

IMPACT REPORT

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A story of then and now



2 TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

5 WHO WE ARE

11 WHO WE SERVE

13 SSVF + HOUSING

17 HEALTH ALLIANCE

23 HEAD START

29 FOOD RESERVOIR

35 ENERGY ASSISTANCE

39 DISASTER ASSISTANCE

43 FINANCIALS

45 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

50 OUR LOCATIONS

Grounded in the Past. Inspired for the Future

Our journey at HACAP is grounded in people — neighbors who cared, partners who believed, and communities that grew stronger together. The past reminds us where our roots began. The present shows us the power of working side by side to meet today's needs. The future calls us to dream bigger, break barriers, and create lasting opportunities for every family.

This is more than our story — it's all of ours, written together.

FROM THE DESK OF OUR CEO

A Farewell, A Reflection, A Future

As I sit down to write this letter—my last as CEO of HACAP, I find myself reflecting on the remarkable story we have written together. It's a story of community, resilience, and a shared belief that every person deserves the opportunity to thrive.

When I first joined HACAP, we were a smaller organization with a big heart and an even bigger vision. We were building programs, strengthening partnerships, and learning—in real time—how to show up for families across Eastern Iowa in ways that truly mattered. Those early years taught me something I have carried with me ever since: lasting change is built one relationship at a time. Today, HACAP looks very different. We have grown not only in scale, but in depth. We are serving more families than ever before, expanding our reach, and elevating our work. Our programs have evolved, our partnerships have strengthened, and our team has remained committed to meeting the needs of our neighbors with empathy and intention.

This past year especially brought challenges that required us to adapt, rethink, and respond in new ways. The environment around us shifted quickly, and the needs in our communities continued to rise. Yet through all of it, our mission remained steady. Volunteers continued to step forward. Partners reinforced their support. And our staff worked with determination and heart to ensure families had somewhere to turn.

Because of this collective effort, we are not only sustaining our work—we are building the foundation for what comes next. We are enhancing the client experience, expanding mobile food access, strengthening data-informed decision-making, and investing in early childhood programs that give every child a head start. The HACAP of today is more connected, more responsive, and more forward-looking than ever. As I prepare to retire, I do so with immense gratitude and full confidence in our future. Leadership transitions bring both reflection and possibility. Our incoming executive leadership will carry forward HACAP's values while bringing fresh perspective and new energy to guide the next chapter. Change is never simple, but it moves us toward growth—and I believe that what lies ahead will be transformational for the communities we serve.

Where we have been has shaped us. Where we stand now reflects the strength of our collective work. And where we are going is rooted in our continued belief that when communities come together, lives are changed.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Thank you for believing in our mission, supporting our programs, and standing with the neighbors who rely on HACAP every day. It has been the honor of my career to serve this organization, and I look forward to watching the next generation of leaders build on this legacy.

Jane Drapeaux



**GET TO
KNOW
WHO WE
ARE**

Guided by Community from the Start

The **HACAP Board of Directors** plays a vital role in shaping the direction of our organization—approving our strategic plan, strengthening our organizational structure, and ensuring we have the operational capacity to meet the needs of the communities we serve. Their work is rooted in the very foundation of what makes Community Action Agencies unique.

Created in the 1960s as part of the national War on Poverty, Community Action Agencies (CAAs) were intentionally designed to put decision-making power directly into the hands of the communities they support. This model became known as the Tripartite Board Structure, and it remains a cornerstone of accountability, transparency, and community engagement across all CAAs today.

Under this structure, HACAP's Board brings together voices from three key groups—each offering a distinct lens into community needs and opportunities:

Public sector leaders, who ensure alignment with local priorities, resources, and systems.

Representatives of the low-income community, who speak directly to the lived experience of the people we serve and keep our mission grounded and informed.

Private sector members, who bring business expertise, innovation, and strategic insight.

This balanced, community-driven model is what makes HACAP responsive, collaborative, and deeply connected to the people we serve. It ensures that every decision—from program design to long-term strategy—is shaped by a broad and diverse set of perspectives.

More than just a governance requirement, this structure is the reason HACAP remains adaptive and mission-focused. It reflects our belief that meaningful progress happens when every voice has a seat at the table.



Meet our Board

Officers

John Brandt - President
RaeAnn Gordon - Vice-President
Wayne Manternach - Treasurer
Lynette Jacoby - Secretary

Members

Sister Susan O'Connor
Karen Breitbach
Ashley Cram
Alexa Dunn
Darrick Hall
Bob Yoder
Mike Steines
Rachel Kemper
Ben Hamel
Denine Rushing
David Thielen
Laura Roussell
Nick D'Amico
Ron Tippet
Leah Rodenberg
Steve Pace

Meet our Leadership Team

Corporate Team

Jane Drapeaux, Chief Executive Officer

Matt Majeski, Chief Operating Officer

Jason Fisher, Chief Financial Officer

Keri Burian, Staff Development Manager

Chris Ackman, Communications & Volunteer Manager

David Hagen, Data Outcomes Specialist

Janice Kunde, Human Resources Manager

Division Directors

Christi Regan, Early Childhood Programs Director

Kim Guardado, Food Reservoir Director

Dan Rauser, Facilities and Energy Programs Director

Diana Strahan, Family & Community Health Alliance Director

Heather Harney, Housing Director

Program Managers & County Coordinators

Debbie Ackerman, Community Building and Engagement
& Johnson County Coordinator

Whitney Sanger, Dubuque County Outreach & Communications Director

Linda Lough, Benton County Senior Services Director

RenElla Crawford, Washington County Operations Director

Ronelle Clark, Jackson County Center Coordinator

Deb Hamblin, Delaware County Coordinator

Julie Finn, Jones County Coordinator

Sandy Gilbert, Energy Assistance Supervisor

Christene Langmann, CACFP Homes Coordinator

Dani Pershing, 1st Five Coordinator

Amy Becker, Family Learning Connections Manager

350+ Employees

With more than **350 employees** supporting **45 programs** across **9 counties**, HACAP's team is the backbone of our mission to serve and uplift our communities.



we are HACAP



A Food Reservoir staff member working hard to keep food moving during the government shutdown.



Since 1965, HACAP (Hawkeye Area Community Action Program) has been transforming lives and strengthening communities across Eastern Iowa.

What began as a small, local response to urgent community needs has evolved into a region-wide system of impact—one that strengthens families, stabilizes households, and opens doors that would otherwise remain closed. Today, HACAP delivers a broad network of **45+ programs** that address immediate needs like food and energy assistance while also investing in long-term pathways to independence, stability, and self-sufficiency.

But our work doesn't happen in isolation. We stand shoulder to shoulder with families, community partners, local businesses, nonprofits, civic leaders and more to confront challenges that no single organization could solve alone. Together, we tackle the root causes of poverty and build solutions that uplift entire communities.

Across the **nine counties** we serve, HACAP has become more than a resource—we are a driving force for hope, resilience, and lasting change. Our reach is wide, but our belief is simple: every family deserves the opportunity to build a better future. And every day, we move closer to that vision by meeting people where they are, investing in their strengths, and standing with them as they move toward stability and growth.

This is the heart of Community Action. And it's why HACAP continues to serve, lead, and champion the potential within every community we call home.



Our Mission

Helping people develop skills to become successful and build strong communities.

