



### **Congressional District 4:**

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

- ❖ **Upper Des Moines Opportunity**
- ❖ **New Opportunities**
- ❖ **MATURA Action Corporation**
- ❖ **Mid-Iowa Community Action**
- ❖ **North Iowa Community Action Organization**
- ❖ **Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation**
- ❖ **Red Rock Community Action Program**

All seven 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



Through the **EMPLOYMENT ADVOCACY INITIATIVE**

- 94 individuals have been served
- 371 community employers have been contacted
- 29 support services have been provided
- 41 individuals have secured full time employment; 3 have secured part time employment
- 45 individuals have been provided with support services

*The fact that I have been given the tools to apply for jobs with an updated resume, appropriate attire for interviews, and the ability to go out face to face in the workforce to apply and interview. Without this program I would not be able to do anything other than apply online. 6 Quote from ARRA Beneficiary*

With the **CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE TRAINING INITIATIVE** individuals and early childhood programs continue to have access to 120 clock hours of training.

- 18 trainings (82 hours) have been conducted with participants reporting satisfaction with the training



205

Through the **PAID INTERNSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS INITIATIVE** students, education institutions and local businesses continue to have access to paid internships.

- 140 scholarships have been awarded
- 218 individuals have enrolled in the education program and completed the scholarship agreement

Upper Des Moines Opportunity has partnered with community colleges to provide **SHORT TERM TRAINING CLASSES** to unemployed and underemployed individuals.

- 15 of the 36 enrolled in the short-term training class are graduating from the training.  
11 of the 15 graduates have obtained employment.

Success  
Success

### Upper Des Moines Opportunity, Inc.

*Ron Ludwig, Executive Director*

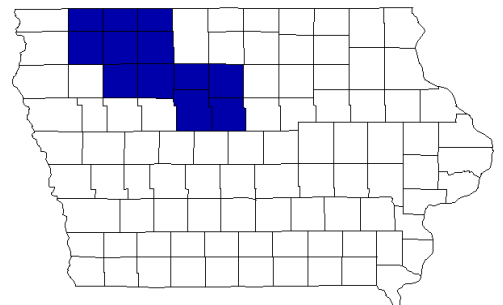
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*Serving: Osceola, Dickinson, Emmet, O'Brien, Clay, Palo Alto, Buena Vista, Pocahontas, Humboldt, Wright, Webster, and Hamilton Counties*



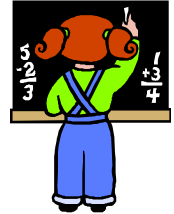
## *New Opportunities*

# Indicators of Success

## 4/10/2009 - 6/30/2010

The **FAMILY FINANCIAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE** allows New Opportunities to provide one-on-one and/or group financial literacy education to low income individuals and families and to help them manage their limited family financial resources.

- 142 families/households are now receiving services
- 67 individuals are now completing classes
- 1 new job has been created within New Opportunities



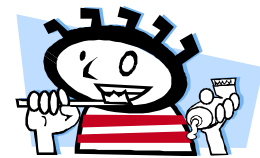
With the **GRANT WRITER INITIATIVE** there is now an employed person who can aggressively pursue new avenues of funding to assist low income families.

- 1 new job has been created at New Opportunities
- 12 grants have been submitted
- 4 grants have been funded
- \$9,500 has been leveraged for agency



### **HEALTH (DENTAL) INITIATIVE –**

- 672 children have been served, receiving fluoride varnish and dental evaluations
- 40 adults have been served, receiving fluoride varnish
- 15 adults have received dental evaluations



Through the **ELDERLY CHORE PROGRAM INITIATIVE:**

- 54 families have received assistance
- \$5,096 in assistance has been provided



The **UTILITY ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE** pays a portion of a utility bill for families who qualify with income up to 200% of poverty.

- 26 families are receiving assistance
- \$6,942 in assistance has been provided



With the **RENT/MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE** a portion of rent/mortgage for qualifying families with income up to 200% of poverty will be paid.

- 15 families are receiving assistance

- \$6,983 in assistance has been provided

The **FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTERS** continues to operate full-time in order to have services more accessible to the low income families of our service area;

- 10,787 households are receiving assistance



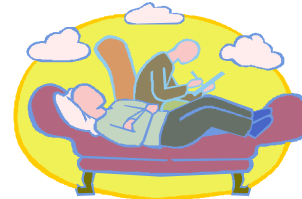
The **EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE** partners with the community college and continues to operate for education for low income individuals, helping them become more self-sufficient.

- 18 individuals are receiving services
- 18 individuals are enrolled in an education program
- \$9,826 in assistance has been provided



The **MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE** employs a person that will provide assessment and evaluation to Head Start, Maternal Health and Substance Abuse Treatment clients who are potentially needing mental health services due to economic hardship during the economic downturn.

- 45 of individuals are receiving assistance
- 45 adults have been identified, assisted and referred



Success

**New Opportunities, Inc.**

*Chad Jensen, CEO*

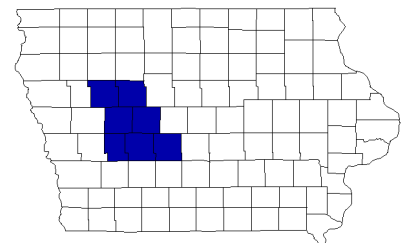
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## ***MATURA Action Corporation***

# **Indicators of Success**

***4/10/2009 - 6/30/2010***



Through the **SUMMER YOUTH INITIATIVE** participants improved literacy skills and obtained employment.

- **153** youth enrolled and **86** youth completed the literacy program
- **12** youth obtained full time employment and
- **6** youth obtained part time employment

The **PROMISE JOBS INITIATIVE** assisted **10** individuals with **2** obtaining full time employment.



