

UDMO Program Director's Report April 2022



Executive Director - Julie Edwards

I want to take a moment to thank UDMO employees and our collaborative partners for the support I have received through the transition into the Executive Director role. I am excited by the immense amount of positive energy and passion UDMO Directors have demonstrated that will ensure UDMO's continued success in the future!

Grant updates:

Alisa Schlieff successfully wrote a grant to continue and expand our FaDSS program.

Shakira Meyer has continually submitted grants in collaboration with fellow Directors for additional funding. Notices of Award come frequently to support service to our clients.

Kyle Dietrich, is preparing for additional state funding for the Weatherization program.

Key Staff Changes:

Executive Director – Julie Edwards

Early Childhood Programs Director – Recruitment in process

The UDMO Board of Directors will need to approve the following items:

Weatherization DOE-22-26 Funding Notice for April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023 in the amount of \$470,202.00

Other News:

BVU partnership directions on how to apply.

Weatherization Program Notice 22-01 this contract requires:

½ of the agency's weatherization field staff receive some type of HEP training during the program year. This training can be completed on-line or in person and must be reported to DCAA using the Monthly Training Report.

The DOE PY22 Max House Cost is \$8,009 and the Max Health and Safety Cost is \$1,850.

Office of Head Start Region VII approval letter for the hiring of Julie Edwards as UDMO Executive Director.

DHS State Notification of New Law Applying to Hotel Lodging/Services for FOSU-20-002. Effective 1/1/22 Iowa Code 80.45A prohibits public employees from expending public funds to lodging providers that are not certified as having completed human trafficking prevention training.

Iowa DSBG Program Policy. Income eligibility celling for CDBG CARES Supplemental, regular FY 2021 CSBG and regular FY 2022 CSBG funded services and benefits furnished from 2/18/22 through 9/20/22 is 200% of the latest U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-CONTINUED

Wright County Board of Supervisors approved funding request of \$14,062 for the organization’s FY 22-23.

City of Estherville approved FY 2023 budget which included an appropriation of \$7,500 for UDMO utility funds.

Office of Head Start prior approval waiver requirements.

Prior approval for the purchase of equipment. Recipients may purchase equipment needed to respond to COVID-19 with a value up to \$25,00 without prior ACF approval.

Budget modifications allow recipients more flexibility to spend funds as needed to respond to COVID-19 and, when possible, quickly move to reopen closed centers, prior approval is waived for budget transfers between direct cost categories for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$1 million.

Procurement by noncompetitive proposals. OHS is authorizing recipients to engage in sole-source purchasing to obtain goods and services needed for COVID-19 response and recover.

Head Start federal review will occur the week of April 18 – 22. A team of four will review all aspects of our program with results anticipated a couple months following the review.

Strategic Planning is being initiated and will involve UDMO Directors, employees and Board Members.

Estherville’s 2 New Playgrounds at Roosevelt will go before the Zoning Board in April. Upon approval installation will occur as soon as the weather allows.

Roosevelt’s roof replacement is scheduled for this spring also.

Human Resources Manager– Tiffany Harris

HR is finalizing all requested job description changes in preparation for board review. Evaluations are being updated to mirror job description duties which will be the criteria each employee is evaluated on.

UDMO is considering the switch to a more user friendly, mobile platform for time keeping, so HR has attended several payroll software meetings. Currently, Paycom and Paylocity are the companies being explored.

We have kicked off another 6-week Wellness Challenge: Elevate! Our employees are off to a great start ---- the leaderboard is fun to follow ---- it’s ever changing!

HR continues to actively participate on the Wellness & Safety Committee as well as the DEI Committee.

HR attended the Strategic Planning meeting with ICAA, so we can bring that back to light and begin moving forward with it.

We had the following new hire(s) for the month of March:

Assistant Teacher	Storm Lake (x2)
Assistant Teacher	Spencer
HS Site Assistant	Central Office
HR Assistant	Central Office
Home Based Teacher	Spencer
EHS Teacher	Storm Lake

We had the following separate employment in the month of March:

Sub	Jefferson
Home Based Teacher	Jefferson
Site Assistant	Central Office



HR Continued:

Assistant Teacher

ILCC

**Bill Tulip was our random raffle winner of a Yeti Tumbler for completing the Wellbeing Survey!
Thank you to all of those who took the time to complete the survey!**

**T.J Thayer -Operations Director-**

The Roosevelt project is still a big pull of my time. We were able to get the variance approved for both the hood system for the kitchen and also the playground. The kitchen equipment and hood equipment has been ordered and will begin to be installed once it all comes in. With approval of the hood variance we also need to reroute the sidewalk in one area. Griffith concrete has bid and will be doing that once the weather allows. The playground installation should start mid-April, depending on weather. Currently working with organizations to get bids for sprinkler system and construction of new classrooms.