Our Vision

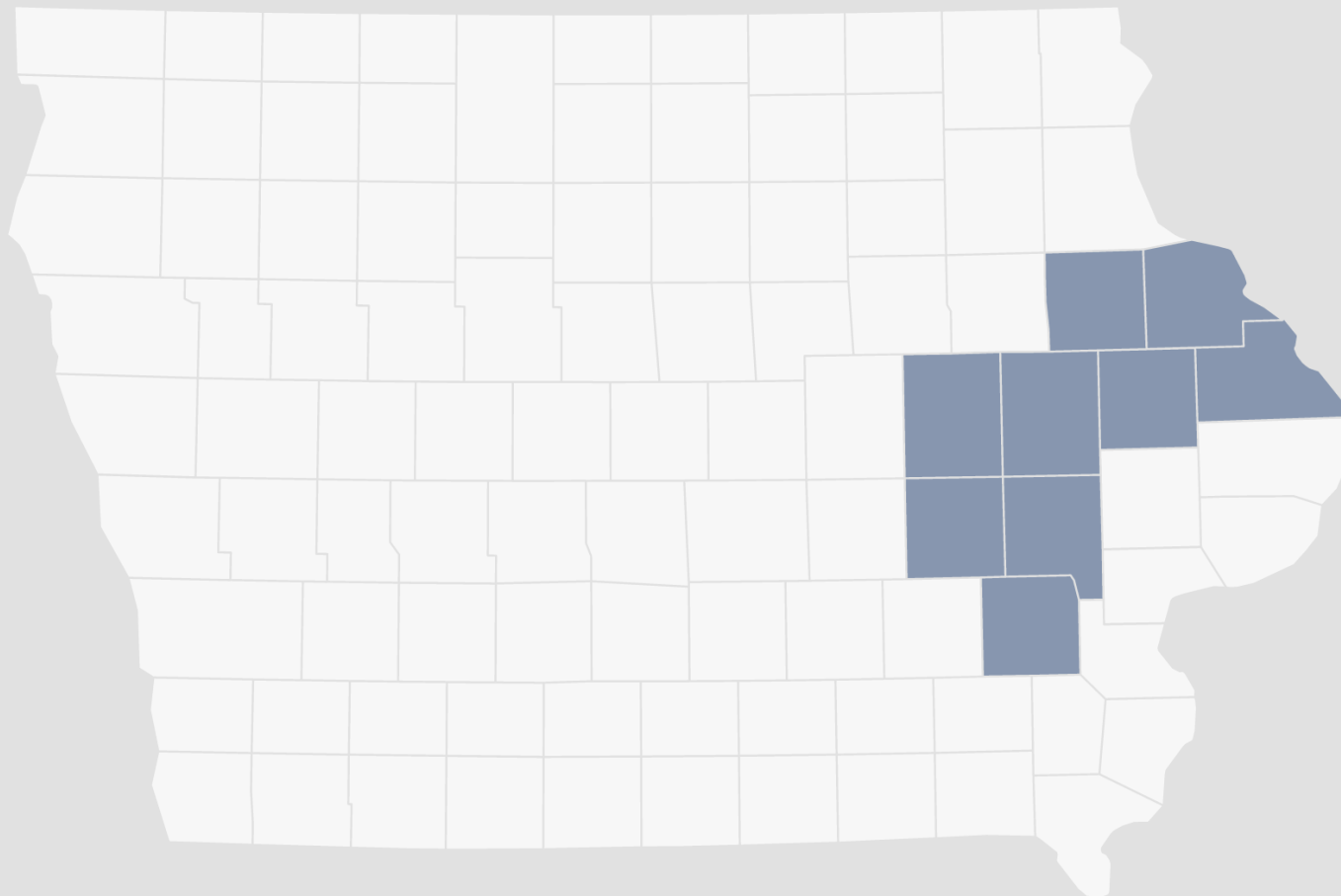
A thriving community where all people have the opportunities for success.

Guiding Principles

We are innovative, we are partners, we are responsive, we are leaders, we are HACAP.



Who we serve



HACAP proudly serves communities across nine Iowa counties — **Benton, Delaware, Dubuque, Iowa, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Linn, and Washington** — providing support, resources, and programs that strengthen families, empower individuals, and build thriving neighborhoods.



SSVF + HOUSING

Turning Passion into Progress: Transforming Housing Together

A safe and stable home is the foundation of a thriving life. It's where children grow, families gather, and individuals find rest and comfort. And it's just as true for our neighbors who have experienced the heartbreak of homelessness and housing insecurity—because every person needs a place to call home.

From the very beginning, HACAP has carried this belief at its core. Our commitment to housing has taken many forms—transitional housing, rapid rehousing, permanent housing—but the heart of our mission has never changed: to walk alongside communities and create real solutions that open the door to stability and hope.

I am deeply proud of what we've accomplished together. None of it would be possible without the incredible people who pour their hearts into this work each day. Their compassion, creativity, and dedication turn "housing" into something much greater—home.

Looking ahead, we know that change will always be part of this journey. But rather than resist it, we embrace it. Our strength lies in staying adaptable, grounded in our mission, and rooted in the communities we serve. With that foundation, HACAP will continue to build not just housing solutions, but brighter futures for years to come.

Heather Harney
Housing Director



**“Our progress is
made possible
by a dedicated
team of
professionals
who work
tirelessly to
make “home” a
reality for so
many.”**



Supportive Services for Veteran Families

250

Veterans Served. 143 homeless, and 107 at risk of being homeless

84%

Of the Veterans we worked with experiencing homelessness found a place to call home

15%

Of those we served were female Veterans

SSVF Impact Beyond Iowa

Now more than a decade in, the SSVF program has reached over 730,000 veterans and their families, achieving a 79% exit rate into permanent housing. Its success is built on pillars of responsiveness and flexibility, coordination, and engagement with social resources, proving that long-term, community-powered support can truly transform lives.



Our veterans have always answered the call to serve — protecting our country, our communities, and our freedoms. Their courage spans generations, shaping the world we live in today. At HACAP, our dedicated staff honors that legacy every day, walking alongside veterans with compassion, expertise, and a relentless commitment to restoring stability and hope. Their work turns resources into real-world impact, ensuring those who once served us receive the support they deserve now.

Housing



4.6M

Invested this FY in
Veteran support &
housing



852

Clients



165

Homes

More than a place to sleep

A home is more than a place to sleep—it is where hope begins, where healing takes root, and where families and veterans can rebuild their lives. Over the past year, HACAP had the privilege of supporting **852 clients, including 250 veterans**, each with unique stories, challenges, and aspirations.

Through **165 housing units and an estimated \$4.6 million invested** in housing and veteran support across our service area, we provided more than shelter—we offered stability and the foundation for a better future.

A veteran could finally rest without worry. A parent could provide a safe and nurturing space for their children. A person experiencing homelessness could take the first step toward regaining independence and dignity.

This work is made possible through the strength of our community partnerships. Local service organizations, dedicated volunteers, and generous funding partners all play a critical role in connecting individuals and families to safe, supportive housing. These collaborations enable HACAP to provide comprehensive support, from access to essential resources and counseling to guidance in navigating programs that help clients achieve long-term stability. Every number tells a story. Every housing unit represents resilience, courage, and the opportunity for a fresh start.

At HACAP, we do more than provide housing—we provide hope, opportunity, and the tools for transformation. It is through the commitment of our staff, the collaboration of community partners, and the generosity of our supporters that we can continue to make meaningful, life-changing impact in the lives of those we serve.



**HEALTH
ALLIANCE**

Early care, lasting impact

The Family and Community Health Alliance is here to support families through every stage of early life—from pregnancy to newborn care to childhood. Our team works across a range of HACAP programs, including WIC, Breastfeeding Peer Counseling, I-Smile, Child and Adolescent Health, Hawki/Medicaid Enrollment Assistance, Maternal Health, Child Care Nurse Consultation, and the 1st Five Healthy Mental Development Initiative. Together, these programs help parents feel confident and supported through some of the most important years of their child's life.

