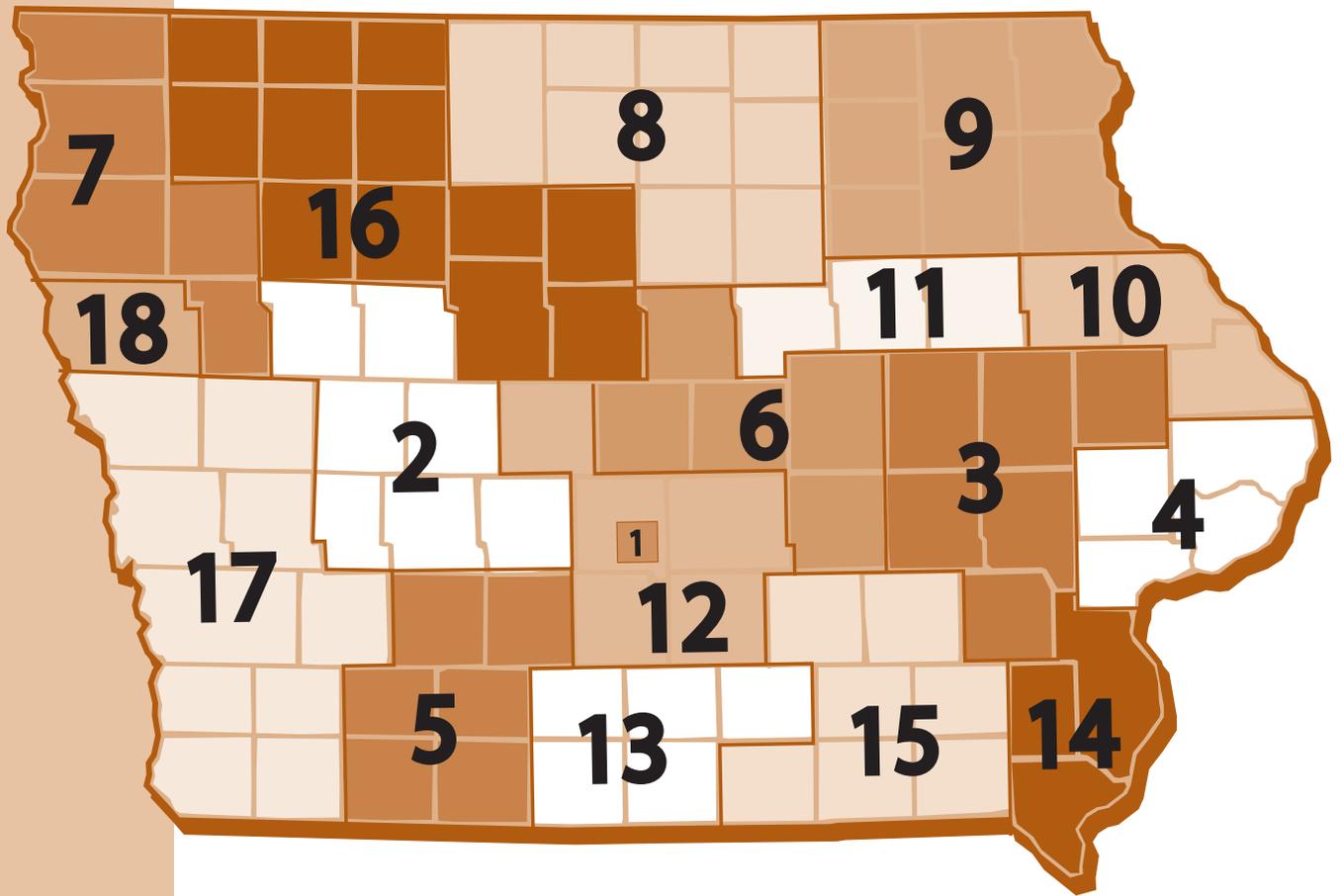
### Accountable Government

(Source: FY 2007 FaDSS Annual Report)

- Every dollar invested in FaDSS results in annual return of \$1.40 in wages earned and FIP savings.
- FaDSS families earned \$5,436,301 in wages.
- There was \$1,743,024 in FIP Savings.

### FaDSS Self-Sufficiency Rates

The FaDSS program has a transition component that allows for continued FaDSS services for up to 90 days after a family leaves welfare. Families are at their most vulnerable for cycling back on welfare during this time. 77% of families who received a transition component were off welfare a year later.