Working with Julie, and Donna on getting the federal interest with UDMOs attorney
Variance meeting with City of Estherville
Meeting with Cement Contractor at Roosevelt.
Playground plans and walk through
Meeting with Julie
Directors meeting
Housing Trust Board meeting
Sprinkler system bid walk through
Preparing for roof repair to boiler room.

**Weatherization-Kyle Dietrich****“Weatherization Report for March 2022”**

Number of Families Served in March 2022: 5

Number of Families Served in FY 2022: 19

Goal for 2022: 110 Homes

**Weatherization Update:**

The Weatherization Department for the month of March we had an extremely slow month with home's, because of a couple of contractors taking vacations which has shown a 50% decrease in production in this month's amount of homes that we were expecting. I am hoping at the end of April we will get our normal 10 homes plus a couple more to bring the numbers closer to where we need to be. We are currently 11 homes short at this current point which we can make up, but defiantly not where we would like to be, but I am very confident we will get the work that we need to get done in the time that we are allowed. Especially with the employees that our Weatherization Program has, they always do what needs to be done to accomplish our goals. Until then we will continue to push hard and create results and effectively assist our clients with their energy needs on their homes in our 17 county area that we serve.

FaDSS Alisa Schlieff-Counties: Webster, Wright, Hamilton, Humboldt, Palo Alto, Emmet, Buena Vista and Pocahontas

Happening/Meetings:

- Continued with High Impact Leadership Training
- FaDSS Spark Committee
- Attended FaDSS Coordinator Meeting
- Attended FaDSS Council Meeting



****UDMO was awarded the 23-25 FaDSS Grant-with this we will obtain 4 new counties (Clay, Dickinson, O’Brien and Osceola)****

March 2022

Number of Families Served: for March 2022 78 families
 Year to Date Families Served: July 1 ,2021 to March 31, 2022: 108 families

Success Story: Nina is a single mother of three children. She was a transfer from another FaDSS grantee. Nina was placed at the YWCA for SA treatment and her children were removed by DHS and placed in foster care. She had supervised visits while in treatment. Nina followed the program became employed as a housekeeper at hotel. Was able to get her vehicle from the Sioux City area. Nina had her housing voucher transferred to Fort Dodge Housing. Once she was able to look for an apartment, she found one in Webster City. She graduated SA treatment and was able to move into her apartment. Nina continued to work with DHS and Family Drug Court. She was able to be reunified with her three children. Nina enrolled the older two in the Webster City Schools and the younger one preschool. Nina continues outpatient SA treatment and works with a MH therapist. Nina was promoted at work from housekeeper to Head Housekeeper. FaDSS was able to help with PEAF funding with some rent and a used washer/dryer. Nina has worked with UDMO to receive Liheap, Back to School program, and Bikes for Tikes. Nina is starting to work on relation ship with her family, but setting boundaries due to some also having SA issues. Nina appealed an academic suspension and won. Nina is attending college classes online to get her AA degree. Nina graduated SA Treatment in March and the Family Treatment Court case is set to close in May 2022. Nina is working 30 -35 hours a week. She receives SNAP, Medicaid, and housing assistance.

SAIL-Alisa Schlieff

Counties: Clay, Dickinson, O’Brien, Osceola, Webster, Wright, Hamilton, Humboldt, Palo Alto, Emmet, Buena Vista and Pocahontas

March 2022

Number of Families Served: for March 2022 22 families
 Year to Date Families Served: October 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022: 53 families



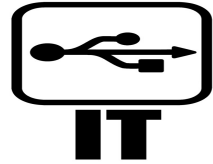
Success Story: Amy had owned a trailer for over 10 years, she was gone over night and her furnace went out and all her pipes froze. She called for help through UDMO Weatherization. They had reached out and thought maybe they could repair or replace the furnace. After inspection of the trailer, there was extensive pipe issues and it was going to cost the home owner more than the trailer was worth. They referred Amy to SAIL. I was able to give her a list of apartments that were available in town and refer her to our Housing program. Amy found an apartment and I gave her the documents needed for the landlord. Amy brought them back to me and I sent them onto Housing. Amy received help with the deposit to get moved into an apartment. She was very grateful for the help from UDMO.

