

UDMO Program Director's Report January, 2022

Executive Director - Jamey M. Whitney

Well, as I am writing this I am thinking about what I said in my November Report, "I have to admit, this is my favorite time of year!" When I left to come to work this morning it was 16 degrees below zero! All I can say is BRRRRR!

So, the holidays are over, and hopefully, the **over-busyness will die down**. I know that with all of the craziness of COVID mandates & policies, the increased demand for services, and the increased workload, everyone is stressed to the max. I know it is been a hard and difficult year and the only solace I can offer is my gratitude and appreciation for all of your dedication to serving our most in-need constituents. Please know that without you, they wouldn't have made it this far.

STAFF/HUMAN RESOURCES

As always, I do wish to extend the warmest of welcomes to all of our new staff that were brought on over the last couple of months. We truly appreciate the opportunity to have you as part of the UDMO family. I also would like to wish all of the individuals, moving on to different job opportunities, the best in their new journey.

The first item is the resignation of Carrie Hisler, Hamilton County, Low-Income Representative Board Member. Due to employment requirements, she is no longer able to serve on the board. We do appreciate Carrie's commitment and dedication and wish her the best. **Thank you Carrie!**

When Carrie sent me the email resigning from the board, she did share that she had someone who could replace her. She recommended **Amy Ouphachack**, who works for the same organization as Carrie and serves as the **General Assistance worker**. Amy has worked at **Central Iowa Community Services** for some time and has worked with the UDMO Outreach office in Hamilton County to secure services for mutual clients. Ms. Ouphachack will serve as the Sector 4, Low-Income Representative Board Member. **The board will need to approve her placement onto the board.**

Also in your packet is a letter form the **Pocahontas County Auditors Office**. **Re-Appointment of Clarence Siepker to the UDMO—Multi County Board.**

The next item is a **Classroom Mentor Job Description for Head Start**. This is a **new position**. Julie will share with you why it was developed and the focus of this position. The board will need to approve this item.

The next item is the **Differential Pay for Additional Duties Plan**. This is something that we would like to see **supported and approved by the board**. It was developed to fairly compensate employees that go above and beyond the normal scope of their job duties during critical situations It further is expected that it will assist to lessen turnover during times of staffing shortages. Julie will discuss this further during the board meeting.

We have placed into your online folder the **UDMO and Head Start COVID 19 Vaccination Policies**. **When you all voted on this on January 11, 2022 the final vote was Approve 9, Disapprove 1; Abstain 3; 2 did not vote.**



Executive Director's

Report 1-3

Human Resources 4

Operations 5

SAIL 6

FaDSS 7

IT 8

Weatherization 9

Liheap 10-11

WIC 12

KIDS 13

Compliance/Reporting
14

Early Childhood 15-16

Outreach 17-23

STAFF/HUMAN RESOURCES CONT.

I know that this issue is controversial. The obviously difficult position for UDMO is that at the time, we had to have a policy in place or be found out of compliance which could have placed our Head Start funding at risk. Not a place we wanted to be; not serving children and families. So now there is a part 2. In your packets are both of these approved policies that have strike-through's on various parts of the individual policies. These are proposed changes we would like to make due to the recent Supreme Court decision on the mandates. Please note that the Supreme Court decision only effects the UDMO policy and not the Head Start policy. However we thought that we would approach each one with these changes. We do anticipate that the Office of Head Start will be interjecting their position on these mandates soon. With that said, our proposed edits take that into consideration. Julie will be discussing this with you further at the board meeting. **We would like to get board approval on the proposed changes.**

The next item is the **Retention Incentive for UDMO Head Start Team Members** due to surplus funds in the Head Start/Early Head Start programs, we are requesting staff be provided with a one-time retention incentive. What funding that is not expended before the end of February will need to go back and we feel it is better to use the funds then not. It will also help with staff morale as well as assist with retention of staff in the program. I want to emphasize that this is a one-time program.

GRANT FUNDING

The first item is more of a technicality. **The state entered our Contract Declaration into the system with an error for FaDSS-22-16 Amendment 2.** They fixed the error but we had to sign off on the change and approve.

