

SIGN of the TIMES An E-NEWS

September-November 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

Hope you are all enjoying the summer. Can't believe that fall is almost here. Where has the time gone? Have you wondered where DSCI staff has been the last couple of months? Due to limited staff we got a little behind but DSCI is trying its best to double up on information so that we can provide you with as much information as possible. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Contractual Interpreting Update:

We have been received 13 requests for contractual interpreter program since July 2014. We spent \$ 1,950 already on interpreters. We have \$ 3,050.00 left in our program until June 30, 2015. Please share about our contractual interpreting program with your friends and family members who might benefit from these funds or event not covered by ADA.

Telephone Equipment available to be loaned:

Deaf Services Commission of Iowa has several pieces of equipment available to be loaned out to anyone Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Deaf-blind, businesses and organizations. We have non-printing and printing TTYs, Captel and Uniphones & FM Systems.

If your TTY is in need of repair or is broken, we can help you until yours is fixed and back to you. FM systems are available to be loaned out to the public for an event. If you are in need of using our FM systems, please check with DSCI providing us specific information on your needs.

Equipment is loaned out for a period of three (3) weeks. If an extension is needed, we can grant an additional 3 weeks. If we can be of assistance, please contact DSCI at 515-281-3164 TTY/Voice

Commission Meetings:

Do you know that we have DSCI Commission meetings four (4) times a year? August, November, February and May and they are open to the public. The general public is encouraged to attend the meetings to find out what we have been doing and our future plans. DSCI staff and Commissioners are open to receiving the general public's feedback and comments. You will probably see some of the Commissioners at the Deaf Clubs, or other events in your area. Please feel free to talk with them and they, then, can bring the report to share with us at the Commission meetings. Or you can come to our meeting. We would like to hear your feedback and /or comments.

Deaf Services Commission Meeting:

Our next DSCI commission meeting will be on Saturday, November 8, 2014. The location is unknown. (Will be announced soon).

Please mark your calendar for the DSCI Commission future meetings:

February 13, 2015 and May 2, 2015



Happy Fall





Deaf Services Update:

The past few months have brought some changes to the Office of Deaf Services. Lysie Hanssen has changed her role from a Consultant for the Office of Deaf and has assumed the role of part time Consultant for the Youth Leadership Forum (YLF). YLF is a program in partnership with the Office for Persons with Disabilities, Department for the Blind and Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services. The program is a leadership training program for students with disabilities. Approximately 30-40 juniors and seniors with disabilities are selected to participate. Students are diverse in disability, gender, ethnicity, and geographical location within the state of Iowa. Lysie has already led the 2014 YLF program and is currently out on maternity leave with her first child. Lysie has been a wonderful asset to the Community Advocacy and Services Division and we are thankful she has found a great fit in the YLF program! The process is currently in place for Lysie's replacement for the Office of Deaf Services. This position has been reduced to a part time position due to a reduction in appropriation funding for the Community Advocacy and Services (CAS) Division. The CAS Division has reduced their workforce by one full time equivalent, losing a half time position in the Office for Persons with Disabilities as well. Submitted by Heidi Smith.

A new video blog (VLOG in ASL) by the Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program (CAP) is now available:

CAP's VLOG, "[The Public Accessibility & Communication \(PAC\) Initiative](#)," provides an overview of the PAC Initiative and how CAP provides assistive technology to help increase public access to federal services and information for people with dexterity, hearing, vision, communication, and cognitive disabilities. Learn more about the PAC Initiative and accommodations solutions for federal employees and wounded Service members at www.cap.mil.



New Relay Service Outreach Manager, Ashley Hagedorn

Outreach Support– Call on us!

Relay Iowa's outreach program is dedicated to education and training individuals, businesses and organizations about relay and captioned telephone services. Relay Iowa's Outreach program supports individuals who use relay – whether it be to assist in selecting the best type of service to meet their needs, or training businesses how to place and receive relay calls, resulting in fewer hang ups and increased customer satisfaction.