A sign on family member was recently diagnosed with epilepsy. She was scheduled for some Dr. appointments in Omaha. She is not allowed to drive and we were able to reach out to VA services and they were more than willing to give her a ride to and from Omaha. We are starting on her Disability claim and have contacted Hamilton Law Firm. UDMO has also been to the home for weatherization.

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Information Technology Board Update-Elisa Umscheid

Current projects:



Microsoft 365: I have contacted a variety of companies that handle M365 migrations and am currently narrowing down the scope of the project and identifying the companies that will best fit our organization to assist in making the move to Microsoft 365. I have been meeting with them virtually over the last few weeks and I will be deciding soon as to which companies I will request bids from. Based on the preliminary information I have received thus far it sounds like we will want to move to a hybrid environment. More details will be available in the coming weeks.

At this point I am waiting for further information on the Infrastructure grant that Jamey had applied for. This grant will determine which pieces we are able to do and in which order so this project is in a holding pattern for the moment.

We are continuing to organize data on SharePoint and on the servers in anticipation of possible changes that may be forthcoming.

Delivery times for electronics: There have been few changes over the last month to delivery times on computers and electronics due to supply chain issues. Computers are typically taking an additional 4 to 6 weeks for delivery. Printers are becoming impossible to find with most stock sold out and no re-stocking date indicated. At this time, we are not ordering printers unless they are listed as in stock and we are planning for 8-week delivery on any computers ordered. Additionally, we are trying to adjust our expectations and only order items that are in stock.

Head Start:

The phone upgrade for Roosevelt, Jefferson and Gingerbread that was done last year is continuing to be problematic. The installation company, River Valley of Graettinger, has been working to correct the issues and have been in contact with the system manufacturer to determine the root cause. This is progressing and we are making headway on the issues.

Site to site calling seems to have been solved. I have been requesting feedback from staff and so far, there haven't been any reported issues.

Voicemails sent to email is still being addressed, but the process is improving and reports are this should be solved in the next day or two.

The video door phones have an issue that was identified with the cell phones. An update has been identified and is being applied with hopes this will solve and complete this issue.

Server updates have been completed.

WIC computer updates: Updating software is monitored weekly and updates are completed on non-clinic Fridays.

Computer recycling is on going and we are currently waiting for a pickup date from our recycler.

Staff support calls and e-mail requests arrive daily and are addressed as they are received.

Please remember to share our Twitter presence with as many interested parties as you can: @UDMO_CAA

Our Board packet is now being delivered to board members via an FTP site that we are hosting. Board members will receive an email each month letting them know when the packet has been posted and supplying them with the link to access it. That link is: <https://pydio.udmo.com:8082/pydio/>

For March, Outreach took and processed 382 Liheap applications and of that number 345 were eligible for a total amount of \$223,152. 37 applications were denied. Year to date, Outreach has approved 5,519 applications for a total spent of \$3,694,568. Last year at this time Outreach had approved 4,593 applications, so we are a head 926 applications. The average Liheap payment is \$670.93.

69 households received Liheap-21 ARPA Crisis funds in the amount of \$76,334.68. Year to date, 427 households received crisis for a total spent of \$311,396.66. 200 households received LIHWAP Crisis funds in the amount of \$29,114.52. Year to date, 1,197 households received LIHWAP crisis for a total spent of \$143,017.07.

[All customer contribution programs have been updated and emailed to Outreach, telling them how much is available for the programs and guidelines.](#)

The moratorium will end on April 1st and people that have not been able to keep up on their utility payments will be receiving disconnect notices and can be disconnected for lack of payment from their natural gas and/or electric companies. In the coming months, Outreach will be extremely busy helping trying to negotiate payment arrangements and assisting with past due accounts. Liheap applications will be taken through April 30th.

We are working on a new Crisis component, called LIHWAP (Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program). There are 2 different funding levels for this. LIHWAP-21 CAA and LIHWAP-21 ARPA. We will be using the LIHWAP-21 CAA first. Once this has been expended then we will be issued LIHWAP-21 ARPA funding. This Crisis program will help to pay a person's arrearage or disconnected bill for water and/or waste water. This is a pilot program and currently only authorized through September 2023. This will start in October, 2021. Our contracted budget amount is \$362,995.