The next several items are just final approval on contracts that had previously been approved by the board. They are **CSBG-20S-16 Amendment 2, CSBG-20S-16 Amendment 3, CSBG-21-16 Amendment 4 and LIHWAP-21CAA-16 Amendment 1.** These items do not need approval.

The next item, **HEAP-22-16 Weatherization Program, is for the funding of our Weatherization program for FY 2022. The amount for this year is \$690,397. We will need board approval to accept this contract.**

The next three items are also Weatherization funding. **The Utility Contracts were received and are as follows; MEC-22-16 (\$99,173), IPL-22-16 (\$237,702), and BHE-22-16 (\$33,258). We need approval for all three of these contracts.**

The next item, **ESG-74003-22** is our contract for FY2022 Housing program. Unfortunately, it is about half of last years funding. The amount of this contract is **\$78,867 and runs from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.**

The second housing contract is an **extension amendment for ESG-CV2-74003-20.** The second round Cares Act funding was originally scheduled to end December 31, 2021. This extension allows us to carry the funds over through October 31, 2022. The amount of the **carry-over is \$215,314.**

We were presented with the opportunity to add funding to our **TBRA Contract 5-#19-1-HM-565.** We were given an **additional \$20,468 bringing our total Contract #5 amount to \$180,716.**

The final housing funding item is the **Northwest Iowa Housing Trust (Buena Vista County). The Buena Vista County Board of Supervisors offered us \$24,042 to provide emergency home repairs for BV County residents.**

The final item in this category is the **ECI Northwest Contract amendment extending the contract through June 30, 2022.** It originally was scheduled to end December 31, 2021.



PROGRAMS, REPORTS & REVIEW

To start the board meeting, **Mike Webber from WIPFLI Auditors**, will be giving a **presentation on our FY2020 Independent Audit**. Following the audit presentation, Maddie Wankum, UDMO WIC Director, will provide a brief program presentation.

There are several items specific to the Head Start program under this category. The first item is the **HS/EHS Center-Based Family Feedback Survey & Home-Based family Feedback Survey**. These surveys will be distributed to participating parents and the results will assist the program with making potentially need enhancements.

The next item is the **Head Start Self-Assessment**. The assessment process will be conducted soon and the materials in your packet provide information for the process. Julie will discuss this further at the board meeting.

The next item, **Head Start/Early Head Start Recruitment Plan**, provides an outline as to how recruitment for the program will be conducted. This also will be discussed at the board meeting.

The final Head Start item is the **Litigation Update regarding COVID-19 Vaccine and Masking Requirements**. This is not an official update and simply describes interpretation as to the recent Supreme Court decision.

We recently received another change to the CSBG program eligibility guidelines. The **CSBG Program Policy-Income Eligibility Ceiling Change** Memo enclosed in your packet extends the extends the **eligibility of 200% to February 18, 2022 from the previous end date of December 31, 2021**. On February 19, 2022, the eligibility ceiling returns to 125%.

In your on-line folder you will find the **CSBG Annual Reports which consist of three parts, CSBG Year-end Report, CSBG Agency Resources Report and CSBG NPI Reports (B1& B2)**. At this point they are purely informational. We recently received additional questions regarding these reports to which Shakira will update and resubmit to the state. Once they are satisfied with our submissions and responses, they will send a letter confirming the acceptance and we will provide final copies.

The next item is **WIC Participation Potential Funding Reduction**. **Statewide, there has been a -7.52% (4,501) reduction in participation** within the WIC program. The email included is in your packet. UDMO along with 9 other programs could see a funding **reduction of \$10,000** if the trend continues through September 2022. WIC staff are increasing contacts with participants to encourage meeting appointments as well as recruiting potential participants.

In your packet is the **CACFP Approval of the Iowa Monitoring Waiver Request**. This memo describes the monitoring guidance that will be followed for the 2022 program year.