This summer, Iowans will have the opportunity to meet the new Relay Iowa Outreach Project manager, Ashley Hagedorn. As Ashley reaches out to organizations and individuals throughout Iowa, know that she is available should you wish to schedule a free presentation for your group, business or organization. Please contact Ashley at ashley.hagedorn@hamiltonrelay.com to say hello and to learn more about what services Relay Iowa offers individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or those who have difficulty speaking.



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FREE WEBSITE LINKS RENTERS AND LANDLORDS IN IOWA

News Release For immediate release: Ashley Jared 515-725-4934

IowaHousingSearch.org lets users list and search for rental housing in Iowa for FREE

January 7, 2014

DES MOINES - The Iowa Finance Authority today announced the launch of IowaHousingSearch.org, a free housing locator web site that gives renters, landlords, housing professionals, and social service providers access to real-time rental housing information. The web site already has approximately 20,000 rental units listed representing 250 Iowa landlords and continues to grow rapidly. The project is powered by Socialserve.com, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to increasing access to affordable housing across the nation.

IowaHousingSearch.org offers landlords free advertising for their properties, including critically needed affordable and accessible units, while helping renters find housing to fit their specific needs. Listings are linked to interactive maps and can include pictures and information about nearby amenities such as parks, schools and hospitals. Special features for renters include quick links to housing resources as well as rent-affordability and moving-cost calculators.

"IowaHousingSearch.org will provide a fast and easy way to locate rental housing information and related resources," said Iowa Finance Authority Executive Director Dave Jamison. "This tool will also be a valuable asset for property owners and a great resource for our communities."

IowaHousingSearch.org is also a powerful resource during times of disaster, putting current housing information at the fingertips of disaster victims. "IowaHousingSearch.org sets an excellent example for disaster preparedness with a proactive approach to identifying and listing emergency rental housing," said Pat Hall, Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Recovery Division Administrator. "When a crisis causes housing loss in Iowa, this resource will be in place and ready to quickly help displaced individuals. IowaHousingSearch.org will give us the tools we need to find available replacement housing throughout the state."

To list or search for housing on IowaHousingSearch.org, go online at **IowaHousingSearch.org** any time, or call a toll-free, bilingual call center at **[1.877.428.8844](tel:18774288844)**, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Central Time.





Where Do I Purchase My Phone Equipment?

Many times, we get asked by TAI applicants, "Where do I purchase my phone equipment once I've received my voucher from TAI?"

When you receive your Voucher, you will also find enclosed a list of all of our Dealers, located throughout the state of Iowa and our out-of-state Dealers as well.

We have over 180 Dealers that sell equipment for the program. Many are audiologists or hearing aid dispensers and have equipment available at their place of business or they may order equipment for the applicant. It is the relationship we have with our Dealers across the state that really makes this program work. Applicants may visit any Dealer conveniently located near their home to use their Voucher and purchase the telephone equipment of their choice. We also have Catalog Dealers from which you may order by calling their customer service department or by visiting their website. TAI Dealers are great advocates of the program as they can help you choose the right equipment for your communication needs.

To find a complete list of Dealers, visit our website at www.relayiowa.com/tai, click on the "How To Apply" page and then click on "Dealers List" or call us at 1-800-606-5099 for more information.



Telecommunications Access Iowa

A Program of the Iowa Utilities Board

6925 Hickman Road | Urbandale, Iowa 50322

P 515.282.5099 **F** 515.237.3917





RelayIowa.com

Town Hall Meeting

Please join us for a Town Hall Meeting to learn more about programs and services that allow individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or have difficulty speaking to communicate over the phone.

Presentations and updates by:

- Ashley Hagedorn, Relay Iowa
- Gayle Boeke, Telecommunications Access Iowa (TAI)
- Amy Christensen & Joni Nicoll, Iowa Utilities Board
- Kathy Miller, Iowa Association for the Deaf

We also invite you to share your feedback, ideas and suggestions about how we can better serve you.