We have used all of the LIHEAP-21 ARPA funds for Liheap payments. We are now using regular LIHEAP-22 funds for Liheap payments.

We are using LIHEAP-21 ARPA funds for Crisis payments. Crisis payments is called (ECIP) Energy Crisis Intervention Payment.

We are using LIHWAP-CAA-A funds for water/waste water Crisis payments.

Crisis money can be spent all on all the crisis components: New changes to the Crisis Program per State. The new changes started May 1st.

New changes effective Feb. 28, 2022 for Out of Fuel. See below.

NEW: Income limits are at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. (previously 175%)

NEW: To qualify for the LIHEAP crisis program, households must be at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines (previously 175%). Households previously denied in FY21 because they were over income, now qualify for crisis assistance, provided their income at the time of application was at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines (income re-verification is not required).

NEW: Crisis limits have changed. See below. Households may receive crisis assistance multiple times throughout the year, up to the expenditure limits noted.

NEW: Subsidized households where heat is included in the rent are eligible for the crisis program. Must have an electric bill to help with a crisis. If Subsidized and both, heat & electric is included in the rent, then NOT eligible for a crisis, because the household has no energy burden. (households were previously ineligible).

Crisis money can be spent all on all the crisis components.

Furnace Repair/Replacement up to \$4,000 (previously \$3,000) Homeowners Only!

Reconnect up to \$3,000 (previously \$1,000)

Service Continuity up to \$3,000 (previously \$1,000). To pay a propane/fuel oil back bill so vendor will deliver new fuel, can use Service Continuity.

Deposits for heat and/or electric up to \$500 – need something from vendor stating the amount of the client's heat and/or electric deposit scanned into THO. (Stayed the same)

Continued:

Out of fuel up to \$1600 (previously \$800). Help paying a propane/fuel oil back bill, before vendor will deliver, use Service Continuity. Fuel tank must be at or below 30% (previously 20%), or less.

Space Heaters as a last resort up to \$300. Must meet certain requirements.

LIHWAP-21 CAA up to \$2,500 for water/waste water. Must have a breakdown of the bill and Must be up for disconnect or disconnected. Must have statement showing disconnect/disconnected.

Thank you very much to everyone in Outreach, FaDSS, Sail, Kristy, Lori, for all the time spent and hard work for the LIHEAP program and the Crisis Programs. I know everyone is very busy and working very hard.

Program Development, Compliance, & Reporting– Shakira Meyer

Funding Requests:

Recent Foundation/Organizational/Trust Grants Submitted and Status as of March 2022	County	Program	Submitted/Pending	Awarded	Denied
Emmet County Community Foundation	EM	Coats for Kids	X		
UMC Hunger Grant	All	Outreach	X		
Kossuth DCAT CPPC Grant	EM, PA	CACFP		X	
Elderbridge	All 12	CHORE		X	
Renaissance Grant	CL	Youth Development – Pool Pass Program	X		

Program Grants Submitted February through March 2022	County	Program	Submitted/Pending	Awarded	Denied
FaDSS Grant	All 12	FaDSS		X	
1 st Five – Grant Notice to Award to be posted April 20, 2022	CL, DI, OB, OS, EM, PA	KIDS	X		
WIC – Grant Notice to Award to be posted May 20, 2022	CL, DI, OB, OS, EM, PA, Lyon, Sioux, Plymouth, Cherokee	Hand in Hand	X		

Capacity Building/Professional Development:

ROMA Subgroup Zooms - Ongoing

ICAA Development/Fundraising Zoom Groups - Monthly

Emerging Leaders Institute and Training for Excellence (ELITE) – February thru October

Upcoming or Ongoing projects:

UDMO FY21 Annual Report – In Process

Apply for and/or report back on foundation grants as they come due

Applying for in April: Lakes DCAT CPPC for CACFP, Wright County Community Foundation, O'Brien County Community Foundation, DNR Food Storage, POET-Emmetsburg and Sibley(Ashton)

KIDS – ICAPP Contract Renewals for FY23-FY25 due April 1, 2022

CSBG 6 Month Report due April 29, 2022

CSBG FY 23 Application due June 3, 2022

UDMO CSBG Self-Assessment due September 2022

UDMO Community Needs Assessment due September 2022

UDMO Strategic Planning due September 2022



In March, we have continued to provide services, however it has been challenging at times. Both of the family support workers are out on medical leave. I have been reaching out and attempting to schedule visits with families. This also includes having support by interpreters within the agency to contact families regarding services being put on hold until interpretation services are available. A majority of families have scheduled home visits and I am utilizing a combination of both in person and virtual when possible. The hope is that services will return in person with their designated home visitors in April.