One of the things that makes this work so meaningful is how connected our services are. Because everything operates within HACAP, families don't have to navigate multiple systems or make extra appointments. A parent coming in for a WIC visit can also chat with a Dental Hygienist about their child's teeth or meet with a Health Alliance Outreach Specialist to make sure their family is covered by the right health insurance plan. It's all about making things easier and removing the "I don't even know where to start" feeling that so many families experience.

We also know that not every family can make it into an office—which is why we take our services out into the community. You'll find us at child care centers, schools, outreach events, and alongside community partners who share our belief that families deserve support wherever they are. These relationships help us reach parents and kids in the moments they need it most, with care that's accessible, responsive, and rooted in trust.

Diana Strahan

Family & Community Health
Alliance Director



**"It's all about
making things
easier and
removing the 'I
don't even know
where to start'
feeling that so
many families
experience."**



From Participant to Advocate: Carolyn's WIC Journey

Carolyn Stull, Health Alliance Support Specialist, knows firsthand how life-changing WIC can be. Her journey began at 18, when she discovered she was pregnant and learned about WIC through her sister and mother. At the time, WIC provided essential nutrition support through paper checks, breastfeeding guidance, dental education, and early learning resources like free books. Carolyn recalls, "Having that food, when I wasn't working, was more helpful than I could have imagined. It was worth it."

Breastfeeding was a challenge, particularly without insurance coverage for breast pumps, but with persistence and guidance from WIC staff, she successfully nursed her second child. Small touches, like learning to swab her baby's mouth to prevent thrush, made a lasting impact. Over 3.5 years, and two pregnancies, WIC provided consistent support, guidance, and reassurance.

Inspired by her own experience, Carolyn pursued a role with WIC to give back. Two years into her position, she now helps other mothers navigate their journeys—sharing insights, explaining program processes, and connecting through shared experience. Her favorite part? "The babies, of course."

Just as Carolyn has grown, WIC has evolved. What started in 1972 as a pilot program to improve the health of pregnant mothers, infants, and children at risk of malnutrition has become a comprehensive, modern support system. Over the decades, the program has added nutrition education, breastfeeding initiatives, culturally appropriate foods, and enhanced packages for mothers and children. One major change for participants like Carolyn has been the shift from paper checks to electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards, making it easier, faster, and more flexible for families to access healthy foods.

Carolyn's story mirrors WIC's evolution: a program and a community that adapts, grows, and empowers families. From paper checks to EBT cards, from basic nutrition guidance to comprehensive support, WIC continues to meet families where they are—helping parents like Carolyn thrive and now supporting the next generation of mothers and children.





Maternal Health & Child Resource Fair

On August 2, 2025, during World Breastfeeding Week, HACAP WIC and Molina Health Care of Iowa hosted the Maternal Health & Child Resource Fair at Cedar Rapids' Northwest Recreation Center. The event brought together over 20 community partners to provide families with resources, education, and support for infants, children, and pregnant and postpartum women, with a focus on breastfeeding.

Families enjoyed a welcoming environment with snacks, a craft room, and a playground for children while exploring information from vendors including HACAP programs, local health centers, birth centers, childcare resources, and breastfeeding support organizations. Attendees received materials and giveaways such as breast pumps, Pack'n'Plays, strollers, baby care kits, and postpartum support items, ensuring practical support for families' day-to-day needs.

Over 150 families attended, including many non-English speaking households, gaining access to critical resources they might not otherwise have known about. While the fair highlighted breastfeeding, families also learned about broader community services—from dental care and food programs to therapy and childcare support—helping them navigate early parenthood with confidence.

The event showcased the power of community collaboration, with families leaving informed, supported, and equipped with tools to care for their children. Its success ensures it will return to Cedar Rapids next year, continuing to strengthen connections between families and the services that help them thrive.

**Years of experience,
decades of
dedication,
countless families
supported—our
staff's commitment
has shaped the
WIC program and
touched
generations of
parents and
children.**

Carie Davenport
Health Alliance Staff Supervisor



Same Employee. Same Heart

A simple change that changed everything

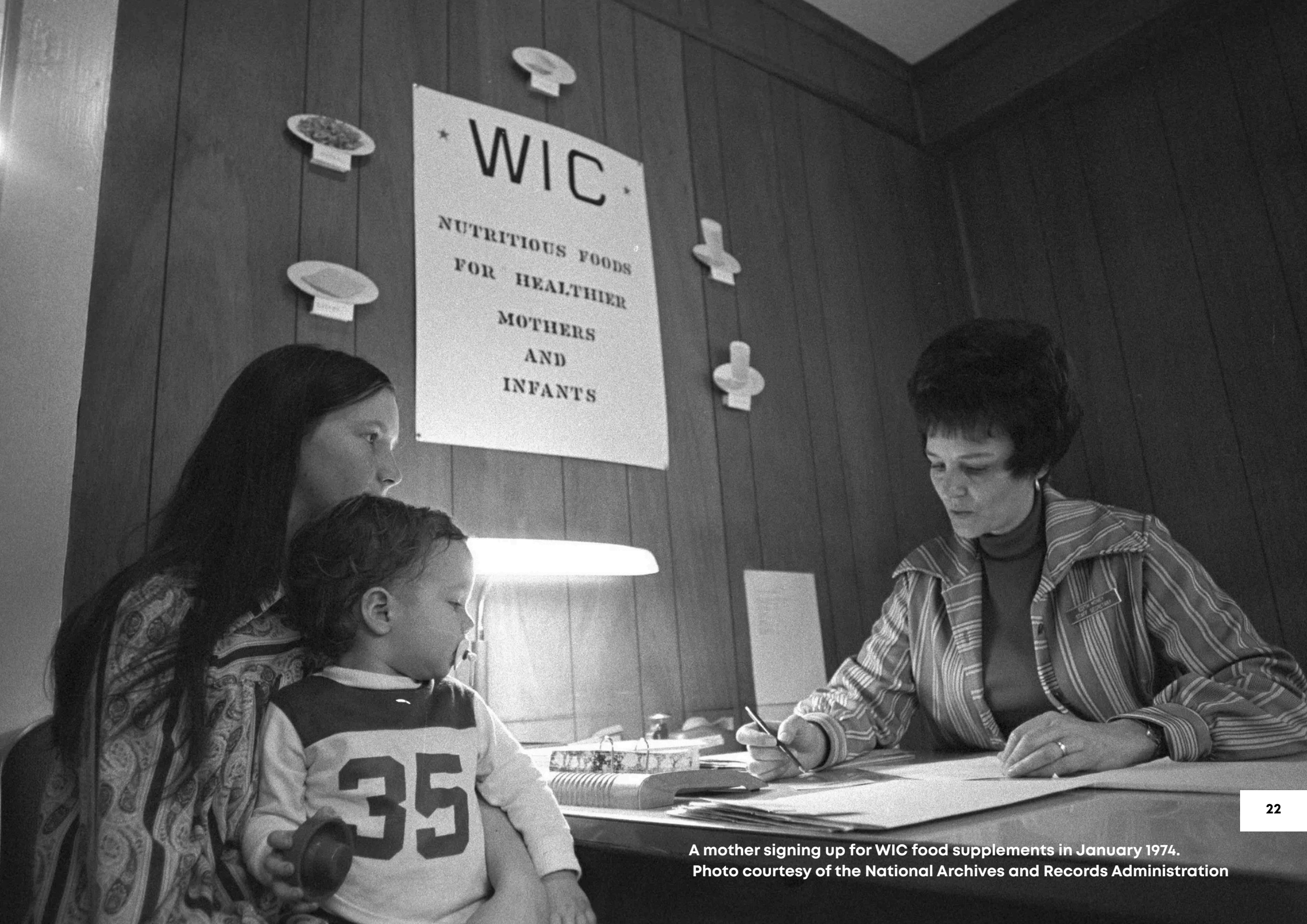
One of the most significant shifts in WIC nationally has been the move from paper checks to the modern WIC card. What might seem like a small operational update has had a profound impact on families across the country—and for those we serve at HACAP, it changed the shopping experience entirely.