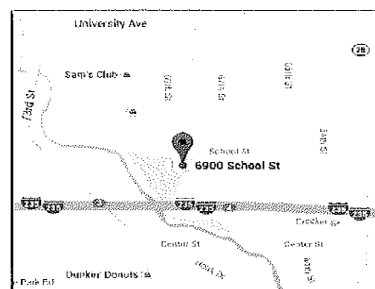
Date: Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

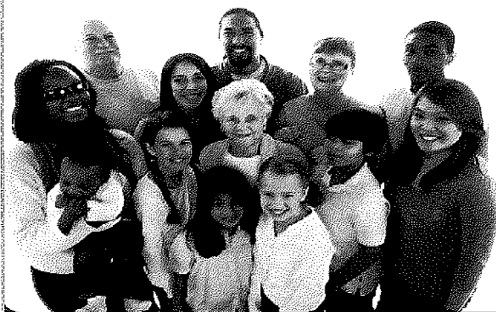
Location: Windsor Heights Community Center
6900 School Street
Windsor Heights, IA 50324

CART services available upon request.
ASL interpreters will be available.

Refreshments provided.



Windsor Heights
Community Center
6900 School Street
Windsor Heights, IA 50324



Please RSVP by August 25th to:

Ashley Hagedorn
Relay Iowa Outreach Project Manager
Email: ashley.hagedorn@hamiltonrelay.com
Tel: 515.344.8548

SIGN of the TIMES An E-NEWS

September– November 2014



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services



Mary Ann Hopp selected for Hamilton Relay 2014 Better Hearing and Speech Month Recognition Award for the State of Iowa

Mary Ann Hopp of Des Moines, Iowa has generously devoted her time and energy to advocating for individuals within her community who are deaf or hard of hearing. Mary Ann has been described by her peers as a genuine and caring individual with a kind and generous heart.

Mary Ann continues to be a highly active member of the Hearing Loss Association of Central Iowa (HLA-CI). She became involved with HLA-CI over 25 years ago, served a term as President and has served as Treasurer for many years and committed herself to a number of projects. One of her efforts focused on creating a film in conjunction with the Des Moines Police Academy and the Deaf Services Commission of Iowa which educates police officers on how to work with individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. Mary Ann also assisted in raising funds to implement a new sound system for HLA-CI which has benefitted individuals who attend their local and regional meetings and conventions.

Mary Ann is also a member of the Care Team at Zion Lutheran Church where she devotes many hours to fellowship and visiting with members of the congregation. On the church grounds, she helps to support a sixty plot community garden and with the help of her husband, Al, they enjoy helping to maintain the flower beds as well.

We commend Mary Ann Hopp for her advocacy and dedication toward making a difference in her community and are pleased to present her with the Hamilton Relay 2014 Better Hearing and Speech Month Recognition Award for the State of Iowa.

This leadership recognition has been brought to you by Hamilton Relay.

About Hamilton Relay

Hamilton Relay provides contracted Traditional Relay and/or Captioned Telephone services to 16 states and the Island of Saipan, and is a provider of Internet-based Captioned Telephone services nationwide. More information is available at www.hamiltonrelay.com.

CONGRADUALTION MARY ANN HOPP
FROM DSCI STAFF & COMMISSIONERS



Social Security Defines Policy for Same-Sex Married Couples Agency Extends Benefits Broadly, Subject to Legal Constraints

News Release

SOCIAL SECURITY

Social Security has published new instructions that allow the agency to process more claims in which entitlement or eligibility is affected by a same-sex relationship. These instructions come in response to last year's Supreme Court decision in U.S. vs. Windsor, which found Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional.

This latest policy development lets the agency recognize some non-marital legal relationships as marriages for determining entitlement to benefits. These instructions also allow Social Security to begin processing many claims in states that do not recognize same-sex marriages or non-marital legal relationships. We have consulted with the Department of Justice and determined that the Social Security Act requires the agency to follow state law in Social Security cases. The new policy also addresses Supplemental Security Income claims based on same-sex relationships.

"As with previous same-sex marriage policies, we worked closely with the Department of Justice," said Carolyn W. Colvin, Acting Commissioner of Social Security. "We are bound by the law within the Social Security Act, and we have to respect state laws. We remain committed to treating all Americans fairly, with dignity, and respect."