ROOSEVELT PROJECT

There has been a little movement in the project. We were approached by the attorney representing the Eagle Development Group. They are the the company who purchased the playing field from us to construct housing. It appears when they went to file their abstract, they were unable to complete the filing due to the Federal interest that was files by UDMO for the Roosevelt project. It appears that a strip of property that was originally part of the street was included in the federal interest filing when it should have went to Eagle Development. Paperwork has been drawn up by our attorney and submitted to the Region VII office for signature to do a partial release on this strip of land only so the filing can be completed. This doesn't interfere with the project as a whole.



We completed our annual open enrollment for benefits. This is the time where all benefit eligible employees can make a change to their benefit portfolio without a qualifying event. For the most part, our employees generally keep their same benefits, but we did have several elect/add Dental/Vision/Health this year.

We have spent a large amount of time regarding the vaccine mandates.

From our understanding at this time, OSHA is developing a rule that will require all employers with 100 or more employees to ensure their workforce is fully vaccinated or require any workers who remain unvaccinated to produce a negative test result on at least a weekly basis before coming to work. This currently is on hold, but we have been advised to work toward the implementation. More to come!

The OHS just announced the deadline for vaccination has been extended to January 31, 2022. They now will be allowing medical/religious exemptions. If approved, those with exemptions must be tested weekly and wear a mask. Also, mask mandates have been initiated beginning Nov. 30th to include all staff regardless of vaccination status and all children two years and older. Exemptions do apply to this group as well.

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

Assistant Teacher	Emmet Co.
Data Entry	LIHEAP
Home Based Teacher	Jefferson
Assistant Teacher	Storm Lake
Custodian	Storm Lake
ECP Coordinator	Jefferson
Assistant Teacher	Jefferson
Substitute (2)	Jefferson



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

WIC Data Entry	Storm Lake
EHS Teacher	Storm Lake
Substitute	Hartley

December 2021

We have spent a large amount of time regarding the vaccine mandates. Presently we are in a holding pattern due to injunctions. We should hopefully have some clarity soon.

COVID exposures/illnesses have hit our agency at an alarming rate. It has been a juggling act to run certain programs/classrooms.

Unfortunately, we have seen a big decline in applicant flow. If there is any solace to this, we are not alone. Head Start has looked at aligning wages in an effort to attract and retain employees. We are also exploring other options to retain employees.

Our 2021 turnover was a concern of ours. 2021 brought a very challenging year for staffing. Many factors go into turnover, which we will be diving in deeper for a clearer understanding along with steps to mitigate this issue. Our 2021 agency turnover rate was 38% compare to last year of 23%.

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

Registered Dietician	WIC
----------------------	-----

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

Assistant Teacher (2)	Storm Lake
Teacher	Jefferson
Substitute Teacher	Sheldon
Food Service	Milford

We had one retirement in the month of December. Peg Martini, Data Entry-Energy retired on Dec. 31. Peg worked for UDMO for nearly 22 year! We wish Peg a very long and enjoyable retirement. We all at UDMO thank her for her dedicated service to our agency.

T.J Thayer Facilities Director-

November begins the busiest time of the year for Outreach offices. They are preparing adopt a family, thanksgiving baskets, LIHEAP for all households that qualify, and just the normal everyday things. This also marks the beginning of the giving season as we are seeing huge amount of donations from all of our amazing communities. Emotions run high during this time, but it is a time of year that people prepare for all year around.

We are still waiting on the new boiler feed tank for the Roosevelt building. It will be here in the middle of December.

Meeting with Jamey
 Meeting at Roosevelt with boiler contractor
 Housing Trust Meeting
 Cement contractor meeting Roosevelt
 Palo alto Supervisors meeting
 Dickinson Supervisors meeting
 Thanksgiving basket give outs
 Roosevelt fire inspection
 Sheldon College meeting
 Directors meeting
 Gift a smile program at Arnolds Park
 Still helping outreach with filling bags and distributing them on their food pantry days.