The old paper checks often brought challenges—long checkout times, confusion over eligible items, and the very real fear of holding up a line or choosing the “wrong” product. For many parents, those moments added stress to an already heavy load and sometimes discouraged families from fully using their benefits.

The WIC card changed all of that. Today, families can shop with confidence and dignity. The card works just like any other payment method, allowing parents to pick up what they need when they need it. It speeds up checkout, reduces errors, and makes the experience more private—dramatically reducing the stigma that once came with using WIC. This shift has also contributed to higher enrollment, with more families feeling comfortable accessing the support available to them.

Building on this national change, HACAP has modernized the way we serve families. Our WIC services now operate in welcoming, accessible facilities designed to meet families where they are. What once relied on volunteer breastfeeding support has grown into a full-time, fully supported Breastfeeding Peer Counseling program. With dedicated staff and federally funded resources, the way we support mothers and children today is more comprehensive, more responsive, and rooted in dignity.

At its core, these improvements reflect one purpose: removing barriers so families can thrive. For thousands of parents and children in our community, these changes have truly transformed the WIC experience.



A mother signing up for WIC food supplements in January 1974.
Photo courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration

**HEAD
START**

In June of 1970

A room full of educators gathered in Monticello, Iowa, for a Head Start Inservice. The program was still young—just five years old—but already it carried a big dream: to give children and families the support they needed to thrive. The guest speaker that day was Dr. Dorothy Koehring, a dedicated educator and early leader in Iowa's Head Start program. She asked a simple question that went straight to the heart: "What is the importance of Head Start?"

Her answer was as clear as it was compassionate. Head Start helps people help themselves. It offers families not just services, but hope, opportunity, and a hand extended when they need it most. She spoke of parents who work long hours, who come home tired, who do their very best to care for their children with whatever little they have. A parent might not have money for milk, but they'll find a dime for a piece of candy to see their child smile. These parents, she said, are doing everything they possibly can. "They need somebody who cares. Someone to give guidance and direction. Head Start can help."

Then she turned to the children. Some arrived at school not knowing that meals could be shared slowly, that bedtime could be filled with conversation, that someone could listen to their words and feelings. For these children, school could feel as overwhelming as going to the moon. Dr. Koehring urged educators to make the classroom a home—a safe, welcoming place filled with crayons, blocks, books, puzzles, paint, and endless opportunities to explore, create, and discover. "Let them explore and grow," she said. "Until the child realizes you care about him, he won't care about you."



"Head Start is, and always has been, the gift of bright futures. It is a promise that every child is worth investing in, every family is worth supporting, and every moment of care can change a life."





This year we
celebrated
60 years
of Head Start!

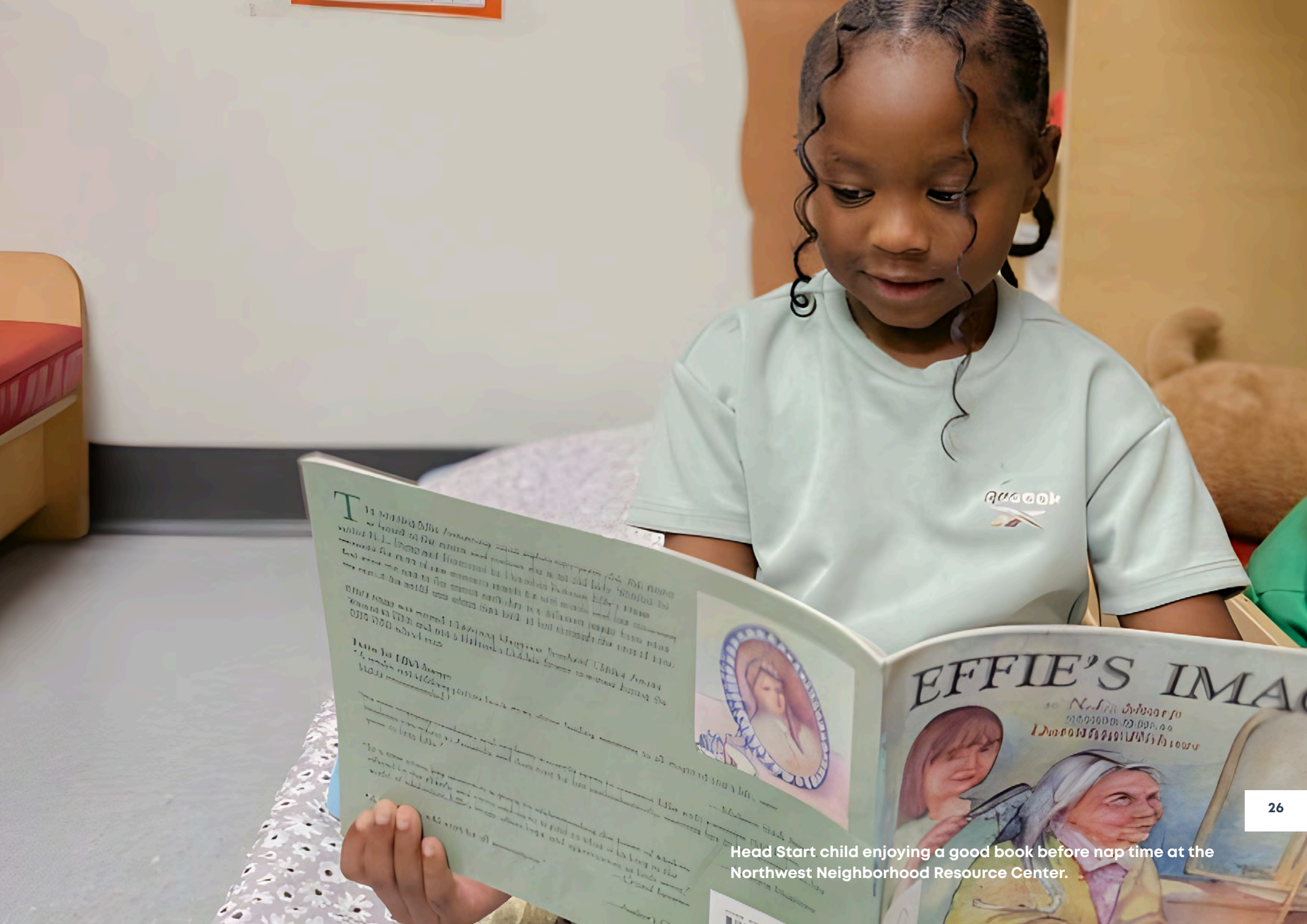
She reminded everyone that Head Start is not only about learning letters and numbers. It is about love, trust, and understanding. It is about teaching children that their feelings matter, that they are seen, that they are capable. “Learning is natural for the child,” she said, “what we must find out is why the child does not learn.”

Fifty-five years later, Dr. Koehring’s words still guide us. Every day, Head Start continues to give children the chance to explore, play, and grow. It gives families guidance, care, and hope. It gives teachers and staff the profound joy of walking alongside children and watching them shine.

