

AUGUST 2026 DASHBOARD

NORTHEAST IOWA COMMUNITY ACTION CORPORATION



Family Services Postville Response



Tuesday, July 28th, the Postville community suffered a devastating loss when Agri Star Processing experienced a fire that resulted in hundreds of employees instantly losing their jobs and livelihoods. NEICAC is working with a variety of partners from the Postville area, including Crystal Duffy, Postville Library Director, and Valerie Reinke, Executive Director of Allamakee County Economic Development and Tourism, as well as Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque and Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, to assist affected families. On August 4th and 6th, Catholic Charities and NEICAC Family Service and Early Head Start staff worked together to accept over 170 applications from affected families in need of assistance and to provide families with information about other resources available in the area. NEICAC is dedicated to continuing to help the families affected by the Postville fire.

Thrive Iowa

Thrive Iowa is currently serving 25 families across Fayette and Clayton Counties and continues to expand its network of support for local families. As the initiative grows, we continue to welcome referrals from providers, community partners, and families seeking assistance with navigating resources and services. In August, we hosted two Connection Provider Trainings in West Union and Guttenberg. These trainings introduced providers to HopeHub and highlighted opportunities to strengthen referral pathways. We are encouraged by the continued growth of community collaboration and look forward to further strengthening partnerships, increasing referrals, and helping more families move from crisis to stability and long-term success!

Early Childhood Programs

Early Childhood Programs Staff met at the Fayette County Fair for a recruitment event before our Early Head Start children transition to Head Start. Hundreds of QR codes promoting the Early Childhood Programs were handed out to help fair attendees easily access applications for Early Head Start and Head Start. Sandy Johnson even came out of retirement to help at the event. Thanks to all the staff who helped promote Early Childhood Programs on July 21!.



FaDSS

The Family Development and Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS) Program currently has openings and is accepting referrals with no waiting list! FaDSS is a voluntary, in-home family support program that partners with families to build on their strengths, work toward self-identified goals, and connect with resources that promote long-term stability and well-being. Through individualized coaching and support, families receive encouragement as they navigate challenges related to employment, education, parenting, housing, financial stability, and more. If you know of a family who could benefit from additional support, please send referrals to Nichole Griesse at ngriesse@neicac.org or 563-419-8243.



Housing

Housing staff are preparing to attend the Housing Iowa Conference in Des Moines for valuable training and professional development. We're also happy to report that the Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) completed its inspection at Stoneman Court. Stoneman Court is in full compliance, and no deficiencies were identified!



Weatherization

The Weatherization Program completed 5 homes in July, with an estimated total investment of \$50,750 in energy-efficiency improvements. Fun Fact: Weatherization improvements can help make homes more comfortable and energy efficient while reducing energy use and helping families save money on their utility bills. Small improvements can make a big difference!



CACFP

CACFP Coordinator Rebecca Phillips was invited to join Iowa HHS and Child Care Resource & Referral for a statewide Providers of Excellence virtual meeting highlighting the CACFP Data Bridge pilot. Rebecca spoke on behalf of Iowa CACFP Home Sponsors participating in the MyFoodProgram pilot, alongside two child development home providers. The new data bridge connects childcare management systems with CACFP recordkeeping, helping providers improve accuracy and save valuable time.



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