**December**

Outreach offices are continuing to be busy. They are preparing adopt a family, Christmas baskets, LIHEAP for all households that qualify, and just the normal everyday things. As the holiday season is upon us also brings so much generosity from the communities. So much thanks go to all the outreach staff as they balance a very busy work and family time.

Meeting with Jamey
 Meeting at Roosevelt with boiler contractor
 Housing Trust Meeting
 Cement contractor meeting Roosevelt
 Clay County Supervisors meeting
 O'Brien County Supervisors meeting
 Christmas basket give outs
 Roosevelt fire extinguisher inspection
 Sheldon City meeting
 Directors meeting
 Disaster training
 Still helping outreach with filling bags and distributing them on their food pantry days.

Becky Carlin- CACFP In Home Daycare Sponsor

50 providers submitted claims in November. I am actively trying to recruit new providers as well as retain my current providers. With the job market as it is, I have lost a few due to the open job market. In the last 6 weeks I have had 5 providers test positive for Covid and have had to close down for 10 days each.

We are all swimming upstream these days.

CACFP In-home Providers served the following in November:

Breakfast: 5774
 Lunches: 5575
 Snacks: 7249
 Suppers: 258



CACFP Continued:

50 out of 51 providers submitted claims in December. Between Covid and the Crud, my day care providers have been hit hard this month. Recruitment and retention is even more crucial right now. Shakira has been great locating and writing for county grants that I could use the funds for recruitment and retention. Fingers crossed.

CACFP In-home Providers served the following in December:

Breakfast: 5935
Lunches: 5922
Snacks: 7311

SAIL-Alisa Schlieff

Counties: Webster, Wright, Hamilton, Humboldt, Palo Alto, Emmet, Buena Vista and Pocahontas

November 2021

Numbers Served

Number of Families Served:

for November 2021 73 families

Year to Date Families Served:

July 1 ,2019 to November 31, 2021: 90 families

Current Changes

Current Changes in Program/Services

Current Changes in National and/or State Trends

No changes

Current Events:

UDMO recently ran a program to give families new beds. I had five families that were sleeping on the floor. Through this program we were able to give these families new beds. One client was nine months pregnant, two clients were over the age of 60 can you imagine sleeping on the floor. One person was homeless and had been sleeping in her van for over a year, she recently got into an apartment, when we delivered the bed, she was crying!

December 2021

Families for December 2021	26	
Families served for October 1, 2020-December 31, 2021	49	
Families exited from the program for December 2021	5	
Families exited from the program Oct 1, 2020-December 31, 2020		21
Families that were assisted that are not currently working with SAIL		37

Martin had been struggling for months when I first met him. He had broken his back years ago and now was in severe pain. His employer had let him work part time. He would work until he couldn't stand the pain. Maybe four hours a shift. The money wasn't coming in and he had bills to pay. UDMO was able to get his utility bills caught up and signed up for LiHEAP. He had company insurance and I helped him get on SNAP. We filled out paperwork for housing assistance. I would deliver food boxes every two weeks. He was extremely grateful. Martin had applied for disability and was waiting like most people do. I delivered a Christmas food box to Martin before Christmas. We sat and talked for a while. He told me he had received a phone call and then a letter from the Social Security office and he had been awarded SSI, he will start receiving in January. In April he would start

November 2021

Numbers Served

Number of Families Served:

for November 2021 73 families

Year to Date Families Served:

July 1 ,2019 to November 31, 2021: 90 families

Current Changes

Current Changes in Program/Services

Current Changes in National and/or State Trends

No changes

Current Events:

Wilma & her daughter Pebbles enrolled in the FaDSS program due to Wilma being hurt in the parking lot of her employer's worksite. She was unable to work and went on FIP. She was struggling and needed help with food and other resources. When I met with her, I gave her the Upper Des Moines Opportunity, Inc. food pantry, LIHEAP was applied for, Adopt a family, and the Iowa Food Bank Mobile food pantry. She struggled w/ trying to find a mattress for her bed and we were able to use funding that was given to FaDSS to get her a mattress. She was struggling to find transportation to her doctor appointments out of town and so we talked about maybe going thru her Medicaid insurance card to see if they can get her medical transportation and she did not want to rely on a stranger to take her, so her adult children would take her to her medical appointments out of town. Pebbles is doing well in school and is looking at different colleges that have sent letters to her and she is going to be choosing one to go to this next fall. Pebbles is on the honor roll and is active in different sports. She had filed for Social Security Disability and was granted that. She is able to make all her monthly bills now and she is so grateful for the FaDSS program and she calls me her guardian angel and she knows that she can call me any time.