## *Geographic Areas Served*

1. City of Des Moines —Community Development Department
2. New Opportunites, Inc.
3. Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc.
4. Community Action of Eastern Iowa
5. MATURA Action Corporation
6. Mid-Iowa Community Action, Inc.
7. Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc.
8. North Iowa Community Action Organization
9. Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation
10. Operation: New View Community Action Agency
11. Operation Threshold
12. Red Rock Area Community Action Program, Inc.
13. South Central Iowa Community Action Program, Inc.
14. Community Action of Southeast Iowa
15. Southern Iowa Economic Development Association
16. Upper Des Moines Opportunity, Inc.
17. West Central Community Action
18. Community Action Agency of Siouxland

# 2007 Community Action Agencies

## **New Opportunities, Inc.**

23751 Hwy. 30 - PO Box 427  
Carroll, IA 51401  
(712) 792-9266  
Service Area (Counties): Audubon, Calhoun,  
Carroll, Dallas, Greene, Guthrie, and Sac  
Persons Served: 11,438 individuals (4,508 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$7,796,243  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$365,852

## **Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc.**

1515 Hawkeye Drive - PO Box 490  
Hiawatha, IA 52233  
(319) 393-7811  
Service Area (Counties): Benton, Iowa, Johnson,  
Jones, Linn, and Washington  
Persons Served: 39,444 individuals (14,239  
families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$18,201,392  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$4,301,953

## **Community Action of Eastern Iowa**

500 East 59th Street  
Davenport, IA 52807  
(563) 324-3236  
Service Area (Counties): Cedar, Clinton,  
Muscatine, and Scott  
Persons Served: 28,378 individuals (10,343  
families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$18,257,748  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$997,430

## **MATURA Action Corporation**

203 West Adams  
Creston, IA 50801  
(641) 782-8431  
Service Area (Counties): Adair, Adams, Madison,  
Ringgold, Taylor, and Union  
Persons Served: 9,514 individuals (3,554 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$4,364,489  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$707,932

## **Mid-Iowa Community Action, Inc.**

1001 S. 18th Avenue  
Marshalltown, IA 50158  
(641) 752-7162  
Service Area (Counties): Hardin, Marshall,  
Poweshiek, Story, and Tama  
Persons Served: 16,799 individuals (6,334 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$11,290,823  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$13,213

## **Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc.**

418 Marion Street - PO Box 390  
Remsen, IA 51050  
(712) 786-2001  
Service Area (Counties): Cherokee, Ida, Lyon,  
Plymouth, and Sioux  
Persons Served: 10,757 individuals (3,837 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$6,870,516  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$276,387

## **City of Des Moines/Community Development Department**

602 Robert D. Ray Drive  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
(515) 283-4182  
Service Area (City): Des Moines  
Persons Served: 21,396 individuals (8,751 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: 3,670,568  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$125,000

## **North Iowa Community Action Organization**

218 5th Street SW - PO Box 1627  
Mason City, IA 50402-1627  
(641) 423-8993  
Service Area (Counties): Butler, Cerro Gordo,  
Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Kossuth, Mitchell,  
Winnebago, and Worth  
Persons Served: 11,614 individuals (5,164 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$10,259,888  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$817,204

## **Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation**

305 Montgomery - PO Box 487  
Decorah, IA 52101  
(563) 382-8436  
Service Area (Counties): Allamakee, Bremer,  
Chickasaw, Clayton, Fayette, Howard, and  
Winneshiek  
Persons Served: 12,696 individuals (5,185 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$10,531,839  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$101,420

## **Operation: New View Community Action Agency**

1473 Central Avenue  
Dubuque, IA 52001  
(563) 556-5130  
Service Area (Counties): Delaware, Dubuque, and  
Jackson  
Persons Served: 14,061 individuals (5,767 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$4,922,584  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$225,218

## **Operation Threshold**

300 West Third Street  
Waterloo, IA 50701  
(319) 291-2065  
Service Area (Counties): Black Hawk, Buchanan,  
and Grundy  
Persons Served: 17,029 individuals (6,719 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$5,056,786  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$62,742

## **Red Rock Area Community Action Program, Inc.**

1009 S. Jefferson - Suite 2  
Indianola, IA 50125  
(515) 961-6271  
Service Area (Counties): Boone, Jasper, Marion,  
Polk, and Warren  
Persons Served: 17,752 individuals (7,209 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$3,469,406  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$101,760

## **South Central Iowa Community Action Program, Inc.**

1403 NW Church Street  
Leon, IA 50144  
(641) 446-4155  
Service Area (Counties): Clarke, Decatur, Lucas,  
Monroe, and Wayne  
Persons Served: 6,645 individuals (2,711 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$4,279,067  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$55,353

## **Community Action of Southeast Iowa**

2850 Mt. Pleasant Street - Suite 108  
Burlington, IA 52601  
(319) 753-0193  
Service Area (Counties): Des Moines, Henry, Lee,  
and Louisa  
Persons Served: 14,354 individuals (5,736 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$8,833,983  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$313,046

## **Southern Iowa Economic Development Association**

226 West Main Street - PO Box 658  
Ottumwa, IA 52501  
(641) 682-8741  
Service Area (Counties): Appanoose, Davis,  
Jefferson, Keokuk, Mahaska, Van Buren, and  
Wapello  
Persons Served: 15,434 individuals (6,325 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$9,062,230  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$1,123,719