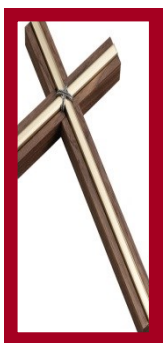
If a person believes he or she may be entitled to or eligible for benefits, they are encouraged to apply now.

To learn more, please visit www.socialsecurity.gov/same-sexcouple.





James Herman Hanson



A lifetime of care for others ended June 30, 2014, with the death of James Herman Hanson, 83, of Des Moines. Jim died at Taylor House Hospice, surrounded by people who love him.

James Herman Hanson was born July 18, 1930, on a farm near Scranton, Iowa, the only child of Theodore Wilhelm and Frances Irene (Rose) Hanson. As the hearing child of deaf parents, Jim was, from an early age, the key facilitator of his parents' communication with the hearing world.

Jim grew up in Callender, Iowa, graduating from Callender High School in 1947. Through the efforts of his pastor, the Rev. Erling Fretheim, he attended Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis, and then transferred to Augsburg College for two years.

In June 1951, Jim entered the U.S. Army, and was stationed as a corporal in Tokyo, where he served in the honor guard of General Matthew Ridgway and later General Mark Clark for 18 months. His primary duty was that of a driver for the staff of two commanding generals of the Korean War.

After Jim's graduation from the University of Iowa, the couple moved to Waverly, Iowa, where Jim became director of social services at the Lutheran Children's Home, now known as the Bremwood Residential Treatment Center. All three of the Hanson children were born in Waverly.

The Hanson family moved to Des Moines in May 1964. Jim worked for two years at the Des Moines Child Guidance Center, then moved to the position of supervisor of services to the deaf and hard of hearing in the

SIGN of the TIMES An E-NEWS

September-November 2014



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

in the state of Iowa's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Jim founded Iowa's chapter of Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, and was the chapter's first president. He was the first registered interpreter in the state of Iowa. He was a nationally known speaker and writer on the topic of deaf culture, and an advocate for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Upon his 1993 retirement, Jim and Phyllis – who was retired as a reading specialist from the Des Moines Public Schools – were active volunteers at Iowa Lutheran Hospital, at St. John's Lutheran Church and at the shelter for the homeless.

Surviving Jim are his wife of nearly 58 years, Phyllis Hanson, of Des Moines; his daughter Lyn Jerde and her husband Jay, of Madison, Wisconsin; his son Daniel Hanson and his wife Lynn of Cambridge, Ontario, Canada; his son Dr. Matthew Hanson and his wife Dianne of Wyckoff, New Jersey; his grandchildren, Timothy Gerard, Kathryn Rose and Christopher James Hanson, of Wyckoff, New Jersey; his step-granddaughters, Lesleigh, Jaclyn and Jennifer Rusnak of Canada; numerous cousins; two nephews; five nieces; four grandnieces, seven grandnephews and one great-grandnephew; his sister-in-law Phelva Smith and her husband James of Oak Lawn, Illinois; and his sister-in-law, Anna Berge of Aurelia, Iowa.

He was preceded in death by his father, Theodore Hanson, in 1962; his mother, Frances Hanson, in 1978; his father-in-law, Ernest Berge, in 1980; his mother-in-law, Laura Berge, in 1986; a special aunt, Hilma Smith, in 2007; a special cousin, Kenneth Hansen, in 1968; his brother-in-law, Richard Berge, in 2006; and his nephew, Eric Berge, in 2013.

A Celebration of the Life of Jim Hanson will be held on July 19, 2014, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Des Moines, Iowa, at 11:00 in the morning. Please feel free to visit the family at the church before the Celebration, after 9:30 in the morning.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to St. John's Lutheran Church Foundation in Des Moines or Taylor House Hospice in Des Moines.

Many thanks to all of those who helped Jim on his final journey.

Condolences may be expressed at:
www.HamiltonsFuneralHome.com



SIGN of the TIMES An E-NEWS

September-November 2014



Iowa Department of Human Rights



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FOOTBALL

PARTY

WHEN: Sept. 13, 2014

WHERE: Gilmore City Senior Citizen Center

306 South Gilmore Street

Gilmore City, Iowa

OPEN DOOR : 1:00 PM

THEN

Walk across the street to TWO DIFFERENT BARS

WHILE WATCHING TV AT 2:30 PM

(you pay your own beer or pop at bar while the game is on !!)