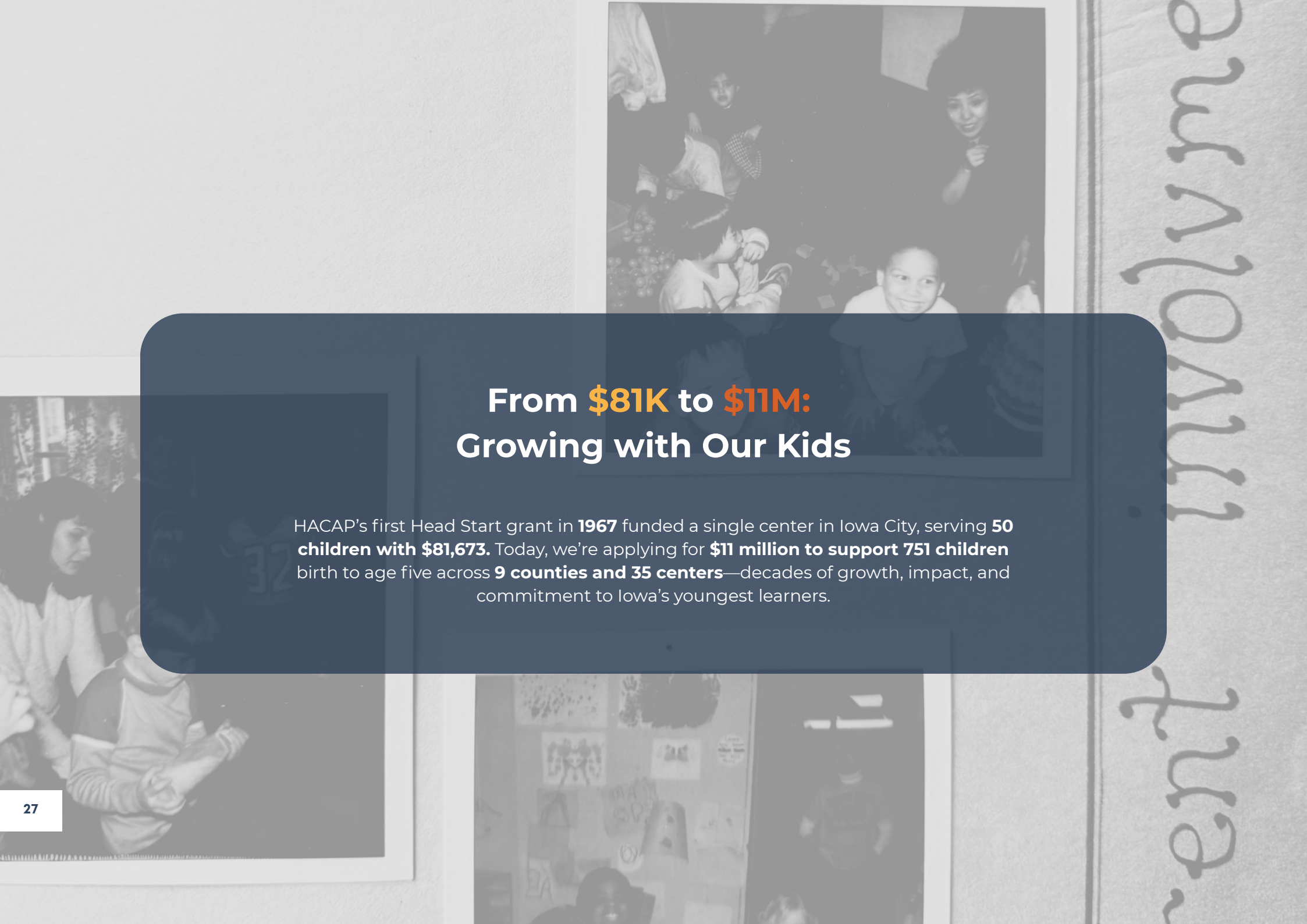
Head Start is, and always has been, the gift of bright futures. It is a promise that every child is worth investing in, every family is worth supporting, and every moment of care can change a life.

Christi Regan
Head Start Director





Head Start child enjoying a good book before nap time at the Northwest Neighborhood Resource Center.



From **\$81K** to **\$11M**: Growing with Our Kids

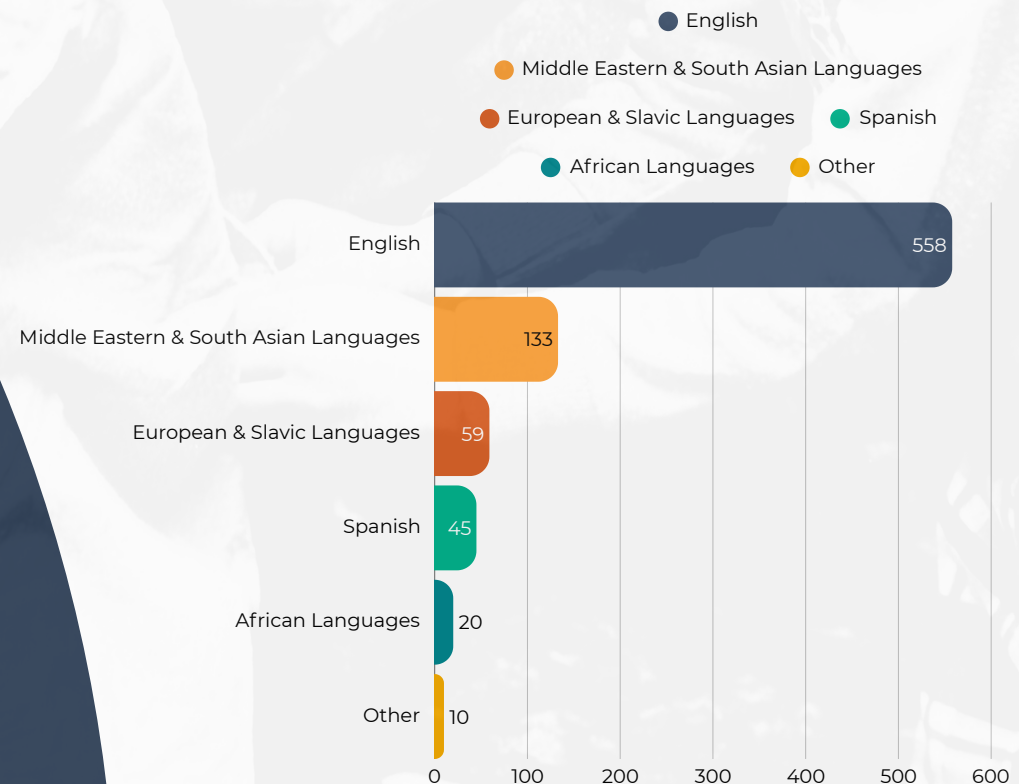
HACAP's first Head Start grant in **1967** funded a single center in Iowa City, serving **50 children with \$81,673**. Today, we're applying for **\$11 million to support 751 children** birth to age five across **9 counties and 35 centers**—decades of growth, impact, and commitment to Iowa's youngest learners.

A tapestry of languages

Walk into any Head Start classroom, and you'll hear something special—more than the hum of learning, more than the chatter of children settling into their day. You'll hear a chorus of languages, each one carrying the story of a family, a culture, and a community.

This year, the children enrolled, represent a world of linguistic diversity that we are deeply proud to support. With more than **10 languages** represented, our classrooms reflect a global tapestry of traditions and identities.

While many of our families speak English at home, dozens of children are also learning or acquiring another language—beautifully weaving bilingualism into their earliest years. In fact, **267 of our children are Dual Language Learners**, growing up with the powerful advantage of being able to communicate across cultures and connect deeply to their heritage.



