

# RESPONDING WITH RESILIENCY



Annual Report  
2019 - 2020

# FROM OUR CEO



This past year our community experienced an immense amount of hardship that left the families and households we serve with the significant task of remaining resilient, more so than they ever have before. The extra challenge this created for people in need were that many of these families had already been facing a significant hardship before the year began and before we saw COVID-19 and the Derecho have its effects on our service area.

As an organization that is dedicated to building stronger communities, many quickly looked to HACAP this past year to be on the front lines of assisting not just the low-income population but many of our non-profit partners and friends who were experiencing the great effects of COVID and August's storm as well.

In this year's annual report we wanted to provide the community with a brief inside look at how we were working to respond with resiliency and help our neighbors ease the burden of what was an unprecedented year.

We want to thank all of our great partners and volunteers who banded together. None of this could have been done without them. This includes every single person who donated (even if it was \$1), or provided a few minutes of their time to assemble food boxes, or took the time to share a news story mentioning HACAP to friends and families to spread awareness about how every day we're working to build (and sometimes rebuild) strong communities. At the end of the day we are **ALL** HACAP.



*Jane Drapeaux*

**Jane Drapeaux**  
HACAP CEO

## OUR YEAR BY THE NUMBERS:



**40,521**  
INDIVIDUALS SERVED



**15,599**  
HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

# **Mission Statement**

Helping people develop skills to become successful and build strong community

## **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 have integrity

We are HACAP

# Board of Directors

## Officers

- John Brandt - President
- Sister Susan O'Connor - Vice-President
- Wayne Manternach - Treasurer
- Lynette Jacoby -Secretary



Board President John Brandt accepting the Lifetime of Service Volunteer Award from the United Way of East Central Iowa in July 2020. We congratulate John and thank him for his service both to HACAP, and the community as a whole.

## Members

- Kaitlyn Love
- Bruce Adams
- Jason Fisher
- Lynette Jacoby
- Bob Yoder
- David Thielen
- RaeAnn Gordon
- Leah Rodenberg
- Katelyn Woodward
- Melanie Nollsch
- Janele Brown
- Mark Setterh
- Karina Hutchison
- Rick Primmer
- Steve Pace, Non-Voting

## Rozie Schermerhorn Award

The Rozie Schermerhorn award is presented to an individual who has provided exemplary service to HACAP in a policy-making capacity with involvement in the broader community on behalf of low-income people. This year's Rozie Schermerhorn Award is presented to Sister Susan O'Connor.

Sister Susan has been a continuous advocate for HACAP and the services we provide as we work together to make life better for our communities. Thank you Sister Susan, for your commitment to HACAP's mission and vision.





# COVID-19 RESPONSE

## **RESPONDING TO THE CORNOAVIRUS**

As the month of March headed to a close, our state and service areas quickly began to see the effects of COVID-19 unravel locally. Unlike anything we had encountered before, HACAP knew right away that this global pandemic would effect families and individuals in an entirely new way, with new challenges. Below is how we worked to provide a "new normal" that would still allow our team to carry out their important roles to those in the community:

## **BEST PRACTICES FOR OUR TEAM OF STAFF MEMBERS**

80% of staff members moved to working remotely during the onset of COVID-19. While many of our sites closed to the public, staff were able to connect with clients over the phone, via email, and through Zoom, to continue to identify their needs and provide critical services. As many know, COVID-19 is currently still an ongoing issue. As our agency continues to weather this storm, PPE is required to be worn by all staff members and our lobbies remain closed. Our leadership team has (and remains) in close communication with public health officials to address any cases that come up so that we can be proactive as we can.

## **PROVIDING FOR THOSE WE SERVE**

Ensuring the safety of our clients has been one of our top concerns during the Coronavirus outbreak. Meeting our clients and families where they are at via providing services online has had both of it's pros and cons and we quickly moved to this approach. For the first time ever, families in need of quality childcare can apply through a form on our website which has increased interest in our Early Childhood programs.

Changes were also made in our food distribution methods by providing a safer low-contact drive-thorough model for mobile food pantries. With the impact of COVID-19 rising in early April, so did the unemployment numbers. As a result of this, the number of clients seeking food assistance saw a dramatic increase with newer individuals who may have never has to access a food bank before.



**All HACAP lobbies continue to remain closed to the public to better prevent the spread of COVID-19**



# ENGAGING VOLUNTEERS

*"Act as if what you do makes a difference... it does." - William James*



**2,450 volunteers**



**8,706 hours**

Join us by giving back a piece of your time at [hacap.org/volunteer](https://hacap.org/volunteer)



# STORM RECOVERY



As we soon found out, the turbulent summer would get harder for our families and facilities as the Eastern Iowa community was hit with a Derecho (land locked hurricane) knocking power out and supplying damage to many of our HACAP facilities and housing units.

Relying the promise of community action, our team quickly mobilized to start finding ways to get help to our clients by distributing food across the town for people without power. HACAP began to administer the Iowa Disaster Assistance Grant receiving over 1,730 applications initially before Linn County was granted assistance from FEMA.



