



### **Congressional District 1:**

Six of Iowa's eighteen community action agencies provide services to low income children and families in Congressional District One:

- ❖ **Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation**
- ❖ **Operation: New View Community Action Agency**
- ❖ **Operation Threshold**
- ❖ **Hawkeye Area Community Action Program**
- ❖ **Community Action of Eastern Iowa**
- ❖ **North Iowa Community Action Organization**

All six of these community action agencies received additional Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Included in this packet is a summary of the outcomes achieved by the programs and services each agency has implemented to better serve children and families in the agency service area. Contact information for each agency executive director is also included. Feel free to contact a director or myself if you have any questions regarding these programs and this information.

The attached documents show the outcomes achieved from April 2009 to June 2010.

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## Indicators of Success

4/10/2009 – 6/30/2010

The **DIRECT ASSISTANCE HOUSING INITIATIVE** continues to assist families with low income retain or obtain safe and sanitary housing.

- 281 families have received assistance



The **HOMEOWNERSHIP COUNSELING INITIATIVE** has assisted 40 households.

The **DIRECT ASSISTANCE UTILITIES INITIATIVE** continues to assist families with low income retain or obtain needed utilities such as water, sewer, electricity or heating.

- 636 families have received assistance

The **BUDGET COUNSELING INITIATIVE** has provided families with low income one-on-one education and assistance in financial management to approach self-sufficiency.

- 110 households have participated



With the **DENTAL INITIATIVE** there is transportation available for dental appointments and individuals with low income can receive needed dental work.

- 75 individuals have received dental work



### **Northeast Iowa Community Action**

*Mary Ann Humpal, Executive Director*

*PO Box 487, 305 Montgomery Street*

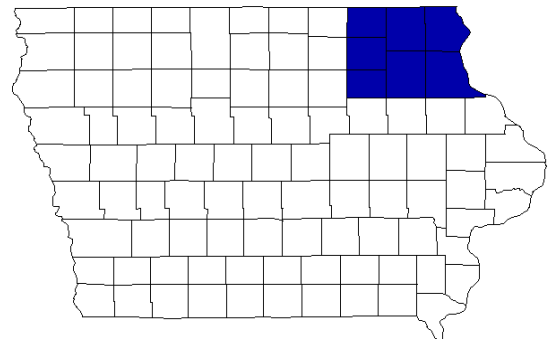
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*Serving: Howard, Chickasaw, Bremer, Winneshiek, Fayette,*

*Allamakee, and Clayton Counties*



## Indicators of Success

4/10/2009 – 6/30/2010

### The **DIRECT EMERGENCY UTILITIES ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE**

continues to serve families and individuals with needs such as natural gas, electric, water, deliverable fuels, and rent to prevent utility shutoffs or home evictions.

- **522** families have received assistance



The **SELF-SUFFICIENCY INITIATIVE** provides job training scholarships for short-term job training costs (tuition, fees, books) and supportive services (child care, transportation) for people with low incomes seeking employment.

- **55** individuals have received job training

The **FINANCIAL LITERACY SELF-SUFFICIENCY INITIATIVE** has provided financial literacy training to assist individuals with money management skills, including budgeting, use of credit, predatory lending, and asset building.

- Nine group trainings have been conducted with **28** individuals attending
- **18** individuals completed the training; **2,017** were assisted with filing for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC); **2,042** with tax preparation and **3** with Individual Development Accounts (IDA)

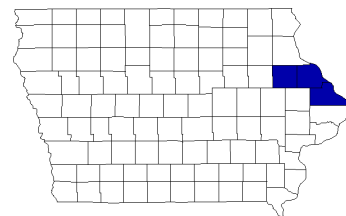


*I learned about how to save my money. I didn't know that you have to pay fees at ATM's, on annual credit cards and some contracts. This is important because it will save me money in the long run. People should save their money and not carry a lot of money so they don't spend it. This helps to keep a budget working. Thanks for teaching us about budgeting. It will be important throughout my life. 6* Quote from High School Student who participated in financial literacy training