December 2021

Numbers Served

Number of Families Served:

for December 2021 75 families

Year to Date Families Served:

July 1 ,2019 to December 31, 2021: 96 families

Current Changes

Current Changes in Program/Services

Current Changes in National and/or State Trends

No changes

Current Events:

Success Story click on the link below! Highlight it, right click and hit open link. You should be able to view.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_Gsl3F7xy-l4POTCwv-ZGMjJRFiyaDL_/view?usp=sharing

were some behavioral concerns, we were able to work with a few different local agencies to get some services started to help the boys and try to solve some of these issues. Theo and Chloe were appreciative of how this helped the boys and also the way they could co-parent and discipline to make the household work better! After 3 long years of late nights studying, Theo finally graduated from college and he was able to get into a full time job pretty quickly.

While it is still a bit difficult to keep up on things with losing all assistance to great wages, Theo has such a feeling of pride over his accomplishments and hopes to move his family to a bigger city soon where he can find even more opportunities for growth for himself!



Information Technology Board Update-Elisa Umscheid

Current projects:

Delivery on computers and electronics has slowed down 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.

The Servers at Emmetsburg Energy office and Fort Dodge Outreach office are going to be replaced. Scheduling for those installations is in progress and will be handled as soon as time allows for those locations.

Antivirus upgrade is progressing, all new computers are being released with the new version, all old computers that can connect to the controller have done so and are awaiting the final upgrade. All computers that did not automatically connect to the controller are being handled individually. When all machines are connected to the new admin counsel, the final upgrade will be scheduled. Most LiHeap computers have been completed and we will now be working to finish the Head Start machines that have not been done.

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/>

Current projects:

As of this writing, the delivery on computers and electronics is continuing to be slow 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 was able to receive 17 computers to control their classroom smart boards so those are here and ready to be configured and installed.

The Servers at Emmetsburg Energy office and Fort Dodge Outreach office are going to be replaced. Scheduling for those installations is in progress and will be handled as soon as time allows for those locations.

Antivirus upgrade is continuing, all new computers are being released with the new version, all old computers that can connect to the controller have done so and the final upgrade has been pushed out. All computers that did not automatically connect to the controller are being handled individually and this is ongoing as they are identified they are updated. This will continue to be a work in progress as we address those machines individually.

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/>

Weatherization-Kyle Dietrich“Weatherization Report for 2021”

Number of Families Served in November 2021: **6**

Number of Families Served in FY 2021: **95**

Goal for 2021: **110 Homes**

Weatherization Update:

The Weatherization Department for the month of November only completed 6 homes. Not what we were expecting or wanting, but 2 of our Evaluators Tim Carlin received his QCI Inspector Certification and Ryan TenNapel received his Energy Auditor and Building Analyst Certifications through BPI (Building Performance Institute.) Which is a national certification Center. Myself and our Program is very appreciative of there hard work and effort that they have shown to meet these requirements that our program requires from these employees to obtain these certifications. So, moving forward we should be able to meet these requirements for the next 3 years until they will have to get these certifications renewed. Moving forward to next month for our last month I am expecting to complete 10 homes and getting within 105 homes completed for FY21.

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.