## **Upper Des Moines Opportunity, Inc.**

101 Robins Avenue - PO Box 519  
Graettinger, IA 51342  
(712) 859-3885  
Service Area (Counties): Buena Vista, Clay,  
Dickinson, Emmet, Hamilton, Humboldt,  
O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Pocahontas,  
Webster, and Wright  
Persons Served: 22,017 individuals (8,931 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$10,960,084  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$837,934

## **West Central Community Action**

1108 8th Street - PO Box 709  
Harlan, IA 51537  
(712) 755-5135  
Service Area (Counties): Cass, Crawford, Fremont,  
Harrison, Mills, Monona, Montgomery,  
Page, Pottawattamie, and Shelby  
Persons Served: 21,799 individuals (8,679 families)  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$12,265,492  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$3,530,226

## **Community Action Agency of Siouxland**

2700 Leech  
Sioux City, IA 51106  
(712) 274-1610  
Service Area (County): Woodbury  
Persons Served: 15,100 individuals (5,345 fami  
FY 2007 Funding Received: \$7,874,078  
FY 2007 In-kind Contributions: \$495,218

*Community Action of Southeast Iowa* was active in the relocation process of low-income families when 171 housing units were torn down in Burlington. This event impacted over 400 people who had to find new affordable housing. The Executive Director was appointed to serve on the Burlington Housing Commission which implemented the relocation process.

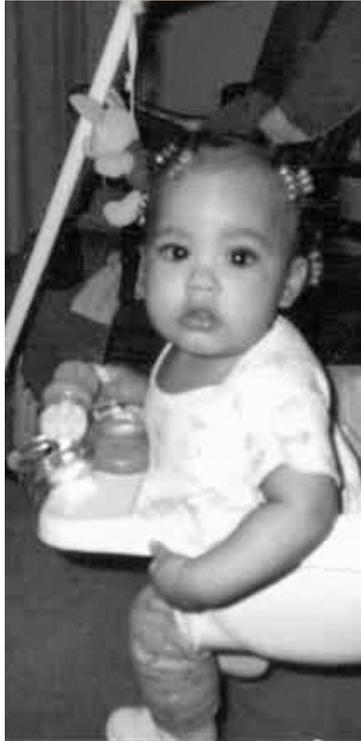
*North Iowa Community Action* is the acting administrative entity for the Office of Women's Health ASSIST 2010 Federal Women and Diabetes Grant. The three year grant award is for \$705,821. The funding will be used to implement a program to diagnose, manage, and prevent diabetes in women living in six north central Iowa counties (Butler, Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Palo Alto, Winnebago and Worth). The plan is to screen a minimum of 1,800 women each year and to enroll a minimum of 300 women who will be paired with a peer participant in a six-month program designed to provide a holistic approach to diabetes and weight management.

*Mid-Sioux Opportunity* received an I-Smile grant in the amount of \$45,000. The funding will be used to increase children's access to dental care. The agency also, using empowerment funds, provided Hispanic language and cultural training to over 50 medical staff. This training will help the staff in Ida county be better prepared to meet the needs of Spanish speaking persons.

*Red Rock Area Community Action Program*, in partnership with Iowans for Social and Economic Development, the IRS, and RSVP, continues to assist clients with its Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Promotion and Tax Filing Program. The agency's program provides free tax services to low-income clients, and promotes awareness to the EITC and the Child Tax Credit.

*Mid-Iowa Community Action* received funding from the Hardin County Empowerment Board for its Hardin County Preschool Transportation Project. Lack of transportation for low-income families has been identified as a barrier for access to quality preschool. The empowerment funding allows MICA to provide bus transportation for 30 Head Start families.

*Community Action Agency of Siouxland* received funding from the Siouxland Human Investment Partnership and the Sioux City Community Schools for four pre-school initiative classrooms. Enrolled children will receive comprehensive services, including education based on the nationally recognized HighScope curriculum.



## Community Action Agencies - 2007 Accomplishments

*Operation Threshold* had an increase in the number of clients requesting assistance with issues relating to fair lending and predatory lending (payday loans and car title loans). To address this need, the agency's Housing and Fair Lending Program expanded its services to focus on foreclosure prevention services and anti-predatory lending education. The program provided housing counseling and education to 242 clients in FY 2007.

*MATURA Action Corporation* worked extensively in the area of workforce development. As the Region 14 Workforce Grantee, MATURA served over 400 individuals impacted by four major plant closings in Red Oak, Bedford, Mt. Ayr, and Lorimor. MATURA also continued to develop significant coordination efforts with local school districts, day care providers, empowerment boards, and Head Start programs, to maximize services to local area pre-school children.

*Community Action of Eastern Iowa* successfully initiated a new tax preparation site at their administrative office. The agency is now providing tax preparation services at three of their five outreach sites with intentions of expanding this service to their other sites. The agency also received funding for housing rehabilitation that was used in conjunction with weatherization services when the conditions of the property prevented weatherization of the home.

*Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation* implemented the Routematch data system for their Transit Program. This system provides GPS tracking and data synchronization, dispatching and billing to the agency's fleet of over 45 vehicles serving a five county area.