In regards to staff, we are looking at hiring for a position in the O'Brien, Osceola, Clay and Dickinson area with bilingual preferred. We are also looking at having substitutes available for absences such as this. A few of my previous KIDS Program staff have volunteered to provide coverage if necessary. Both positions are posted on the UDMO website.

March will be the end of the third quarter of services under the Iowa Child Abuse Prevention (ICAPP) grants, so I will begin to work on reports that are due in April. In addition, ICAPP grants are a two year grant cycle with optional renewals for an additional three years. We did complete the renewal documents and those were submitted with a due date of April 1st.

In addition, we are also looking at additional opportunities for grant funding in the future. This included applying and submitting for the 1st Five Grant which was due March 31st, 2022. If awarded, this will cover Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Osceola, O'Brien and Palo Alto with the option for covering an addition four counties of Cherokee, Ida, Sioux and Lyon once additional funding is available. This will be a great opportunity for the early identification of developmental delays and concerns through universal screening. Universal screening tools will include the developmental tool Ages and Stages Questionnaire and an Autism screening tool called the MCHAT. I look forward to hearing about the outcome of our application on April 20th, 2022.

I have continued to attend community meetings and prevention council meetings when possible. In addition, I and my staff have looked at trainings for some professional development hours that we are able to attend virtually in the future. I am looking at when I am able to complete our second round of home visit observations by June 30th.

One update I do have regarding our Iowa Family Support Credentialing, is that programs will be charged a fee annually to have access to technical assistance and support through the credentialing process. This is a fee based on program participants and will have to be included in future grant applications. The Iowa Family Support Credential is needed to apply for Early Childhood Iowa funds or other funding sources through the Iowa Department of Human Services.

Success Story: A family consisting of a mom and a four-year-old have been participating in services with the KIDS Program since the child was one. We have worked on a variety of skills including relationships, jumping, climbing up ladders and going down slides, and most recently working through food aversions. Mom has implemented and followed through with suggestions and the family has made great strides to improve gross motor and social emotional skills related to food aversions. Mom has made great and also difficult personal choices that have improved their family as a whole. In addition, this child has greatly improved in their abilities and is finding more foods that they enjoy.

Housing Report – Tanya Thelen Housing Services Coordinator

Introduction:

My story with Upper Des Moines Opportunity began way, way, way back in April of 2021. I was interested in moving to Graettinger but I had no idea where in the world I would work. I came across an ad that UDMO was hiring for a position in the Fiscal department so I applied. Then I was called for an interview. I thought it went alright but I didn't immediately hear back. I waited and waited and called and called and pestered the heck out of anyone that would listen to me (mostly Donna ☐). Finally, Dawn called me back for a second interview. Second interview went well and not too much longer in April I had a new gig. I enjoyed coming to work and I enjoyed my job. Near the end of September, I applied for the Housing Specialist position and I was taken up on the offer. I have found it to be a very interesting but complicated program that has been trying at times to learn but with the right resources and the will to succeed I have done well. I continue to learn something new almost every day. I enjoy helping others and I'm proud to be part of the UDMO family.

I live in Graettinger with my significant other Clint. We have 2 spoiled rotten fur babies: Stella and Kirby. Between the 2 of us we have 5 children and 1 grandbaby.

Housing Continued:

I was out of the office for medical leave for a couple of weeks in March. Prior to my absence I was trying to spend down TBRA #5 but found out that I first needed to be certified to do the required inspections. I completed the certification but that didn't leave much time to use the funding before going on medical leave. Thankfully while I was out we were given an extension for the program and we now have until the end of July to make use of the funds.

We applied and received funding for the new Iowa Rapid Rehousing Program. The Project's purpose is to provide ERA 2 funding (Emergency Rental Assistance 2) for Coordinated Entry and RRH support in order to address homelessness through a pilot program. We were awarded a total of \$741,432.00 to be used through the year 2025. The program is expected to launch in the second quarter of 2022.