Up-Coming Events:

Event:

Location:

Date:

Time:

Attendees:

“Weatherization Report for 2021”

Number of Families Served in December 2021: **10 w/1 Deferral**

Number of Families Served in FY 2021: **105**

Goal for 2021: **110 Homes**

Weatherization Update:

The Weatherization Department for the month of December had a great month with 10 completed homes, and 1 deferral. We finished off the year 5 homes short of estimated completed homes. Even though we fell a little short I am very pleased with where we ended. The only issue that we really had was the shortage of contractors, but the contractors that we do have and our great employees that work for our program all stepped up big time and showed great work ethic and tons of initiative to do whatever it takes to complete the work on our client’s home. I am very proud of our contractors and the employees that we have working for U.D.M.O. we defiantly have a great group of people that work well with each other which is something that you don’t see often in programs or businesses in general. Moving forward in to FY22 I hope to alleviate the issues with contractor shortages and move to creating more work and being able to complete even more homes next year I feel very good that this is a reasonable goal that can be obtained and executed in the next year.

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.

Up-Coming Events:

Event: (None at this Time.)

In November:

Kristy sent out News Releases to Newspapers, Radio Stations, Facebook advertising about Liheap.
Had new employee training on Nov. 10th & 11th.

For November, Outreach took and processed 968 Liheap applications and of that number 913 were eligible for a total amount of \$452,560. 55 applications were denied. Year to date, Outreach has approved 3,088 applications for a total spent of \$1,567,240. Last year at this time Outreach had approved 3,074 applications, so we are ahead 14 applications. The average Liheap payment is \$507.53.

84 households received Liheap-21 ARPA Crisis funds in the amount of \$44,497.41. Year to date, 226 households received crisis for a total spent of \$119,333.43. 239 households received LIHWAP Crisis funds in the amount of \$27,338.86. Year to date, 306 households received LIHWAP crisis for a total spent of \$34,412.75.

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

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: 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) (not using during the moratorium)

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)

Out of fuel up to \$800 and / or help pay a propane/fuel oil back bill (previously \$500)– vendor can tell you over phone amount for a minimal fill, scanned into THO. Fuel tank must be at or below 30% full (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.

Thank you very much to everyone in Outreach, FaDSS, Sail, Peg, Lori, Kristy, Sue 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.



For December, Outreach took and processed 719 Liheap applications and of that number 659 were eligible for a total amount of \$323,360. 60 applications were denied.

28 households received Liheap-21 ARPA Crisis funds in the amount of \$30,857.85. Due to being protected from the moratorium of not being disconnected with gas and/or electric, we will not need to be helping with crisis service continuities at this time.

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

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: 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) (not using during the moratorium)

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)

Out of fuel up to \$800 and / or help pay a propane/fuel oil back bill (previously \$500)– vendor can tell you over phone amount for a minimal fill, scanned into THO. Fuel tank must be at or below 30% full (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.

Thank you very much to everyone in Outreach, FaDSS, Sail, Peg, Lori, Kristy, Sue 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.



Numbers served: During the month of November, our participation was 1730 active clients.

Local happenings: 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: (This information is obtained from NWA Weekly Update)

“Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, frontline WIC providers rapidly innovated to implement remote services without disruption to participating families. The increased flexibility and convenience of phone or video appointments resolved longstanding barriers to access, such as parents needing to take time off work and arrange for transportation to a clinic site. Since parents must reapply each year as their children grow up, the in-person certification requirement had led to diminishing reach among WIC-eligible toddlers over the past decade as the evidence of WIC’s positive impacts on child health has only grown. As a result of COVID-era waivers, WIC providers are reporting a startling shift in prior trends, with an 8% increase in child participation nationwide since February 2020.”

“The MODERN WIC Act recognizes the flexibility provided during COVID-19 must be strategically sustained to enhance access to WIC’s quality nutrition services while strengthening the program’s public health character. The MODERN WIC Act lays out a smart, appropriate balance that will permit ongoing video and telephone certifications, leverage technology to streamline application requirements, and open the door to effective collaborations with healthcare providers that will consolidate in-person visits, reduce duplicative testing, and provide coordinated care to families with young children. This bill empowers WIC providers to do what they do best: support families in accessing better nutrition.”

Numbers served: During the month of December, our participation was 1744 active clients.

Local happenings: Due to high rates of COVID, IDPH is allowing WIC agencies the option to provide remote services for all WIC appointments for the months of January and February. UDMO WIC will continue offering face-to-face appointments and offer remote services to anyone that express concerns about to clinic for an appointment.

