

# FEBRUARY 2026 DASHBOARD

NORTHEAST IOWA COMMUNITY ACTION CORPORATION



# ★ 202 ★ THOUSAND

320 LIHEAP, 17 ECIP, & 48 Crisis applications were approved, totaling \$202,725 in direct assistance for January.

## ANNUAL FADSS DAY ON THE HILL

The FaDSS Day on the Hill was February 3<sup>rd</sup>. FaDSS staff made the trip to Des Moines to advocate for Iowa families at the State Capitol, sharing program impact, a family success story, and the importance of continued support as demand for FaDSS continues to grow statewide. The team is pictured here with Representative Michael Bergan.



## OUTREACH UPDATES

NEICAC welcomed Bill Heitman as the new Outreach Director. Bill will lead both the LIHEAP and Family Services departments.

**15K** In January, NEICAC Food Pantries provided 15,830 pounds of food to 626 individuals.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS



Early Childhood programs met on January 19 and welcomed Tom Krause, author of *The Book of Hope and Teenagers, You Don't Have to Be Perfect*, who has also contributed 28 writings to the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series. Staff also discussed upcoming reviews and engaged in cross-classroom collaboration focused on fidelity.



### Thrive Iowa

NEICAC welcomed Peggy Shea as Thrive Coordinator and officially launched Thrive Iowa with community gatherings held on February 12. Hiring is underway for two Thrive Navigators serving Fayette and Clayton Counties.



### CACFP

Rebecca Phillips, CACFP Coordinator, attended the Child Care Legislative Event in Waukon hosted by CCR&R. It was an opportunity to connect with Iowa House Representatives Michael Bergan and Jason Gearhardt and local community partners to discuss current opportunities and needs for child care and preschool in Allamakee and Clayton County. In January, we welcomed a new in-home daycare provider from Winneshiek County to the CACFP. Participating in the CACFP not only provides monthly supplemental reimbursement for meals served, but it is also an indication of quality care.



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## EARL PUBLIC TRANSIT



Transit was busy in January, providing 4,749 trips and logging 39,552 passenger miles. These rides are more than just numbers. They represent access to care, connection, and independence. During the month, our transit team provided over 800 trips to medical appointments and dialysis, helping ensure community members could get where they needed to go safely and reliably.

## HOUSING & WEATHERIZATION

We are excited to welcome Kayla Miller as our new Housing Programs Coordinator. Kayla will provide oversight and coordination across housing programs to ensure continued quality and compliance. We are currently at full occupancy, reflecting continued high demand.

We are pleased to share that Jack Davis has been promoted to Weatherization Specialist and will be conducting energy audits. Our new Weatherization Director, Julie Buddenberg, has stepped into the role during a busy season and is actively supporting staff and ensuring the program continues to run smoothly. Additionally, three crew members have completed training to renew their Lead Safe Renovator Certification, strengthening our team's capacity to safely and effectively serve households.

