

APRIL 2026 DASHBOARD

NORTHEAST IOWA COMMUNITY ACTION CORPORATION



March was "Pork Month" for NEICAC food pantries. Howard County Pork Producers (with Polashek's Locker) donated \$1,000 in pork, Bremer County Pork Producers donated \$500 in pork, Cresco Knights of Columbus provided hams and Easter meal items, Reicks View Farms contributed \$400 in pork vouchers, and KMAX Farms donated three hogs processed at Elma Locker (processing covered by additional donors).

Housing - Washington Court

Tenants of Washington Court are thrilled with the installation of new mini-split systems. The mini-split systems will enhance comfort and energy efficiency for tenants, providing reliable heating and cooling throughout the year while being significantly more energy-efficient.



To date, 16 units have been installed with funding assistance from the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG).



Transit

In March, Transit completed 5,183 trips covering 36,087 miles. Day Habilitation (1,701) and Education (1,412) trips made up the largest share, followed by Medical (679) and Dialysis (306). We also welcomed 30 new riders!



Weatherization

Weatherization completed 8 homes in March, drawing down \$120,574.05 in funding. Julie Buddenberg, NEICAC's new Weatherization and Housing Director, spent two days in training with State WAP Trainer Bob Freese to support a strong transition into the role. The program continues to accept applications and is actively interviewing for a Weatherization Crew Member.



CACFP

National CACFP Week was March 15-21, 2026. This highlights the vital role the USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) plays in combating hunger and supporting quality care across the country. This year's theme, "Stirring Up Goodness", highlights the positive impact of the CACFP and celebrates the providers, sponsors, and food service professionals who bring healthy meals to life, one plate at a time.

Rebecca Phillips, CACFP Coordinator, celebrated the week by sharing menu ideas, recipes, and activity pages with providers.

Thrive Initiative

Thrive will host its first Alliance meeting on April 28 at 9:30 a.m. at the Oelwein Library, featuring a panel discussion titled "Protecting Children by Strengthening Families" in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month. We also recently held a successful Coffee, Conversations, and Collaborations meeting on April 7 at the Family Resource Center in Guttenberg, and we look forward to bringing these gatherings to more communities across Fayette and Clayton counties. In addition, Thrive is excited to welcome Mandy Fox as the new Thrive Navigator for Fayette County, and is continuing to search for a Navigator for Clayton County. We are excited to further strengthen community alliances and work with families to help them achieve stability and thrive.



FaDSS

At the end of FaDSS's third quarter, the program continued providing intensive, whole-family coaching support.

Of families served July through March...

87% of visits occurred in the home; 59% engaged multiple family members; and 87% included skill-building activities.

87%

Of those exiting July through March...

83% of employed families with childcare needs had those needs addressed; 83% were co-enrolled in early childhood programs; and 100% of adults with mental health or substance use concerns accessed treatment.

100%

Early Childhood Programs

The Head Start Act requires periodic federal review of all Head Start programs. The Early Childhood Programs participated in an unannounced Focus Area 1 Review (FA1) from March 10 to March 12, 2026. The FA1 reviews the program's performance and compliance with the requirements of the Head Start Program Performance Standards. This ensures that programs have a solid foundation for providing high-quality services.

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