*Southern Iowa Economic Development Association* (SIEDA) added a new parenting education program in FY 2007. The Parenting Education program consists of two modules, Parenting Wisely Young Children (3 – 9 years of age) and Parenting Wisely Adolescents (9 -17 years of age). SIEDA also secured funding from the Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Council for its Sexual Abuse Prevention program.

*West Central Community Action's* Head Start Program expanded their Wrap-Around Program from 11 centers to 13. The Head Start Program also received funding to provide pupil transportation. The agency received an additional \$152,000 in Child Care Resource and Referral Program funding for grants to registered homes and licensed day care centers that participate in the Quality Rating System.





*Operation: New View Community Action Agency* received a \$10,000 donation from the Green Family Foundation to be used to assist local low-income individuals and families with unaffordable emergency medical needs. The agency also continued its popular Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Program efforts. In FY 2007, the agency completed 1,951 tax returns, amounting to over \$722,000 in tax refunds for low-income clients.

*Upper Des Moines Opportunity* received a rural health outreach grant (Early Smiles) to promote oral health education and outreach in its 12 county service area. The agency also received a five year grant to fund the Power Up YOUTH Coalition in Hamilton county. The Power Up YOUTH Coalition funds will be used to engage youth and mobilize the community in efforts to reduce underage drinking and substance abuse.

*The City of Des Moines – Community Development Department* worked with 1,046 households to re-establish utility service or avoid a disconnection from service. Funds from MidAmerican Energy's ICARE customer contribution program, Community Services Block Grant, and the City's own franchise fees coupled with other funding sources were used to assist these households.

*Hawkeye Area Community Action Program* (HACAP), through a renewed emphasis on community relations, established a Community Relations Coordinator position and dramatically updated the agency's web page. The coordinator will build relationships in the community by coordinating volunteer efforts, participating in community focused events, engaging in promotional speaking, writing press releases, and managing the agency's updated web page and e-newsletter. The web page and e-newsletter allows HACAP to provide more information about programs and services, as well as news and reports concerning area issues and events.

*South Central Iowa Community Action Program* secured funding to provide a Parents as Teachers child care educator in Lucas and Monroe counties. This new staff person will provide education to child care providers on new ways of helping in the development of the children they serve, including new ways for providers to convey sound information to the children's parents.

*New Opportunities, Inc.* acquired the Child Care Resource and Referral Program for Audubon, Carroll, and Green counties. The agency also received an I-Smile grant from the Iowa Department of Public Health for improving the dental health of children receiving Title 19 assistance.

# Community Action Agencies - Program Outcomes (Statewide)

In FY 2007, the Division of Community Action Agencies assembled its fourth annual report of Iowa community action outcomes. The report – Iowa’s CSBG National Goals and Measures – is organized within the framework of the following six national community action goals. The following six goals address three levels of programs, services, and activities – family, community, and agency:

- Goal 1: Low-income people become more self-sufficient (family)
- Goal 2: The conditions in which low-income people live are improved (community)
- Goal 3: Low-income people own a stake in their community (community)
- Goal 4: Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved (agency)
- Goal 5: Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results (agency)
- Goal 6: Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive environments (family)

In an effort to capture national standardized community action outcome data around these six goals, national indicators of community action performance were developed by the national Community Action Network. Below are a few key FY 2007 Iowa community action outcomes organized and reported according to the framework of the national performance indicators:

1. Low-income people become more self-sufficient
  - 883 individuals obtained pre-employment skills required for employment
  - 9,452 families were assisted in applying for the Telephone Lifeline program
  - 5,592 families were assisted with tax preparation programs
2. The conditions in which low-income people live are improved
  - 3,606 families received emergency shelter assistance and homeless prevention services
  - 16,223 families received emergency energy assistance
3. Low-income people own a stake in their community
  - 13,119 individuals volunteered in their community through community action efforts, contributing 359,842 hours
  - 1,068 low-income individuals participated in formal community organizations, boards, and councils that provide input to decision-making and policy setting through community action efforts, contributing 22,804 hours
4. Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved
  - 2,829 – the number of organizations agencies worked with to expand resources and opportunities in order to achieve family and community outcomes
5. Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results
  - \$174 million – the number of dollars mobilized by community action (includes: the value of volunteer time, and the value of in-kind services and donations)
6. Low-income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive environments
  - 16,455 individuals were assisted in acquiring health insurance
  - 6,327 children obtained appropriate prevention and primary health care, including physical examinations
  - 6,962 children participated in pre-school activities to develop school readiness skills
  - 1,452 individuals were assisted in acquiring emergency medical care
  - 1,339 seniors were able to maintain an independent living situation with the assistance of community action
  - 94 disabled individuals maintained an independent living situation with the assistance of community action
  - 4,689 parents/guardians received parenting skills education services



For more information on Iowa’s community action outcomes, please contact the Division of Community Action Agencies.



