

# MARCH 2024 DASHBOARD

## NORTHEAST IOWA COMMUNITY ACTION CORPORATION



★ 126 ★  
THOUSAND

\$126,726.48 was the amount of assistance provided through our LIHEAP, ECIP, and Crisis programs!

We approved 199 LIHEAP applications, 36 ECIP applications and 25 Crisis applications.

**NEICAC received a \$10,000 grant from the Fayette County Community Foundation to support our Crisis Assistance program. Within 2 weeks, nearly \$8,000 of the funding was processed to assist 18 households in Fayette county that were in need of assistance with past due rent, car repairs, emergency shelter, and maintaining water service.**



### Family Services

In February, our Family Services program provided:

- Direct assistance with rent, mortgage, emergency shelter, car repairs, water, prescription costs and transportation to assist 26 households facing crisis.
- Nearly \$5,000 paid to area landlords to assist customers with past due rent and prevent loss of housing.
- More than 10,000 pounds of food items from our Bremer, Howard, and Winneshiek County food pantries to over 150 households.



### Transit

Transit welcomed 58 new customers and assisted a total of 450 passengers with their transportation needs in February.

Throughout the month, Transit made 5,862 trips. From a rider: "Larry, Richard, and Mac are wonderful drivers. They do such a great job getting me safely and smoothly to and from my appointments!"



### Weatherization

February brought better weather, allowing the Crew to accomplish more home completions & projects. All WAP staff also completed annual trainings, respirator fit testing, and will soon receive training on the new audit tool which is now online.



### FaDSS

In February FaDSS and 40 families enrolled and 15 families on the waiting list. FaDSS Specialists completed 33 home & quality visits and had 146 significant contacts with families. They also had 40 collaborative visits on behalf of families.

A quote from a participant on the services they received:

"I have found the program very flexible and resourceful. My specialist takes the time to listen to my struggles and gives advice and resources that are helpful"



### Housing

Our Housing program is accepting applications for Woolen Mill, Washington Court, and Calmar Apartments! Contact Julie at [jbuddenberg@neicac.org](mailto:jbuddenberg@neicac.org) for more information.

### CACFP

February was national Hot Breakfast month. Whether you have a hot or cold breakfast, it is the most important meal of the day! Throughout the month, CACFP helped serve 3,555 Head Start students breakfast and our Home Providers served 7,381 breakfasts. Here is a breakfast idea from our CACFP Coordinator:

Big Birds's Happy Day Sunrise Smoothie  
2 cups plain yogurt  
2 cups pineapple juice  
16oz bag frozen pineapple

Add all ingredients to a blender, mix on high until smooth. Serve ½ cup per child immediately as a frosty smoothie or let sit for 5 minutes before serving. This provides 8 servings for children ages 1-5yrs old and meets the fruit and meat/meat alternative portion of the breakfast requirement

### Head Start

Head Start celebrated National Dental Month in February. A highlight was the tooth fairy visiting Head Start classrooms with a demonstration of how to brush your teeth. A take home bag of dental items, including toothpaste, dental floss, toothbrush, and a healthy tip sheet. The children listened while Nicole, Head Start Health Specialist, read a story while dressed as the tooth fairy!

Fluoride varnish is also offered for children in the classroom twice yearly with visits from public health nurses through I-Smiles.

Head Start centers also opened their doors for registration for the upcoming school year and applications are now being taken. Visit [www.neicac.org](http://www.neicac.org) to find application information.