FOOD RESERVOIR

Growing With Our Community's Needs

People experiencing food insecurity have faced many challenges in the last few years. When our food bank first started in the mid 1980s, the focus was on providing emergency food. As things have changed in our world, our local food pantry network has become a lifeline for so many people.

Over 54,000 people in Eastern Iowa are challenged with finding food to feed their family on a regular basis. This is equal to one in every nine people or as many as one in six children. Unexpected disruptions in regular SNAP benefits this fall brought a large influx of need to our charitable food network. Our 300 partners rose quickly to the challenge providing an unprecedented amount of food to neighbors in need.

Over the years, the HACAP Food Reservoir has changed and grown with the need. What started as a small warehouse and a handful of team members distributing 100,000 pounds of food each year has grown to a group of nearly twenty team members distributing around 12 million pounds of food while operating multiple programs to meet families right where they are in crisis or with ongoing needs. As we move into the next phase of our food bank, we take comfort in knowing we are doing our best to identify what is needed and respond to the need.

Kim Guardado

Food Reservoir Director



“The challenges have shifted over the years, but one thing has stayed the same: our responsibility to listen, adapt, and stand with the people who count on us.”



11.8M lbs

Ten years ago, HACAP distributed just over **4 million pounds** of food. Today, that number has grown to **11.8 million pounds**. This growth reflects the generosity of our community, the dedication of our volunteers, and the effectiveness of our programs. At the same time, it underscores the persistent and growing need for support—reminding us that our work remains essential in ensuring families have access to nutritious food and the resources they need to thrive.



293
Partners



27
School Pantries



179,225
Households Touched





Local Roots, Strong Partnerships

At the HACAP Food Reservoir, our mission has always been clear: make sure no one in our community goes hungry. Over the past year, the Choose Iowa program has transformed the way we do that work—helping us put fresh, nutritious food into the hands of our neighbors while supporting the local farmers and producers who grow it.

Through Choose Iowa, we can source high-quality, locally grown and raised food from right here in Iowa. This means the fruits, vegetables, dairy, and proteins we distribute are healthier and support our local economy.

The Choose Iowa Food Purchasing Program – Food Bank Pilot Grant has been a key driver in this effort. The 1:1 matching funds provided by the program have allowed us to purchase and distribute fresh, locally sourced food across our seven-county service area. Working with over 15 Choose Iowa vendors—including **Field to Family Food Hub and its Iowa producers such as Dan and Debbie's Creamery, Country View Dairy, Buffalo Ridge Orchard, Orange Ave. Organics, and more**—we've been able to ensure that the meals families receive are fresh, wholesome, and deeply rooted in Iowa's agricultural community.

We also partner with 8 non-Choose Iowa local vendors, including **Edgewood Locker, Trowel and Error, Siriro, Echo Collective, Over the Moon, Jorge's Organics, Theo's Produce, and Fairfield Organic Greenhouses**, further broadening the variety and reach of fresh, local food for our neighbors.

The impact is visible in every delivery: the smiles of children receiving fresh produce, the relief of families knowing they can provide a healthy meal, and the gratitude of neighbors who rely on the Food Reservoir to meet basic needs. For many, these fruits, vegetables, and proteins are more than food—they are a lifeline and a source of hope.

Through Choose Iowa, we've built strong partnerships with local vendors, creating a network that ensures a steady supply of fresh, nutritious food to our pantries. Looking ahead, we are eager to expand the program—bringing more local vendors into the fold and reaching more families with fresh Iowa-grown food. Choose Iowa has strengthened the connection between our food bank and the local agricultural community. Together, we are building a healthier, more resilient Iowa—one fresh meal at a time.

How Neighbor Voices Shape Our Food System

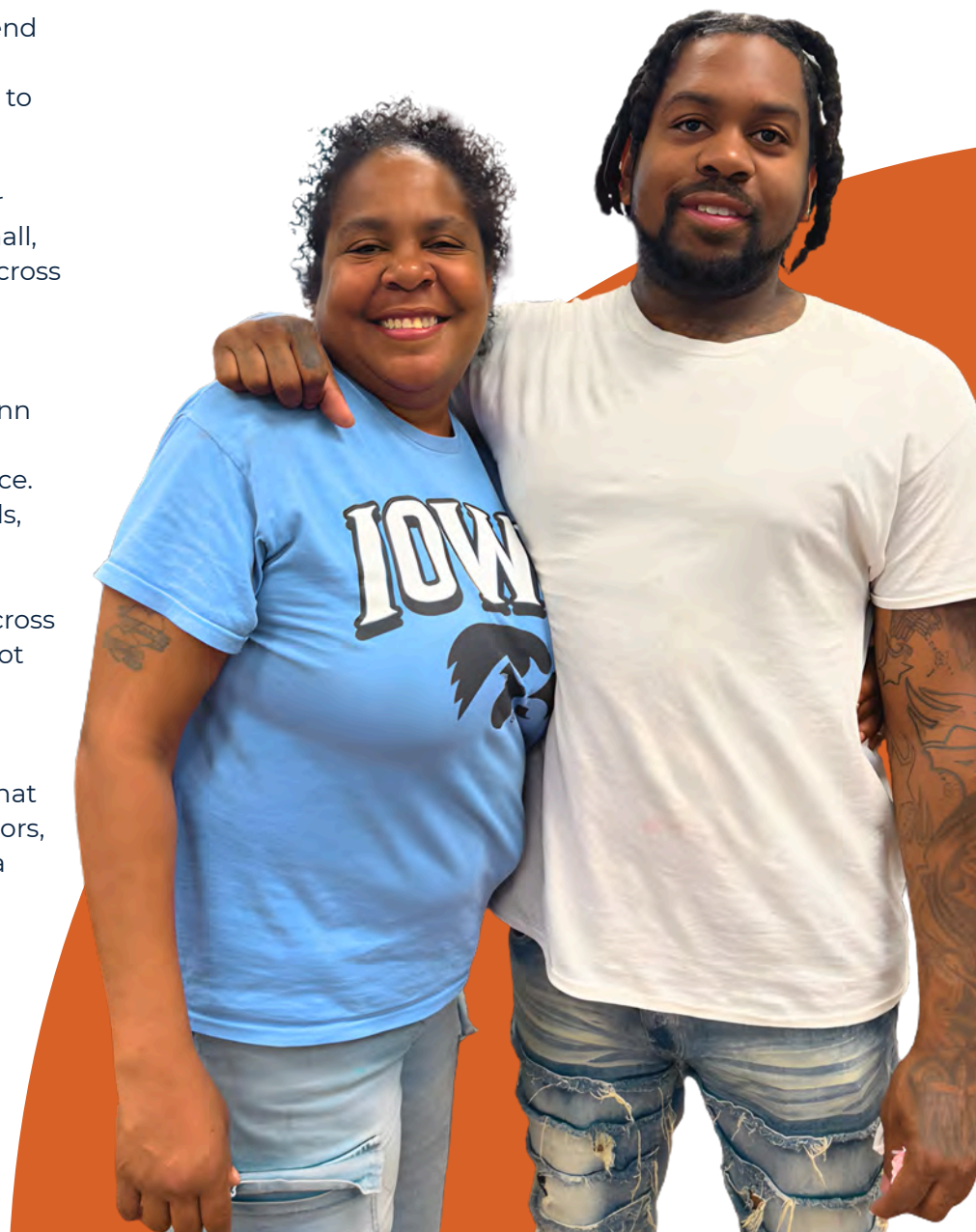
Putting people at the center of everything we do is essential to our mission to end hunger. The neighbor experience—how welcomed, respected, and supported someone feels when seeking food—directly shapes their ability and willingness to access help when they need it most.