Iowa's 18 community action agencies create, coordinate, and deliver a variety of programs, services, and activities to assist low-income Iowans. These programs, services, and activities are designed to assist low-income individuals and families and enable them 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 the immediate and urgent family needs;
- Achieve greater participation in the affairs of communities; and
- Address the needs of youth in low-income communities.

Below is a small, but representative, portion of the services data and information provided to individuals and families by Iowa's community action agencies in FY 2007:

## **SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

(14 agencies administered programs and services that assisted families with removing obstacles and barriers that block their achievement of self-sufficiency)

- 1,392 families completed the Family Development and Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS) program

## **EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

(11 agencies administered programs and services that assisted individuals with securing and retaining employment)

- Agency employment programs and services include: job counseling, job placement and development, job training, skills training, and senior employment

## **EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

(15 agencies administered programs and services that assisted individuals and families with their education needs)

- Head Start and Early Head Start services were provided to 6,852 children
- Other agency education programs and services include: educational counseling and guidance, day care, child development, ABE/GED classes, Head Start literacy classes, self-help classes, and child care resource and referrals

## **INCOME MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

(18 agencies administered programs and services that assisted individuals and families with their income management needs)

- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) was provided to 85,145 households
- 1,920 homes were weatherized through the Weatherization Assistance Program
- Telephone Lifeline application assistance was provided to 9,452 households
- Other agency income management programs and services include: household financial counseling, income tax counseling, and tax and rent rebate assistance

## **HOUSING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

(16 agencies administered programs and services that assisted families in obtaining and maintaining adequate housing)

- Agency housing programs and services include: homeownership and loan assistance, housing advocacy, home repair, home rehabilitation services, CHORE services, and transitional housing

## EMERGENCY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

(18 agencies administered programs and services that assisted individuals and families in obtaining emergency assistance to meet their urgent needs)

- 1,149 homes received furnace replacement/repair services, 1,915 homes received utility reconnection services, 816 homes received deliverable fuel payments, and 697 homes received fans and air conditioners through the community action Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP)
- Other agency emergency assistance programs and services include: cash assistance and loans, emergency energy programs, crisis intervention, donated goods and services, and homeless aid

## NUTRITION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

(17 agencies administered programs and services that assisted individuals and families in obtaining nutritious foods to counteract conditions of starvation and malnutrition)

- 19,151 families received emergency food assistance
- Child and Adult Care Food Program services were provided to 21,549 individuals
- 18,197 women, 18,328 infants, and 24,783 children received services through the community action administered Women, Infants, and Children Program
- Other agency nutrition programs and services include: surplus food, gardening, farmers market, and nutrition counseling

## HEALTH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

(14 agencies administered programs and services that assisted individuals and families in obtaining health and dental care needs)

- 16,455 individuals were assisted in acquiring health care insurance
- Other agency health programs and services include: transportation to medical services, maternal and infant health programs, immunization programs, family planning services, drug and alcohol programs, rehabilitation treatments and support, dental screenings, lead screenings, and prescription medications.

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND SENIOR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Youth development programs and services were provided to by 13 community action agencies, and senior programs and services were provided by 11 community action agencies. These agency programs and services include: youth recreation, youth work experience, youth counseling and guidance, fatherhood involvement programs, I-Card programs, and elderly activities.

## LINKAGES AMONG ANTI-POVERTY INITIATIVES

Linkages with other program services were provided to individuals and families by all Iowa's community action agencies. These agency programs, services, and activities include: family and individual counseling, transportation, and neighborhood and community development projects.

## VOLUNTEER SERVICES

13,119 individuals offered their services as volunteers to Iowa's community action agencies during the 2007 program year. These individuals performed 359,842 hours of volunteer service for a total dollar value of \$2,231,020 (\$6.20 per volunteer hour).

## INFORMATION AND REFERRALS

Iowa's community action agencies provide information and refer Iowa's low-income individuals and families to a number of public and private organizations in an effort to expand program and service opportunities for these individuals and families. By having these partnerships and alliances with organizations that provide programs and services to low-income Iowans, helps ensure that the individuals and families needs are adequately addressed. In FY 2008, Iowa's community action agencies reported 2,829 partnerships.



# Community Action Agencies - Characteristics of Persons Served



## TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED

Individuals ..... 306,227

## TOTAL NUMBER OF FAMILIES SERVED

Households ..... 119,337

## GENDER (Individuals)

Female .....	172,861 .....	56.45%
Male .....	133,353 .....	43.55%
Unknown/Not Reported.....	13 .....	0.00%

## ETHNICITY (Individuals)

Hispanic or Latino .....	27,144 .....	8.86%
--------------------------	--------------	-------

## RACE (Individuals)

White .....	246,513 .....	80.50%
African American or Black .....	29,979 .....	9.79%
Multi-race .....	9,576 .....	3.13%
Asian .....	2,678 .....	0.87%
American Indian or Alaskan .....	2,442 .....	0.80%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.....	381 .....	0.12%
Other.....	8,123 .....	2.65%
Unknown/Not Reported.....	6,535 .....	2.13%