We began fully utilizing the call center for housing clients. After working out a few wrinkles it has started streamlining our housing process. It has cut down some confusion for the client and it has also taken some weight off of the outreach staff. Individuals needing rental assistance simply need to call the call center for intake. That number is: 1-833-739-0065. Clients calling in may need to leave a message and call center staff will return calls within 48 hours to complete intake. Clients deemed eligible for assistance are placed on the waiting list and those who are not are referred to other mainstream funding sources.

ESG:

Homeless Prevention: 3 Household and 6 Individuals

Rapid Re-Housing: 1 Household and 1 Individual

TBRA:

4 Households and 9 Individuals

TBRA funding schedule has been extended so we will now have through July 2022 to get those funds spent.



Maddie Wankum-WIC Director



Numbers served: During the month of March, our participation was 1793 active clients.

Local happenings: UDMO WIC applied for funding of the fiscal year 2023 competitive Iowa WIC grant. This application was for Collaborative Service Area-1. Award notice will be posted on May 20th.

Farmer's Market checks will be available as of June. \$27 per current participant (9 months and older along with being current with the program as of May 2022). We will mail checks to participants unable to pick up at the clinic setting. Checks can be used at the local food vendors this summer.

WIC Cash Vouchers for fresh fruits & vegetables are temporarily being increased to \$24 per month for children, \$43 per month for pregnant and postpartum participants, and \$47 for breastfeeding participants monthly from April-September 2022. These are special funds added to the participant's e-WIC card to be used at the local grocery stores.

WIC has returned to normal service delivery in every county. The waiver has expired so all appointments are face-to-face unless the participant has a medical condition that warrants an alternative method with medical documentation.

Current changes in national and/or state trends:

The White House released President Biden's budget request for fiscal year 2023. The proposed budget includes \$6 billion for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), including an extension of the increased Cash Value Benefit (CVB) for fruits and vegetables through fiscal year 2023. The President's Budget also outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture's plans to update the WIC food packages to reflect science-based recommendations consistent with the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.



What's Happening:

UDMO Early Childhood Programs Director position is open as Julie Edwards has accepted the Executive Director position with UDMO. She will still be here to fully support the Head Start program in her new role. At this point, we have excellent applications so hope fill the position in a timely manner.

Full Enrollment: 306 Head Start children & 176 Early Head Start children.

Temporary classroom closures: Excited to announce one classroom in Storm Lake reopened March 28th. We are working to hire and train new staff so the remaining 3 Early Head Start classrooms can open in Spencer and Storm Lake.

Disabilities: The program is currently serving 49 children who have qualified to receive special education services which means we met our target of 48 children. This is 10% of our funded enrollment.

Federal Review: The Focus Area 2 Review will be conducted the week of April 18-22. There will be two onsite and two virtual reviewers. The review will consist of a thorough review of evidence to demonstrate compliance with federal Head Start Performance Standards, classroom observations and a number of interviews including the UDMO Board, Policy Council, parents and staff.

Community Kindness from Emmet:

Dr. Williams Dental Office-held dental clinic days for children in program regardless of insurance type.

Emmet County Public Health Sharon Hooe and LeeAnn Dietrich-collaborates with EHS program to provide prenatal and postnatal visits. They are also members of Health Advisory Committee. Support and provide information and flu vaccination clinics.

Estherville Free Clinic-provide free medical care for uninsured children and families.

Community Kindness from Storm Lake:

Mr. Good Fellow-Donations of winter gear and clothing yearly for children in need.

Tornado Food Packs: Barb Argotsinger-Started the program with the All Saints Episcopal Church in Storm Lake who help her put the packs together and distributes them to HS children.

Becky Carlin– CACFP In Home Daycare Sponsor

I was awarded a \$2000 Clay County Foundation grant in March, as well as a \$2000 grant for Emmet and Palo Alto Counties. All for recruitment and retention of Home Providers in those counties. There are a couple of additional counties that we are still waiting to hear from. Shakira has done a wonderful job applying for and receiving grants for my home daycare counties. This is so critical for my program, as over the next few months I have gotten word that I will be losing a few more.

I had 52 of my 53 providers submit claims for reimbursement in March. The one provider that did not submit claims let her registration (license) expire 02/28/2022, which made her ineligible to claim March claims.