To better understand that experience, HACAP Food Reservoir Assistant Director Angie Albright launched neighborhood listening sessions in fall 2024. These small, conversation-based gatherings bring together food-insecure neighbors from across the region to share firsthand insights about access, barriers, and what truly supports their families.

The first session included a diverse group of neighbors familiar with multiple Linn County pantries. In a neutral, comfortable setting, participants offered honest feedback on what works, what doesn't, and what would improve their experience. Their input is already guiding how we purchase food, design distribution models, onboard new pantries, and identify partners who can address gaps.

Encouraged by the success of the initial session, we are expanding this effort across additional counties to capture a broader range of voices. These conversations not only strengthen our services—they strengthen our community. Neighbors feel heard, valued, and empowered to help shape the system that supports them.

As we grow this initiative, we remain committed to creating a pantry network that is responsive, inclusive, and rooted in dignity. By listening directly to our neighbors, we ensure our work is both compassionate and effective—moving us closer to a future where everyone has access to the nutritious food they need to thrive.





Neighbor shopping at the newly remodeled Northwest Neighborhood Resource Center, formerly known as Olivet Neighborhood Mission.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Building Stability, Then and Now

When the federal government created the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in 1981, the goal was clear: ensure that families facing financial hardship would never have to choose between heating their homes and meeting other essential needs. Around that same time, the U.S. Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), began providing long-term energy-saving improvements to homes nationwide—helping households reduce their utility costs while making their living environments healthier and safer.

Nearly five decades later, the impact of these programs continues to resonate across our communities.

LIHEAP provides immediate, stabilizing relief. For families across Iowa, brutal winters and sweltering summers can turn utility costs into a crisis. LIHEAP helps bridge that gap—protecting households from disconnection, safeguarding seniors and children during severe weather, and offering peace of mind when they need it most.

Weatherization, meanwhile, builds lasting change. Through energy audits, insulation, furnace repairs, and safety upgrades, Weatherization reduces energy burdens for years to come. These improvements not only lower utility bills but also support healthier homes—addressing issues like carbon monoxide risks, ventilation challenges, and inefficient heating systems.

Together, these programs form a powerful safety net. LIHEAP keeps the heat and lights on today; Weatherization lowers the cost of staying warm tomorrow.



“LIHEAP keeps the heat and lights on today; Weatherization lowers the cost of staying warm tomorrow, giving families both relief and lasting stability.”





This past year, HACAP continued this legacy across our nine-county region by helping households stabilize in times of crisis while investing in long-term energy solutions. For the families we serve, these programs don't just reduce bills—they restore dignity, security, and the ability to focus on what truly matters.

Energy assistance began as a national response to rising fuel prices and energy insecurity. Today, it remains one of the most effective tools for helping communities weather economic hardship, extreme temperatures, and the growing demands of household energy use. At HACAP, we're proud to continue this work—standing with families when they need us most and building stronger, more energy-resilient homes for the future.

Dan Rauzer

Facilities & Energy Programs Director



\$5,914,756
in energy support



10,308
households served



**DISASTER
ASSISTANCE**



Standing With Our Neighbors in Their Hardest Moments

From 2020 to 2025, families across Eastern Iowa faced storms, floods, and emergencies that no one could have anticipated. These events were not just weather incidents—they disrupted homes, livelihoods, and daily life. HACAP's role during these times was never about the disasters themselves. It was about the people living through them: neighbors who needed guidance, support, and someone they could trust. Our work centered on meeting urgent needs, easing immediate burdens, and helping households move toward recovery with dignity.

In August 2020, a powerful Derecho swept through the region, leaving thousands without power, shelter, and basic necessities. Within just two weeks, 1,534 households turned to HACAP for assistance through the Iowa Individual Assistance Grant Program (IIAGP). When a federal disaster declaration came a week later, the process shifted to FEMA. Even so, HACAP was able to provide \$117,342.61 in direct support, helping families in Linn, Johnson, and Benton Counties navigate the immediate aftermath of the storm. Each application reflected families doing their best to rebuild in the face of overwhelming uncertainty.

The following years reminded us that even smaller-scale events could have significant impact. In 2021, a June disaster in Linn County brought 19 applications, and HACAP supported 7 households with \$8,077. In 2022, a March event in Benton County resulted in 16 applications, with 7 households approved for \$22,754.94. Eight additional families were referred to the Benton County Long-Term Recovery Group, which provided nearly \$9,000 in additional support. Each application represented a household navigating uncertainty, and each dollar represented a lifeline.





Across five years of disaster response, we connected with 2,153 households and individuals, helping them access a total of \$319,826.09 in support when they needed it most.

April 2023 brought a disaster spanning eight counties. HACAP received 77 applications and assisted 47 households with \$39,615.75 in support. Every family's experience was different—flooded basements, damaged roofs, and lost appliances—but HACAP's approach remained consistent: provide clear guidance, timely responses, and reassurance to families in crisis.

By 2024, the pace and scale of disasters increased, with four separate declarations impacting Dubuque, Johnson, Iowa, Jackson, and Washington Counties. HACAP processed 122 applications and supported 27 households with \$60,289.79. The events varied, but the mission stayed the same: meet families where they were, address urgent needs, and help them begin to rebuild.

In July 2025, Scott County received a disaster proclamation just as HACAP was newly designated as the county's official disaster contact. Between July 14 and August 8, HACAP's small Disaster Team of six received 347 applications. They were able to provide \$62,749 to 23 households and meet 30 neighbors in person at the MARC on July 28, offering guidance, clarity, and compassion every step of the way. HACAP also processed an additional 123 applications, with funds disbursed after the program transitioned. On August 8, HACAP officially handed the program over to the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) to continue serving the community.

While this transfer marks the closing of HACAP's chapter in administering the IAGP and disaster assistance, our commitment to our community remains steadfast. HACAP will continue to stand beside our neighbors in times of crisis, offering support, guidance, and a steady presence. Disasters are never welcome, but when they occur, families can count on HACAP to be there—listening, responding, and helping communities rebuild every step of the way.

FINANCIALS

In Fiscal Year 2025, HACAP stewarded over \$60 million to transform lives across our communities. Every dollar represents an investment in people, opportunity, and hope.

Over \$33M in grants, \$6M in financial contributions, and \$17.9M in in-kind donations were contributed by local partners and supporters across the 9 counties. These monetary donations, low- or no-cost space, donated food, volunteer hours, and more greatly supported HACAP in realizing its mission of building strong communities.

Behind these numbers are real impacts. \$17.4M in salaries and benefits empowered our dedicated staff to serve our neighbors with expertise and care. \$8M in direct assistance provided food, housing, and support to individuals and families. \$11M in contracted services, supplies, and materials ensured necessary services were delivered to families in need, with a significant portion supporting weatherization and other community programs throughout the counties we serve.

HACAP continues its fiscally responsible stewardship while directly benefiting neighbors and communities through responsive, community-based programs. Each dollar raised and spent is a story of connection, support, and lasting impact.

FY 25 FINACIALS

Revenue

Federal	\$26,306,384
State & County	\$7,465,612
Contributions	\$6,043,183
Program	\$1,803,263
Other Grants	\$372,436
United Way	\$298,972
Investments	\$119,711
In Kind	\$17,907,834
Total	\$60,317,395

Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	\$17,254,261
Assistance to Individuals	\$8,036,099
Contracted Services	\$7,073,870
Occupancy	\$3,959,423
Supplies & Materials	\$4,136,290
Travel/Mileage	\$596,776
Depreciation	\$371,314
Other Direct Costs	\$543,097
Training/Conferences	\$103,731
In-kind	\$17,327,378
Total	\$59,402,239

Net **\$915,156**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT + OUTREACH

MEET DENNIS + DEB

Since 2020, Dennis has led the Scouting for Food program for the Hawkeye Area Council, partnering with HACAP to ensure families across the community have access to food. Over the years, he has seen the need isn't limited to one annual drive—it's year-round, and the impact is real.