## AGE (Individuals)

0 - 5 years of age .....	51,358 .....	16.77%
6 - 11 years of age.....	41,476 .....	13.54%
12 - 17 years of age.....	35,071 .....	11.45%
18 - 23 years of age .....	25,554 .....	8.34%
24 - 44 years of age .....	80,340 .....	26.24%
45 - 54 years of age .....	26,632 .....	8.70%
55 - 69 years of age .....	21,362 .....	6.98%
70 + years of age.....	23,088 .....	7.54%
Unknown/Not Reported.....	1,346 .....	0.44%

## EDUCATION (Individuals)

0 to 12th grade (non-graduate) .....	34,359 .....	22.49%
High School graduate or GED .....	79,700 .....	52.17%
Some post secondary education .....	22,152 .....	14.50%
2 or 4 year college graduate .....	13,483 .....	8.83%
Unknown/Not Reported.....	3,074 .....	2.01%

## LEVEL OF FAMILY INCOME (Households)

At or below 50% of poverty .....	32,984 .....	27.64%
Over 50% - 75% of poverty .....	20,163 .....	16.90%
Over 75% - 100% of poverty .....	22,617 .....	18.95%
Over 100% - 125% of poverty .....	20,526 .....	17.20%
Over 125% - 150% of poverty .....	16,032 .....	13.43%
Over 150% of poverty.....	7,015 .....	5.88%
Unknown/Not Reported.....	0 .....	0.00%

# Community Action Agencies - Characteristics of Person Served

## HOUSEHOLD TYPE (Households)

Single female parent.....	28,637	24.00%
Single male parent .....	2,369	1.99%
Two parents with child/children.....	27,575	23.11%
Single person.....	42,688	35.77%
Two adults with no children.....	13,851	11.61%
Other.....	2,238	1.88%
Unknown/Not Reported.....	1,979	1.66%

## FAMILY SIZE (Households)

One person in household .....	44,114	36.97%
Two persons in household.....	25,908	21.71%
Three persons in household.....	18,791	15.75%
Four persons in household.....	14,990	12.56%
Five persons in household .....	9,118	7.64%
Six persons in household.....	4,012	3.36%
Seven persons in household .....	1,495	1.25%
Eight or more persons in household .....	771	0.65%
Unknown/Not Reported.....	138	0.12%

## HOUSING (Households)

Family rents house/apartment.....	66,304	55.56%
Family owns or is buying home.....	47,107	39.47%
Family is homeless .....	1,368	1.15%
Other.....	4,365	3.66%
Unknown/Not Reported.....	193	0.16%

## SOURCE OF FAMILY INCOME (Households)

Family income from employment & other sources .....	50,878
Family income from employment only.....	37,301
Family has no income or unreliable income	9,534
Family receives TANF .....	9,603
Family receives SSI.....	18,431
Family receives Social Security.....	38,830
Family receives pension .....	6,462
Family receives unemployment insurance ...	4,066
Family receives general assistance .....	648
Family receives food stamps .....	50,840
Family receives income from other sources .	4,436
Unduplicated # of families reporting Income source.....	114,652

## OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Family members without health insurance	79,733
Disabled family members .....	52,124
Veterans .....	6,749



## FEDERAL FUNDS

U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services .....	\$104,354,376
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture .....	14,595,519
U.S. Dept. of Energy.....	3,634,306
U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development .....	2,355,559
U.S. Dept. of Labor.....	1,685,127
U.S. Dept. of Transportation.....	751,117
Other Federal Funds.....	524,444
<b>SUB TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$127,900,448</b>

## STATE FUNDS

Dept. of Education.....	\$7,571,831
Dept. of Human Services .....	4,302,311
Dept. of Public Health .....	791,180
Dept. of Transportation.....	435,747
Dept. of Workforce Development.....	196,277
Dept. of Economic Development .....	160,809
Other State Funds.....	766,415
<b>SUB TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$14,224,570</b>

## LOCAL FUNDS

Counties.....	\$1,317,816
Cities .....	820,373
Other Local.....	100,133
<b>SUB TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$2,238,322</b>

## PRIVATE FUNDS

Payments for services.....	\$5,262,439
Donated Funds .....	2,617,060
Fees .....	2,318,662
United Ways.....	1,068,385
Corporations .....	999,671
Other non-profits.....	389,534
Foundations .....	220,929
Other Private.....	727,196
<b>SUB TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$13,603,876</b>

## **TOTAL FUNDING ..... \$157,967,216**

Value of in-kind services received (government and business).....	\$5,398,052
Value of in-kind donated items received .....	\$9,053,555