Current changes in national and/or state trends: (This information is obtained from NWA Weekly Update)

“The National WIC Association (NWA), researchers from the Nutrition Policy Institute (NPI) and Pepperdine University, released a new report that reveals high levels of satisfaction among participants in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) with adjustments made to program services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This report complements and informs ongoing efforts to modernize WIC services to meet the needs of over 6.2 million WIC participants. The MODERN WIC Act revises in-person requirements and permit ongoing remote certification options after the pandemic authorities expire. In December 2021, President Biden issued an executive order to streamline enrollment for benefits programs and advance online shopping solutions in WIC.”



November has been pretty similar to previous months. The KIDS Program continued to receive a number of referrals from community partners, as well as families and we worked on contacting those families to determine if they were interested in receiving services. We have received a few referrals from some providers that have not sent some in quite some time, so it was great to hear from them again. Since the beginning of the program year beginning July 1st, we have received 19 new referrals, which is relatively the same as last year. We are working on connecting and providing services to these families to the best of our ability. The needs of families for support with their children has continued to increase, especially with those with children who are neurodiversity or have a diagnosis. We will continue to look at caseload sizes and families that are eligible for Head Start services for this next coming year to hopefully alleviate heavy caseload numbers. Services were continued to be offered in person and are rescheduled based on families or worker illness on an on-going basis.

I have been attending several trainings on Positive Behavior Intervention and Support, as well as TPOT assessment tool to use in child cares, as Shakira transitioned to the role of Program Compliance and Reporting. We continue to have conversations with Child Care Resource and Referral to determine what the next steps may look like as IQ4K takes effect across the state.

I am partnering with Erin Binnesbose of Siouxland Human Investment Partnership, that coordinates the Community Partnership for Protecting Children and Decategorization in the Lakes Area to hold a Virtual Legislative Forum, like last year. We are looking at scheduling this event in February with the topics to be determine. Last year we discussed Adverse Childhood Experiences, the Impact of COVID-19, Services, and Needs. This will be a continuation of that discussion with partners from around the Clay, Dickinson, O'Brien and Osceola area.

In addition, with support from the CARE Team in Algona (Kossuth County), a grant was successfully written to support funding for families in the counties of Emmet, Palo Alto, and Kossuth for both car repair and youth activities. This grant is provided to support self-sufficiency by helping families obtain needed repairs to their vehicle in order to support employment, medical visits for the family, and other needs, as well as provide the opportunity for children to engage in positive social activities in the community. We are so excited to see this come to the three-county area. Feel free to reach out with more questions regarding this opportunity for families.

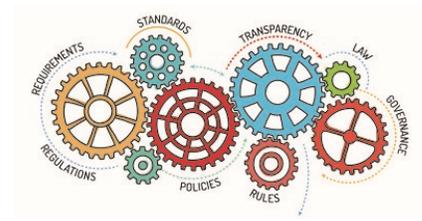
December was relatively similar to previous months. The KIDS Program continued to receive a number of referrals from community partners and we worked on contacting those families to determine if they were interested in receiving services. We continue to meet with Child Care Resource and Referral regarding how we can partner regarding services on an on-going basis.

Shakira with the Hand and Hand Program and I will be looking at scheduling in the upcoming months to see when we are able to hold the Parents As Teachers and Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) group parent education meetings in the Spring. I completed and was certified for the TPOT Assessment Tool to assist Child Care Centers and their environment as Shakira previously provided.

We will be trying to looking at midyear numbers at the end of December and working on getting data submitted in our data management system. In addition, I completed home visit observations the first part of the year and this is also completed in the Spring.

That's all for now. Happy holidays and here is to a great upcoming 2022!!