With the **AGENCY CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE**

- **3** individuals have been hired in clerical support positions to provide coverage of the outreach centers and provide client intake in support of the outreach staff
- **2** individuals were hired to coordinate job training and scholarships, financial literacy training, EITC outreach, expansion of free income tax preparation sites and participation in IDAs

**Operation: New View  
Community Action Agency**  
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Serving: Delaware, Dubuque, and Jackson Counties



**Success**

## Operation Threshold

Success

### Indicators of Success 4/10/2009 - 6/30/2010

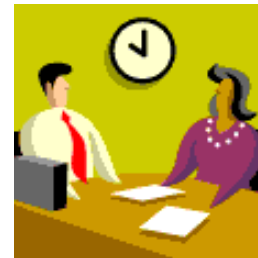
Through the **FAMILY DEVELOPMENT GROUP INITIATIVE** families continue to decrease their reliance on public assistance and increase their reliance on employment income.



- 12 participants who entered the group unemployed became employed while participating
- 4 participants obtained a higher wage job
- 10 group meetings have been held with 95 individuals attending and completing the program

With the **CAREER LADDERS PROGRAM EXPANSION INITIATIVE** adults continue to achieve an increase in employment income.

- 10 unemployed participants have become employed;
- 6 obtained higher wage employment



The **FINANCIAL LITERACY SERVICE EXPANSION INITIATIVE** continues to help families achieve an increase in financial assets and financial skills.



- 33 adults requested and received one-on-one financial counseling
- 53 group financial literacy trainings were held with a total of 354 participants completing the training
- 230 families participated in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program

The **HOUSING COUNSELING PROGRAM EXPANSION INITIATIVE** continues to help families achieve an increase in financial assets and financial skills.

- 342 adults requested and received one-on-one mortgage foreclosure prevention counseling
- 245 households have been able to avoid foreclosure

#### Operation Threshold

Barb Grant, Executive Director

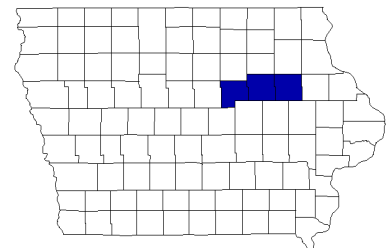
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Serving: Grundy, Black Hawk, and Buchanan Counties



**Hawkeye Area Community Action Program**

**Indicators of Success**  
*4/10/2009 – 6/30/2010*

Successes

The **FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM INITIATIVE** continues to assist families to become more economically self-sufficient.

- 2 financial training have been conducted with 21 individual attending and completing the training
- 256 individual household financial workshops have been conducted with 458 individuals being assisted
- 256 households have increased their ability to pay rent/mortgage

The **FAMILY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM INITIATIVE** continues to help families learn to overcome economic barriers.



- 351 families have been assisted
- 4 individuals have obtained full-time employment; 5 have retained full-time employment
- 154 individuals received job counseling and 92 were assisted with education planning

*"[The Family Advocate] woke me up. I was so down and depressed after my wife died. He helped me see the good things again. I don't know where I would be without him."* ó Quote from ARRA beneficiary

The **YOUTH INITIATIVE** provides youth who are low to moderate income with skill building opportunities.

- 278 youth have been enrolled; 76 youth scholarships have been provided
- 97 youth have been linked into work or life skill building activities

With the **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE** the goal is for communities and neighborhoods to respond with resources to families in need.

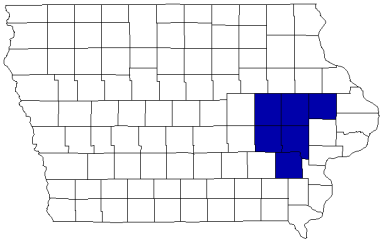
- 572 community building meetings have been held
- 52 community based projects have been initiated
- 87 partnerships have been developed



The **RECRUITMENT & JOB SKILLS INITIATIVE** has resulted in 131 new employees.