# Success

## **MATURA Action Corporation**

*Jerry Smith, Executive Director*

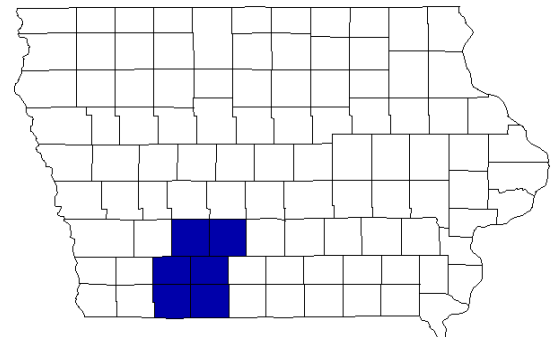
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*Serving: Adair, Madison, Adams, Union, Taylor, and Ringgold Counties*



## Indicators of Success

4/10/2009 - 6/30/2010

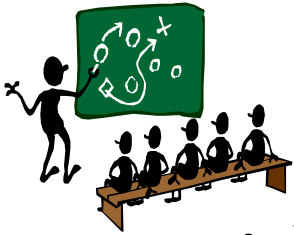
### Through the **FAMILY FINANCIAL FITNESS INITIATIVE**

- 651 participants received services to improve their financial situation and increasing total number of tangible assets
- 51 people's foreclosures were avoided
- 9 people established IDA's
- 511 families now receive EITC
- 107 individuals are reducing their debt load



### Through the **JOB COACHING & SUPPORT INITIATIVE**

- 127 participants increased their employability and connection with appropriate supports
- 5 participants are now enrolled in part-time education
- 29 participants are now achieving full-time employment
- 13 participants are now achieving part-time employment
- 7 participants are now enrolled in full-time education



### Through the **DENTAL CARE INITIATIVE FOR DISLOCATED WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES INITIATIVE**

- 134 families have received dental care



### Through the **START SOONER, STAY LONGER, KEEP LEARNING INITIATIVE**

- 802 families are receiving direct contact



- Through the **HEAD START BUSING INITIATIVE**, 25 children have been bused to a part day Head Start class room



#### Mid-Iowa Community Action

*Arlene McAtee, Executive Director*

1001 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue

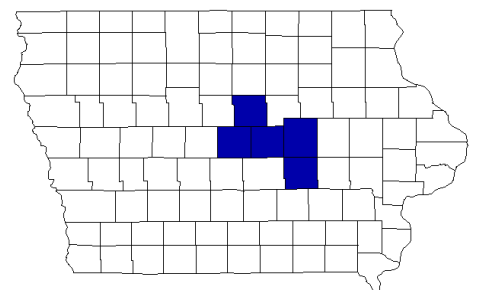
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Serving: Hardin, Story, Marshall, Tama, and Poweshiek Counties

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## 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**

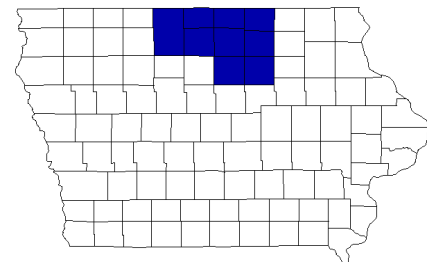
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## Indicators of Success

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*

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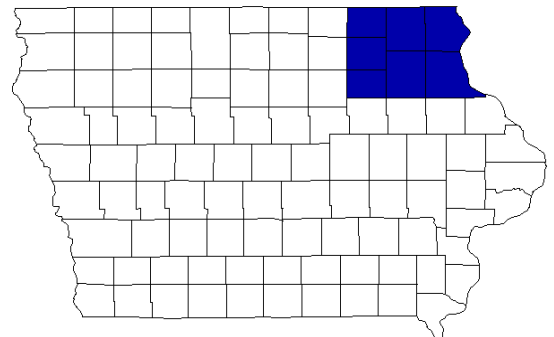
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*Allamakee, and Clayton Counties*



Success

**Red Rock Community Action Program**

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

Through the **BACK TO WORK PROGRAM INITIATIVE**

- **45** individuals obtained full-time employment
- **63** individuals obtained part-time employment
- **35** individuals have completed education or training



*This program was a success due to the job training/education, budget counseling, job counseling and job seeking skills that the unemployed low-income clients in Jasper, Marion, Warren, rural Polk and Boone Counties received.*



Through the **HIRING PERSONNEL INITIATIVE** Red Rock Community Action Program became more efficient and effective, allowing better and increased services to people looking for work.

- **14** employees have been hired full-time
- **418** clients have been served

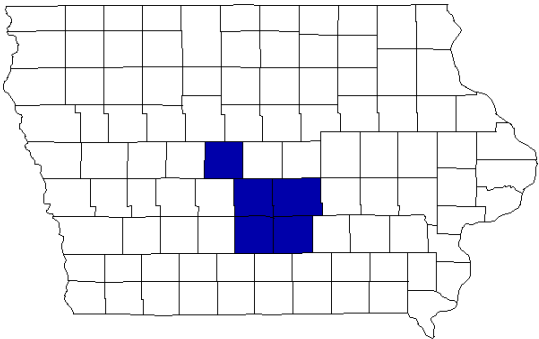
Through the **HOMELESS PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM INITIATIVE**

- **144** persons experiencing homelessness were able to attain and maintain a home
- **102** clients learned to budget to become more self-sufficient
- **36** individuals obtained full-time employment
- **43** individuals obtained part-time employment



**Red Rock Area Community Action**

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