Deb joined him in 2021, volunteering weekly in HACAP's warehouse. Together, they witness the incredible scale of the operation: thousands of pounds of food moving out to hundreds of organizations that serve families, children, seniors, and veterans. Dennis laughs, "Picking orders is certainly a good workout!" But it's not just the physical work that keeps them coming back. "The team is very welcoming and super to work with," he adds, emphasizing that the people and the shared purpose make every shift meaningful.

Their commitment extends beyond themselves. Dennis brings Scouts from Troop 766 throughout the year to help assemble backpack bags and food boxes. In doing so, he teaches young people what it means to give back—to see the faces of those they help, to understand that small acts of service can ripple across a whole community, and to experience firsthand the pride that comes from showing up for others.

For Dennis and Deb, volunteering is about more than moving food. It's about connection, community, and demonstrating that even small hands and big hearts can make a lasting difference. Through their consistent dedication, they show that impact isn't just measured in pounds of food—but in the relationships built, the lessons shared, and the hope instilled in every person served.

Dennis & Deb
HACAP Volunteers



Thank you!

A community strengthened by service

In 2016, HACAP volunteers contributed **6,105 hours** of their time—each hour representing a moment of generosity, compassion, and belief in our mission. Back then, our volunteer program was grounded in heart, but still growing, still finding its footing, still building the network of community support we knew was possible.

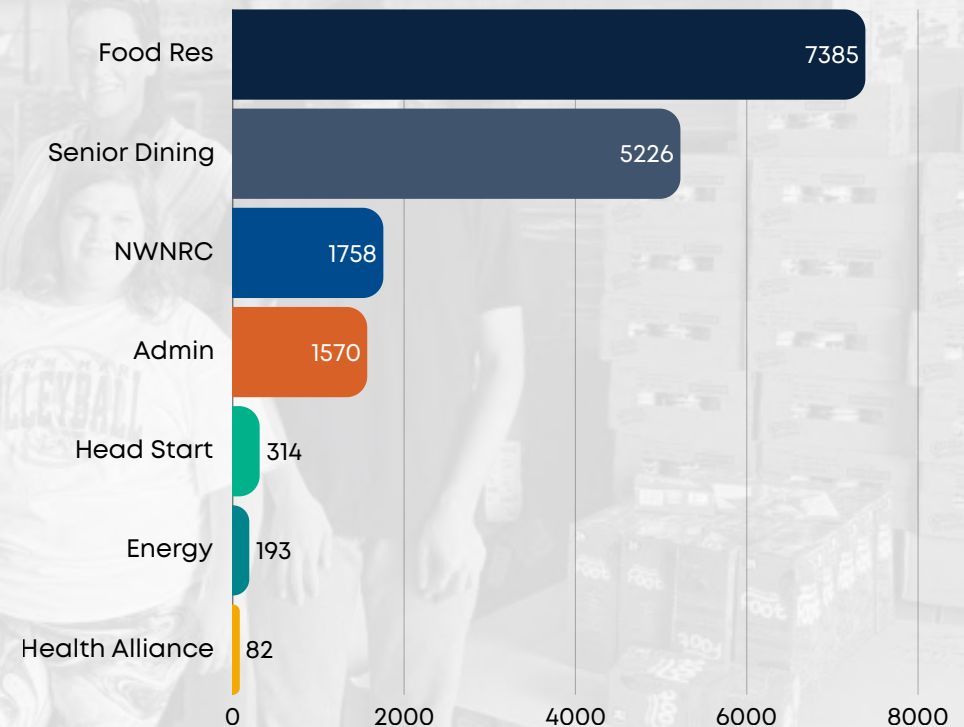
Nine years later, that foundation has become something extraordinary.

In 2025, volunteers dedicated **16,529 hours** to HACAP—a **170% increase** that tells a story far bigger than numbers. It reflects a community that continues to show up, year after year, because they believe in reducing barriers, lifting families, and strengthening the places we call home.

This growth didn't happen overnight. It grew out of partnerships strengthened, programs expanded, and a culture of service nurtured intentionally over time. It grew from retirees giving their mornings, students giving their weekends, families volunteering together, and long-time supporters stepping up again and again.

Most importantly, it represents the truth we see every day: When people are invited into purpose, they rise to meet it. From 6,105 hours to 16,529, our volunteers have written a story of dedication—and it continues to unfold with every hour offered, every pantry stocked, every child supported, and every neighbor cared for.

Volunteer Report



Access Begins with Outreach

HACAP's Outreach Centers keep us rooted where it matters most—right in the heart of our communities. With boots on the ground and teams who know their neighborhoods, we're able to build real relationships, meet people where they are, and make our services truly accessible. These centers are more than locations; they're connection points where trust is built, needs are understood, and support is just a conversation away.

Our staff don't just work in these communities—they're part of them. They listen, they show up, and they help navigate challenges in real time. By being present and approachable, we're able to reach individuals and families who might otherwise fall through the cracks, ensuring that help isn't just available, but truly within reach.



Get in touch

Benton County

North Benton Office & Head Start

202 E 4th St, Vinton, IA 52349
(319) 472-4761
Fax: (319) 472-4762

Dubuque County

Dubuque Outreach Center

220 W. 7th St., Dubuque, IA 52001
(563) 556-5130

Dyersville Head Start

750 5th St. NW, Dyersville, IA 52040
(563) 875-0215

Engine House Head Start

1805 Central Ave. #1, Dubuque, IA 52001
(563) 239-6850 Ext. 2150

Marita Theisen Head Start

1584 White St., Dubuque, IA 52001
(563) 587-8830

Delaware County

Delaware County Office

721 South 5th St., Manchester, IA 52057
(563) 927-4629

Manchester Head Start

408 East Clara Ave., Manchester, IA 52057
(563) 927-3515 ext. 146

Jackson County

Jackson County Outreach Office

904 East Quarry, Maquoketa, IA 52060
(563) 652-5197

Johnson County

Iowa City Bloomington Head Start

318 E. Bloomington St., Iowa City, IA 52245
(319) 339-0632

Coral Ridge Head Start

2441 10th St., Coralville, IA 52241
(319) 351-1214

Waterfront Office & Head Start

367 Southgate Ave., Iowa City, IA 52240
(319) 337-5765

Affordable Housing Office

1207 Highland Ct., Iowa City, IA 52240
(319) 337-5765

Jones County

Jones County Head Start

100 Park Ave., Anamosa, IA 52205
(319) 462-4336

Jones County Office

105 Broadway Pl., Anamosa, IA 52205
(319) 462-4343

Linn County

Corporate Office

1515 Hawkeye Drive, Hiawatha, IA 52233
(319) 393-7811

Inn Circle

5560 6th St. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
(319) 366-7631

Linn County

Marion Head Start

5650 Kacena Ave., Marion, IA 52302
(319) 447-5816

Marion WIC Office

640 14th St., Marion, IA 52302
(319) 200-8650

Northwest Neighborhood Resource Center & Head Start

230 10th St. NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
(319) 221-1484

Urban Office & Head Start

1328 2nd Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
(319) 366-7632

Veterans Memorial Building

50 2nd Avenue Bridge, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401
(319) 286-5038

Washington County

Old Main Center

2176 Lexington Blvd., Washington, IA 52353
(319) 653-7275

Orchard Hill Head Start

2175 Lexington Blvd., Washington, IA 52353 #1
(319) 653-7275





www.hacap.org