**Hawkeye Area Community Action Program**  
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Serving: Benton, Linn, Jones, Iowa, Johnson, and Washington Counties



## Indicators of Success

4/10/2009 - 6/30/2010

Through the **SHORT TERM CHILD CARE TRAINING/INTERNSHIP INITIATIVE** individuals obtained pre-employment skills/competencies required for employment and received a training program certificate.

- 10 individuals are receiving college credit
- 24 individuals entered the workforce as a result of the training program
- 108 individuals are enrolled in a short term training program
- 65 individuals are completing a short term training program
- \$112,833 of scholarship assistance has been provided
- 115 individuals are enrolled in a work readiness program
- 105 individuals are completing a work readiness program



This initiative has increased educational opportunities including vocational, literacy, life skill training, ABE/GED, and post-secondary education.

- 197 individuals are benefiting.
- 6 individuals are receiving a GED

Through the **YOUTH INVESTMENT INITIATIVE** youth have improved physical health and development.

- 510 children are receiving a scholarship for youth enrichment activities
- \$33,053 scholarship assistance has been provided for the youth enrichment

### **Youth have improved social/emotional development.**

- 338 children are receiving a scholarship for youth enrichment activities
- \$37,257 in scholarship assistance has been provided

### **Youth will increase academic skills.**

- 120 children are receiving a scholarship for youth enrichment activities
- \$13,984 in scholarship assistance has been provided

Through the **HEAD START MODEL CLASSROOM INITIATIVE** comprehensive early childhood programs are now available to low income families. Children can now participate in preschool activities to develop school readiness skills.

- 49 children enrolled





Families eliminated a crisis situation or overcome barriers to self-sufficiency by **SECURING NEEDED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

- 79 families are now receiving emergency shelter assistance
- 565 families are now receiving emergency energy assistance
- 160 families are now receiving other emergency assistance

Through the **FAMILY GROUPS INITIATIVE-HEADSTART & FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**;

- 111 families are benefitting from participation in groups.



Through the **FINANCIAL LITERACY INITIATIVE** there are increased educational opportunities, including vocational, literacy, life skill training, ABE/GED and post secondary education.



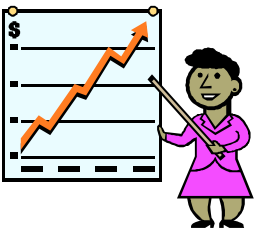
- 92 of households are benefitting.
- 13 staff members have been trained.

Through the **WEATHERIZATION KITS INITIATIVE** families have overcome barriers to self-sufficiency by securing needed non-financial assistance to reduce energy costs.



- 1,389 families have received the kit.

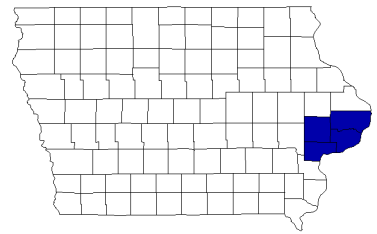
Through the **ENERGY AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM** families increase their income and lower their energy burden by using their EITC to pay on their utility bill and receiving a match payment on their utilities.



- 231 families are receiving matching funds.
- \$68,777 in matching funds has been distributed

# Success

**Community Action of Eastern Iowa**  
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 Serving: Cedar, Clinton, Muscatine, and Scott Counties



## Indicators of Success

4/10/2009 – 6/30/2010

The **CRISIS ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE** continues to provide families financial assistance to eliminate a crisis situation and/or overcome barriers to self-sufficiency.

- 407 families/households received shelter assistance
- 144 families received energy assistance



The **LONG TERM DISASTER RECOVERY INITIATIVE** assisted 28 families.

The **COMMUNITY PARTNERS INITIATIVE** has assisted

- 262 families, (739 individuals)
- 38 have obtained full-time employment
- 31 have obtained part-time employment



# Success

**North Iowa Community Action**

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