Senior Citizens Hall will remain open for those choose not to watch the game

Wear Your Favorite IOWA OR IOWA STATE CLOTHES !!!

Supper will be served after the game at the Senior Citizen.



Admission:

\$5.00/ person

Hosted By NCCD/IAD 2015

For more information contact John Matthews: jlmatt@q.com



CBSC HOMECOMING EVENT WEEKEND

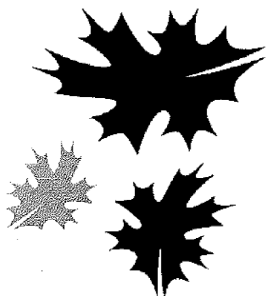


September 26 & 27, 2014

Doors open from 6 pm to 1:00 am

Friday and Saturday - \$5.00 (both evenings!)

Fellowship! Socialization!



Meet old & new friends!

Poker games at 7:30 pm for Friday & Saturday

Council Bluffs Silent Club
536 Bluff Street
Council Bluffs, Iowa





October 4, 2014

1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

West Des Moines Community Center

217 5th St.

West Des Moines, Iowa

Deaf Iowans Against Abuse (DIAA)

A program of Communication of Service for the Deaf

Kathy Miller

President of Iowa Association of the Deaf

1:00 pm: Door Opens

1:15 pm to 3:00 pm: Healthy Relationship Workshop

3:00 pm to 3:15 pm: Break - Snacks and drinks will be provided

3:15 pm to 5:00 pm: Kathy Miller - IAD Town Hall

Any questions, please contact DMAD President Ruth Hayworth at 515.528.7013

Host by DMAD



SIGN of the TIMES An E-NEWS

September-November 2014



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IAD Events – October 18, 2014

Story City Community
513 Elm Street, Story City, Iowa

8:00 am: doors open – morning snacks will be served

9:00 am to 10:00 am: Town Hall

10:00 am: Presented by Jim McKernan, VP/General Manager
To discuss Closed-Captioning for your local TV Station



Company: Quincy Newspaper, Inc., Quincy, IL.

KWWL (NBC) – Cedar Rapids/Waterloo/Dubuque/Iowa City

KTTC (NBC) – Mason City/Austin/Rochester

KTIV (NBC) – Sioux City

KGEM (NBC) – small parts of SE Iowa

Mr. McKernan wants to hear your concerns, feedbacks, suggestions.

It is important for anyone who lives in the area to attend.

11 am: IAD Board of Director's Meeting

Noon: Lunch snacks will be served

1 pm to??: IAD Board of Director's Meeting resumes

Host by Central Iowa Club of the Deaf (CICD)



WHERE: Moorland Community Center

416 3rd Street

MOORLAND, IOWA 50566

WHEN: Saturday, October 25, 2014

Open Door : 3:00 PM to ??

Supper @5:00 PM



Admission:

\$ 5.00/ Person

Hosted by : NCCD / IAD 2015

For more information contact : Leigh Weipert - VP 712-587-8273



Cedarloo's Chili or Chicken Noodle Soup Supper and Halloween Fun!



Saturday Oct 25. 2014

Door Opens – 4:00 pm

Dinner – 6 pm

Admissions for Dinner only

Adults - \$7.00

4 – 12 yrs. old - \$5.00

3 yrs. old & under - Free

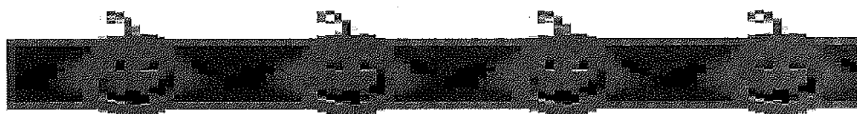
Fine if not wearing any Halloween - \$1.00