CACFP In-home Providers served the following meals in March:

Breakfast: 6691
Lunches: 6713
Snacks: 8600
Suppers: 318
Total Meals Served: 22,322



March 2022, Outreach Report for Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Hamilton, Humboldt, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Pocahontas, Webster & Wright.

By: Jamie Flugstad

Buena Vista

Happenings:

Thank you to Hy-Vee, Walmart and Fareway for your beautiful donations everyday!

Thank you to all my amazing volunteers for your support!

Our food pantry continues every Friday starting at 7:30 a.m. until the food is gone.

We are helping families with crisis funds so they don't get disconnected. We have families asking for help with rent and water bills too.

We keep receiving beautiful donations from Or Community and I appreciate each of you. Thank you so much!

Clay

Happenings:

Processing LIHEAP and LIWAP Applications.

Receiving many large food donations.

Attended Clay County Hunger Coalition Meeting.

Hosted Clay County Housing Team Meeting.

Handed out garden program items.

Attended the COVID Force Meeting.

Food Drive with Kiwanis, JC Penneys, and McDonalds.

Assisting many clients with emergency housing and utility assistance.

Knights of Columbus Omelet Fundraiser for UDMO.

Y100 Radio held a live food drive for Clay Outreach.

Accepting applications for Back to School and Pool Passes.

Dickinson

Happenings:

Receive Walmart donations Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

A freezer will be donated to us full of meat.

Working on LIHEAP as they come in.

Our volunteers are wonderful and are here with us Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

We received an 890 pound donation from Safco and a \$5,000.00 check.

Emmet

Happenings:

Food Pantry is held every Friday from 10:00-12:00 & 1:00 -3:30.

We continue to receive food, non-food, and monetary donations.

We continue to work on the birthday room and mail out cards for parents to come and get a gift for their child.

Along with a gift or two, they will receive a blanket, cake mix, frosting, candles, plates and napkins if we have them.

Mobile Food Pantry will continue to be held the first Thursday of the month from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Continuing to work on LIHEAP and Crisis as they come in.

Continuing to get ready for back to school.

Hamilton

Happenings:

Iowa Select donated pork loins.

LIHEAP, LIWAP, and Crisis appointments.

Assisting clients with rent.

Received \$1,500.00 from the Enhance Hamilton County Grant for our Coats for Kids Program.

The Garden Program has started. Clients can receive seeds and tools to help them start a garden.



Humboldt**Happenings:**

Food pantry is given out Monday – Friday with help of volunteers.
 Birthday Bag Program – Letters sent out & bags put together for youth to pick up.
 Thank you notes written for donations received.
 LIHEAP appointments are open. Many applications are being received via mail.
 Continue to use the Fiscal System to complete purchase orders, client service vouchers, and cash disbursements.
 Have a table with garden produce and Hy-Vee bakery items for people to take.
 Food donations from Hy-Vee are now also being dispersed at the Humboldt Homes for low income families with lesser access to transportation to have access to pastries and bread donations.
 We received so many great donations from local individuals and businesses for our food pantry.
 Received and processed monetary donations to both UDMO and the Humboldt County Ministerial Association.
 Crisis appointments have significantly increased.
 Financial assistance now being offered for youth sports activities.
 Pool pass applications are now available.
 Back to School Bash planning has started.

O'Brien**Happenings:**

Food Pantry is held every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 We continue to receive food, non-food, and monetary donations.
 We continue to work on the Birthday Room and mail out cards for parents to come and get a gift for their child. Along with a book, stuffed animal, and blanket, they also receive cake mix, frosting, candles, plates, and napkins.
 Mobile Food Pantry from Paulina, Hartley and Sanborn.
 Continuing to work on LIHEAP and Crisis as they come in and appointments.
 Been making appointments for coats, snow pants, snow boots, hats, and gloves for families.
 Organizing the baby room.
 Recipe book for food pantry items.
 Back to School Program applications.

Success Story:

Partnered with Jared Johnson, O'Brien County Emergency Management Director, Abby Wallin, O'Brien County Relief Directory, and Katie Ginger, O'Brien County Veterans Affairs to help with the Suicide Awareness Program for O'Brien County youth. These groups have also volunteered their services to help with the Back to School Bash. They offered to bring the new ambulance and fire truck to have there for the kids to enjoy. Primghar Fire Department has partnered with O'Brien as well to shoot the fireworks off for the Back to School Bash in July.

