



STORIES *of* SUCCESS

Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation (NEICAC)

WITHOUT THIS PROGRAM, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO AFFORD TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY

I am an 83-year-old gentleman who was raised in Northeast Iowa. I spent four decades residing in California, and in 2024, I decided to return to my hometown to be closer to my family and to alleviate the financial burdens associated with living in California. During my years in California, I resided in an income-based apartment, which significantly assisted with my expenses. I was initially surprised by the difficulty of finding affordable housing in Iowa and even considered relocating to La Crosse, Wisconsin, as larger cities appeared to offer more economical housing options.

I consulted with staff from NEICAC, who provided guidance on various programs, including the Housing Choice Voucher, LIHEAP, and local food pantries. This information proved to be the key piece of the puzzle I was seeking, as I live on a fixed income and have already minimized my expenses to the greatest extent possible. Through the utilization of these programs, I am able to manage, although my financial situation remains challenging; at the end of each month, I am

left with only a few dollars remaining in my account. Recently, I was approved for SNAP benefits; however, the monthly amount I will receive is a mere \$23.00. I am sincerely grateful for agencies such as Community Action, which have helped me navigate the available resources and provided valuable education about these programs, enabling me to maintain an independent lifestyle.

Learn more about how NEICAC provides the support and resources to improve the stability and quality of life for individuals & families with limited resources.



www.neicac.org



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