*****Also will have prizes for Halloween!!*****

North Star Community

3420 University Ave

Waterloo IA





3117 1st Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402



ASL Classes

Community Hands is offering an 8-week
Beginner - American Sign Language Class

at Connectivity
3117 1st Ave SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

September 8-October 27, 2014

Mondays 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Cost \$50

Book: "A Basic Course in American Sign Language" \$38.95

To Register: Call 319.213.9920

or email: tlegg@community-hands.org

www.community-hands.org



Deaf Social

Every 3rd Friday of the Month

5:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

Merle Hay Mall Food Court

3850 Merle Hay Rd ~Des Moines~ Iowa 50310

Come join us for food, fun and ASL chat. Meet new friends, catch up with old friends!

All are welcome

Deaf, Hard of Hearing, hearing, and ASL students

FUN

Having a good time

Chatting

Sharing information

For more information, email Richard Lee: rtleeusa73@aol.com



MERLE HAY MALL

SIGN of the TIMES An E-NEWS

September– December 2014



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 13, 2014: football party (Iowa Hawkeye vs Iowa State University Football Game), Gilmore City Senior Citizen Center, 306 South Gilmore Street, Gilmore City, Iowa. Open Door 1:00 PM Admission \$5.00/ person Hosted by NCCD/IAD 2015 (Page 10)

September 26 & 27, 2014: Doors open from 6 PM to 1:00 AM Friday and Saturday- \$5.00 (both evenings!) Fellowship and Socialization - Meet old and new friends. Poker games at 7:30 pm for Friday & Saturday. Council Bluffs Silent Club, 536 Bluff Street, Council Bluffs, IA (Page 11)

September 27, 2014: ISD Homecoming at Iowa School for the Deaf, Council Bluffs IA.

October 4, 2014: Communication Services for the Deaf (CSD), Deaf Iowans Against Abuse (DIAA) & Iowa Association of the Deaf, West Des Moines Community Center, 217 5th St., West Des Moines, IA, 1:00 pm Door open. 1:15-3:00pm Healthy Relationship workshop, 3:00 pm to 3:15 pm Break-snacks and drinks will be provided. 3:15 pm to 5:00 pm IAD Town Hall. Host by DMAD. (Page 12)

October 18, 2014: Iowa Association of the Deaf, Board Meeting, Story City Community, 513 Elm Street, Story City, Iowa, 8:00 AM Door open. Morning snacks will be served. 9-10 Town Hall. 11 am IAD Board Director meeting. Noon Lunch snacks will be served. 1 pm to ? IAD Board of Director meeting resumes. Hosted by Central Iowa Club of the Deaf (CICD) (Page 13)

October 25, 2014: Cedarloo's Chill or Chicken Noodle Soup Supper & Halloween Fun!, Door open 4:00 pm & Dinner 6 pm. Admission for Dinner only: Adult- \$7 & 4-12 yrs. old- \$5 and 3yrs & under- Free. If not wearing Halloween \$1.00 *** Also will have prizes for Halloween *** (Page 15)

October 25, 2014: North Central Club of the Deaf/IAD 2015, Halloween party at Moorland Community Center, 416 3rd Street, Moorland, Iowa 50566— Open door 3:00 pm to ??? Supper at 5:00 pm. Admission \$5.00/person. Hosted by HCCD/IAD 2015 (Page 14)

October 31, 2014: Happy Halloween



November 8, 2014: Deaf Services, DSCI Commission meeting (will announced soon)

December 31, 2014: New Year Eve Party, Farnhamville, Iowa (will be announced soon)

February 13, 2015 and May 12, 2015: Deaf Services, DSCI Commission meeting (will announced soon)

Posting to our Calendar: If you would like to post your events onto our calendar, please send an email to dhf.dsci@iowa.gov.



The deadline for submission for the December 2014 to -February 2015 issue is November 29, 2014. Send e-mail submissions to dhf.dsci@iowa.gov

Visit the DSCI website: <http://www.state.ia.us/government/dhf/ds/index.html>

Questions or Comments?

Email us at dhf.dsci@iowa.gov or call 515-281-3164 V/TTY or Toll-Free: 1-888-221-3724 V/TTY