# 2007 Commission on Community Action Agencies

Amber Crystal Amos .....	Des Moines .....	(current member)
Kathy Beauchamp .....	Des Moines .....	(current member)
Sister Carol Besch .....	Hampton .....	(resigned 4/2008)
Lois Eichacker .....	Fort Madison .....	(term expired 4/2007)
Michelle Hatfield .....	Sioux City .....	(current member)
Bob Knowler .....	Sioux City .....	(term expired 4/2007)
Thomas Letsche .....	Remsen .....	(current member)
Marc Lindeen .....	Mount Pleasant .....	(current member)
Merl McFarlane .....	Oelwein .....	(current member)
Kevin Middleswart .....	Indianola .....	(current member)
Amy Peiffer .....	Stockton .....	(current member)
Robert Tyson .....	Waterloo .....	(current member)
Catherine Whitfield .....	Des Moines .....	(term expired 4/2007)
Walter Reed, Jr., Ex-Officio .....	Des Moines .....	(current member)



## Division of Community Action Agencies Staff

Bill Brand, Administrator	(515) 281-3268	Bill.Brand@iowa.gov
Marcia Thompson, Administrative Assistant	(515) 281-3861 (515) 281-4204	Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov

### Bureau of Community Services

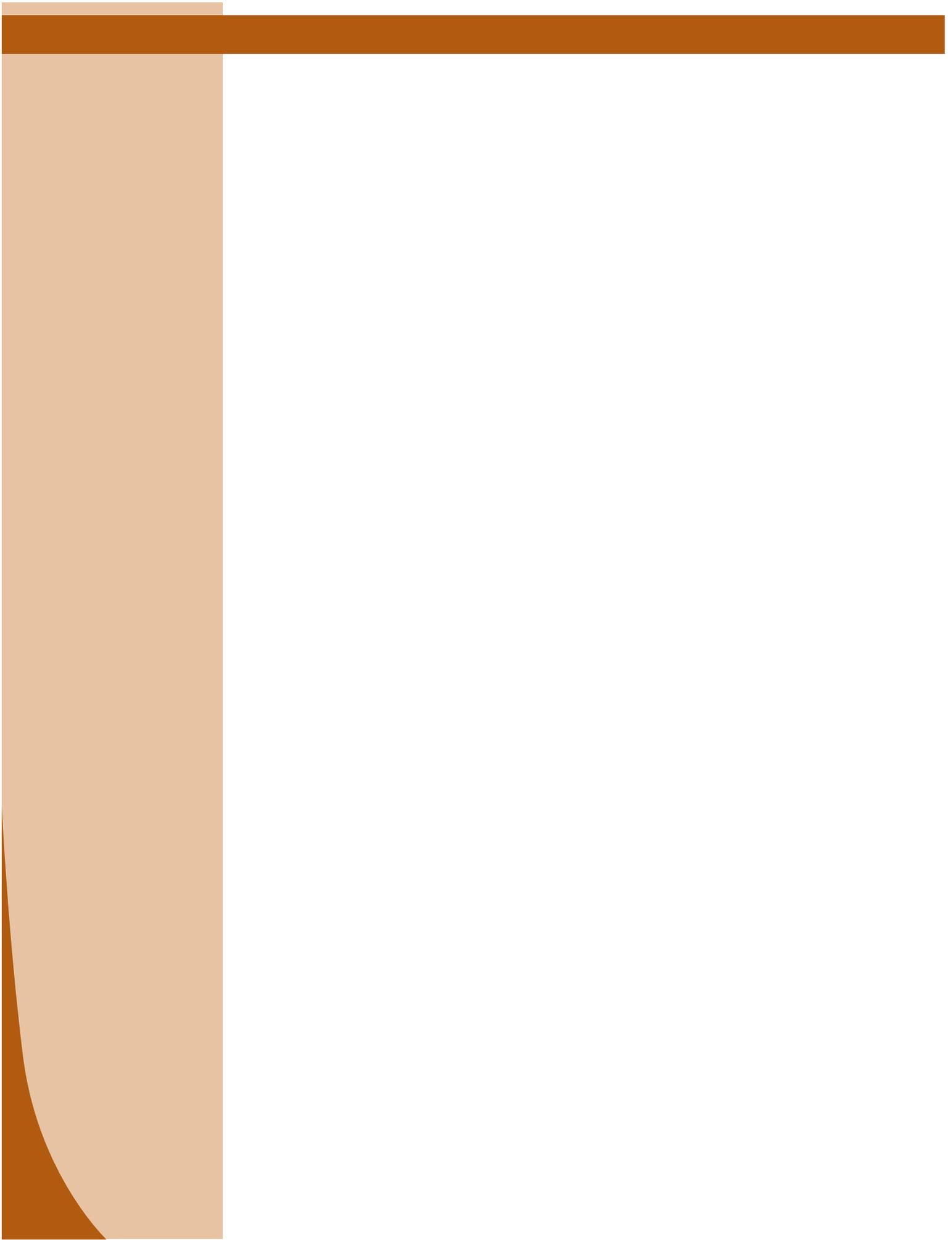
Greg Pieper, CSBG Program Coordinator	(515) 281-0474	Greg.Pieper@iowa.gov
Tim Fitzpatrick, FaDSS Program Manager	(515) 281-5938	Tim.Fitzpatrick@iowa.gov
Lorie Easter, FaDSS Program Manager	(515) 281-3791	Lorie.Easter@iowa.gov