Partnered with Rebecca Miller who is the Director of Primghar Parks and Rec Department to start utilizing the Angel Funds for Softball Registration for the youth in my county.

Continue to Outreach all my area businesses to gain relationships to help build UDMO and the Community.

– Courtney Strub, O'Brien County Outreach

Osceola**Happenings:**

COVID-19 precautions.
 LIHEAP applications mailed and clients are encouraged to apply.
 Birthday letters were sent out.
 Pool passes start next month.

Palo Alto**Happenings:**

Still receiving some food donations.
 Handling crisis payments for clients.



Palo Alto-Continued:

Taking appointments for LIHEAP.
 Contacting those who have not applied for LIHEAP.

Pocahontas**Happenings**

Working on LIHEAP applications, crisis, and water crisis as they come in.
 Food pantry is open daily!
 Picking up donations from Clay County UDMO and bringing some to Palo Alto UDMO and Pocahontas UDMO.
 Working on disconnects as they come in.
 We had 2,002 lbs. of food donated this month.
 We served 69 households for the March Mobile Pantry.

Webster**Happenings:**

Drive thru pantry for March was on the 17th. A total of 206 families were served and 37 more pantries for families from the office.
 Grace Lutheran Church Youth Group donated 125 pairs of socks (\$250 value).
 New Covenant Christian Church donated \$250.00.
 Holy Trinity Catholic Parish donated \$300.00.
 Georgia Pacific donated paper products and accessories for the Baby Room, Kristen Hall brought by.
 Georgia Pacific donated Back to School supplies.
 Linda Cline from ISU Extension donated paper products and toys for the Birthday Room.
 Dee Fors donated 50 three-ring binders for Back to School.
 Georgia Pacific donated \$3,000.00.
 Faith Lutheran Church Women donated \$200.00 for Outreach.
 Lords Cupboard donated 6 boxes of baby cereal and juice.
 LIHEAP and LIWAP continues to be steady. Lots of shutoffs and past due notices.

Wright**Happenings:**

Fareway donations everyday.
 Iowa Select donated 300 lbs. of pork loin roasts.
 Samuel Lutheran Church donated a total of \$570.00 for kid books and toys brought in from people attending church services that they donated. Also, a lot of cake mixes, frosting, aluminum cake pans, cupcake holders, and candles for the Birthday Room.
 St. John's Church in Clarion donated \$50.00.
 Thank you cards sent out.
 Getting ready for the Garden Program.
 Processing LIHEAP applications as they come in along with crisis situations, and emergency housing.
 Busy with appointments for the food pantry.

Numbers Served

Number of Families Served: Buena Vista: 121, Clay: 242, Dickinson: 128, Emmet: 141, Hamilton: 76, Humboldt: 98, O'Brien: 123, Osceola: 26, Palo Alto: 80, Pocahontas: 92, Webster: 422, Wright: 57
Number of Individuals Served: Buena Vista: 357, Clay: 573, Dickinson: 228, Emmet: 356, Hamilton: 207, Humboldt: 233, O'Brien: 301, Osceola: 72, Palo Alto: 185, Pocahontas: 210, Webster: 833, Wright: 114
Year to Date Families Served: Buena Vista: 750, Clay: 738, Dickinson: 488, Emmet: 471, Hamilton: 479, Humboldt: 379, O'Brien: 360, Osceola: 204, Palo Alto: 366, Pocahontas: 357, Webster: 2,076, Wright: 432
Year to Date Individuals Served: Buena Vista: 2,164, Clay: 1,567, Dickinson: 871, Emmet: 1,064, Hamilton: 1,098, Humboldt: 854, O'Brien: 784, Osceola: 436, Palo Alto: 705, Pocahontas: 796, Webster: 4,115, Wright: 902

Monetary Donations

Buena Vista: \$550.00, **Clay:** \$2,434.56, **Dickinson:** \$8,305.00, **Emmet:** \$5,595.00, **Hamilton:** \$1,600.00, **Humboldt:** \$1,059.00, **O'Brien:** \$135.00, **Osceola:** \$10.00, **Palo Alto:** \$175.00, **Pocahontas:** \$44.00, **Webster:** \$3,750.00, **Wright:** \$620.00, **TOTAL:** \$24,277.56