**Iowa Individual Disaster Assistance Grant**  
**1,730 applications**



Head Start Family Support Worker's teamed up to help deliver food boxes in our communities most vulnerable areas during the aftermath of eastern Iowa's most catastrophic storm.



Housing & Weatherization crew members worked to remove tree debris from our Affordable Housing units in the downtown Cedar Rapids area. A total of 20 units were affected by the storm.

# OPERATION: NEW VIEW COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY MERGER



Current team members from Operation: New View meeting at HACAP for a day of new employee orientation where they learned about the new organization they will be working with. We are very excited to have and every one of them on board!

## HACAP HEAD START RECEIVES GRANT TO EXPAND SERVICES

HACAP Head Start was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on Thursday August 6 to expand early childhood education services in Dubuque, Delaware, and Jackson counties. A total of \$539,476 has been awarded for HACAP Head Start to conduct operations from October 1 through the end of the year and will receive a total of \$2,260,354 to cover operations in 2021. The grant will provide a total of 190 early childcare slots for children ages 3-5. HACAP Head Start currently serves Benton, Linn, Johnson, Jones, Iowa, and Washington counties serving over 740 children.

On March 26, 2020 the Board of Directors of Operation: New View Community Action, operating services in Dubuque, Delaware and Jackson counties, approved the planned merger of its organization with Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc. (HACAP). Currently, HACAP serves six counties in Eastern Iowa (Linn, Jones, Johnson, Benton, Iowa, and Washington) and the new merger would add three more counties expanding HACAP's service area to the greater Dubuque area as well as the two rural counties. The plan after the transition is for all current Operation: New View Community Action employees to have a position with HACAP. Prior to the merger, HACAP leadership asked that in order for a merger to take place between the two nonprofits, a \$264,000 debt owed by the Operation: New View was paid off. The debt payment will be settled by Dubuque County, the City of Dubuque, and Jackson and Delaware counties each paying a pro rata share. HACAP plans on continuing current Operation: New View's programs such as LIHEAP, the home energy heating program, CACFP, the meal program for childcare providers and Weatherization services which provides small home improvements to low-income families that help reduce their utility costs. HACAP's Board of Directors has previously authorized moving ahead with merger at a previous meeting.



## 3 New Counties Added Dubuque, Delaware, and Jackson



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## REVENUE

Government Grants, Fees, and Support	\$24,348,015
In-Kind Contributions	\$9,000,354
Contributions/Public Support	\$1,617,684
Program Income	\$1,418,892
United Way	\$558,488
Investment Income	\$1,786

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$36,945,219</b>
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## INCOME

Food & Nutrition	\$15,444,583
Children	\$8,884,388
Energy Conservation	\$6,484,842
Homelessness	\$2,861,475
Administrative & Fund Raising	\$2,352,087
Veteran Services	\$1,143,391

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37,170,766</b>
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# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



**"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world." - Desmond Tutu**

Hunger and food-insecurity have reached public awareness this year in a way I haven't seen. The wide-reaching impacts of the coronavirus pandemic and associated economic disruption have put a new face on hunger. One local newspaper has published 27 articles about food insecurity since March. Last year they published 11 stories in the same period. We know that the need for food has increased dramatically. Feeding America, a nationwide network of 200 food banks, projects a 58% increase in the number of food-insecure people within our service area.

Amid the heartbreaking stories of families facing food insecurity for the first time, there is hope. The shift in awareness of poverty, hunger, and inequity has created opportunities for new community partnerships and increased public support of food banks. Since April, we have hosted mobile food pantries at Veterans' Memorial Stadium thanks to a partnership with the Cedar Rapids Kernels. We also worked with the City of Cedar Rapids and ImOn Ice Arena to set up volunteer events at their venue. These deepening partnerships and many others have allowed us to respond to the unique challenges this year has presented. Community collaboration is what has positioned the HACAP Food Reservoir to be responsive to the food needs of the community.

In April, we distributed over 1 million pounds of food in a single month for the first time in our history. We broke that record again in August by distributing 1.5 million pounds of food, including 350,000 pounds of fresh produce. To date, we have distributed enough food to provide 9.3 million meals to our neighbors facing food insecurity. Despite the growth we've experienced in the last year, we know there is more work to end hunger in our community, and we are in this work for the long haul. We appreciate the support of our donors and community partners who have joined us in the fight to end hunger in our community.



*Kim Guardado*

**Kim Guardado**  
Food Reservoir Director

# FINANCIALS



## REVENUES

United Way	\$72,000
Government Grants & Fees	\$207,990
Contributions/Public Support	\$991,204
Program Income	\$132,373
In-Kind Donations	\$11,470,141
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$12,873,710</b>

## EXPENSES

Program	\$12,026,099
Fundraising & Administrative	\$247,125
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$12,273,224</b>

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## FOOD RESERVOIR ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Leah Rodenburg, Chairperson**  
Alliant Energy

**Jay Larson**  
United Way of East Central Iowa

**Tim Getty**  
Heritage Agency on Aging

**Scott Wilson**  
Cedar Rapids Kernels

**Ann Hearn**  
Community Member

**Jasmine Wu**  
Community Member

**Ashley Balias**  
Linn County





Hawkeye Area  
Community Action Program, Inc.

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*HACAP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Member of Feeding America*