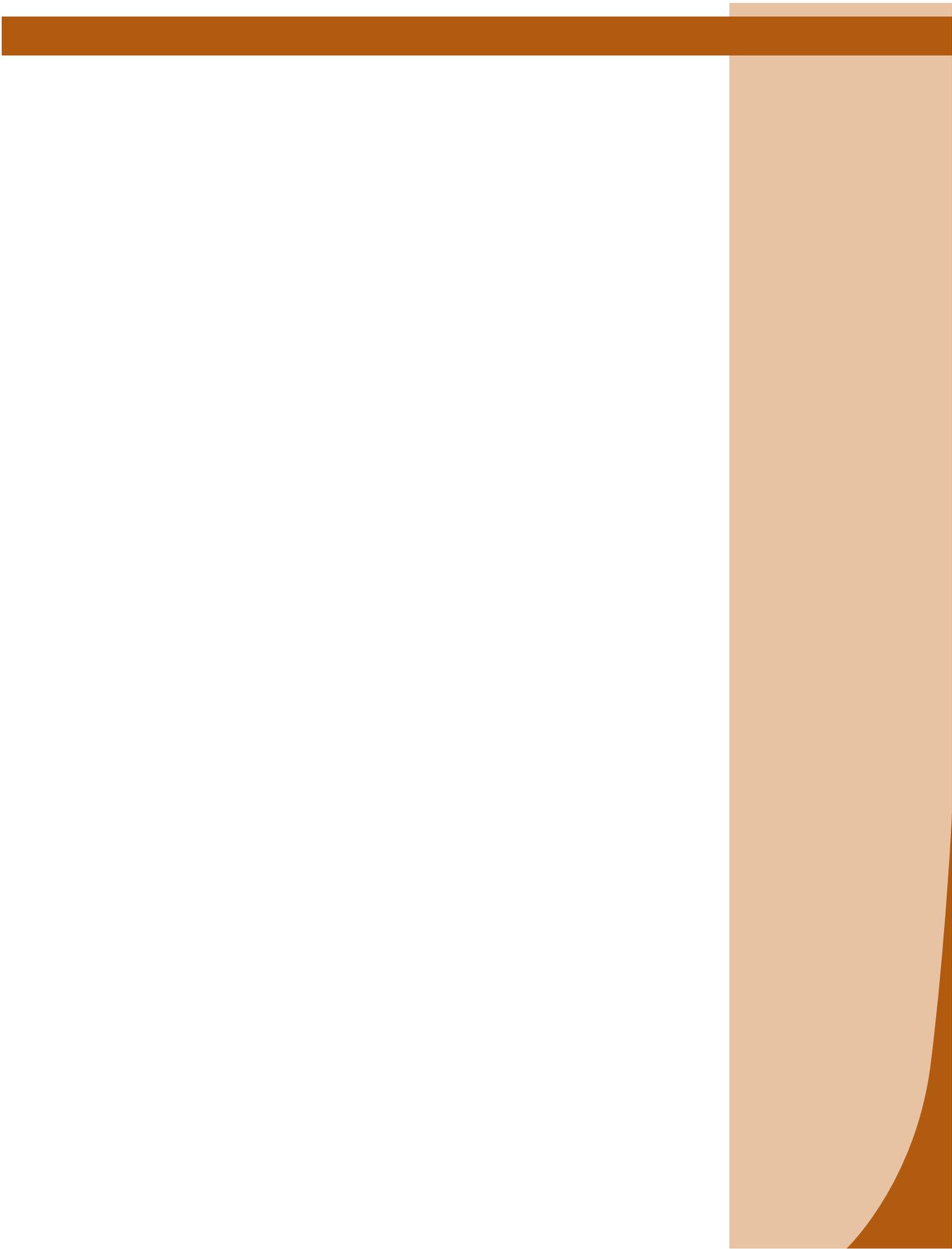
### Bureau of Energy Assistance

Jerry McKim, Bureau Chief	(515) 281-0859	Jerry.McKim@iowa.gov
John Burnquist, Program Planner	(515) 281-4893	John.Burnquist@iowa.gov

### Bureau of Weatherization

Jim Newton, Bureau Chief	(515) 242-6314	Jim.Newton@iowa.gov
Mark Bergmeier, Technical Specialist	(515) 281-3951	Mark.Bergmeier@iowa.gov
Rosemary Hoover, Accountant	(515) 242-6120	Rosemary.Hoover@iowa.gov
Gwen Howe, Program Specialist	(515) 281-3988	Gwen.Howe@iowa.gov
Mike Speed, Technical Specialist	(515) 281-4586	Mike.Speed@iowa.gov
Christine Taylor, Program Specialist	(515) 281-4565	Christine.Taylor@iowa.gov







Iowa Department of Human Rights  
Division of Community Action Agencies  
Lucas State Office Building - 2nd Floor  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
Phone: 515-281-4204 • Fax 515-242-6119