Program Development, Compliance, & Reporting– Shakira Meyer



Year to Date for FY22 Foundation/Organizational/Trust Grants:

- Grants Submitted: 7
- Grants Pending: 4
- Grants Awarded: 3
- Grants Denied:

Submitted FY2021 Year End CSBG Reports which included Agency accomplishments, capacity, characteristics, individual and household counts, service counts, individual and family national performance indicators, community status forms and resources report. Thank you to Kayla McKinney and all Program Directors for assisting in the compilation of data. Thank you to Donna Tonderum and the Fiscal Department for completing the agency resources report.

Submitted William Morrison Trust Grant Application. We requested \$5,000 for Emergency Services in Hamilton County.

Submitted City of Storm Lake Grant Application. Requested \$8,000 for Back to School Program.

Submitted Nutrien Grant Application. Requested \$2,000 for Adopt a Family & Holiday Baskets for BV County.

Assisted with the Head Start Community Needs Assessment.

Attended County Board of Supervisor meetings with UDMO Executive Director Jamey Whitney and Outreach Directors Alisa Schlieff and TJ Thayer.

Upcoming projects:

- Other foundation grants as they come in
 - Enhance Hamilton County Grant
 - Emmet County Foundation Grant
 - Humboldt County Community Foundation
- Training as available

Shakira Meyer – Director of Program Development, Compliance & Reporting

Year to Date for FY22 Foundation/Organizational/Trust Grants:

- Grants Submitted: 10
- Grants Pending: 7
- Grants Awarded: 3
- Grants Denied: 0

Submitted grants for Enhance Hamilton and Humboldt County Community Foundation for Outreach and the Clay County Community Foundation for CACFP. We also worked on service contracts for some of the county and city governments.

We are wrapping up Head Start Community Needs Assessment.

I continued attending the County Board of Supervisor meetings with UDMO Executive Director Jamey Whitney and Outreach Directors Alisa Schlieff and TJ Thayer.

Upcoming projects:

- Other foundation grants as they come in
- Upcoming Training as available – February Grant Writing



What's Happening:

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

Disabilities: The program is currently serving 36 children who have qualified to receive special education services. Our target is 48 which is 10% of our funded enrollment.

NEW Office of Head Start Mandates:

Masks – Required for everyone over 2 years of age and older, with some exemptions. In effect immediately.

Vaccination – Required for all staff and anyone who volunteers in a classroom including community partners. In effect 1/31/2022.

Exemptions – Medical or religious for staff and children are available by completing the appropriate form secured from UDMO Human Resources Department. Approved or denied is determined by a lawyer.

Adults who are approved must comply with weekly testing at their expense.

Potential Impacts

Lose staff – If we do not have enough staff we will be unable to keep all classrooms open.

Children withdraw

Be under enrolled – which means we do not have the staff to serve the children we are funded for.

Kindness of Others:

Maureen Horsely has supported Head Start children for many years.

Donates health services to children and their families as a Registered Nurse Practitioner.

Active member on Health Advisory and Policy Council.

Provides input into developing policy and procedure for the program.

Gives winter clothing to children and classrooms.

Secures funding for uninsured or underinsured children through the formation of the “Emergency Medical & Dental Fund”.

Engages in recruiting additional substantial donors for this fund.

Northwest Iowa Anesthesia are providing anesthesia services free of charge to an uninsured child for dental surgery.

Brea Schmidt has been a long-time advocate & supporter of Head Start children as a pediatric dentist.

Treated twenty children, regardless of county, with the most urgent dental needs. Of these children, 8 received treatment in her office while the remaining 12 needed further treatment at Spencer Hospital.

Generously donated her services regardless of setting.

Accepted children in critical need referred through Head Start.

Used professional/personal connections with fellow oral health care providers to secure dental services for additional Head Start children and their families.

Book Distributions – Thank you to many organizations and individuals for your ongoing support of supplying books for children to take home.

What's Happening:

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

Temporary classroom closures

It is with a heavy heart that I must inform you of three Early Head Start classroom closures in December due to staff shortage as a result of COVID-19. We attempted to impact the fewest numbers of families and their children with these changes. All families were offered the opportunity to return to home base so as not to lose Early Head Start services. When we are able to re-open classrooms these families will have first consideration. Staff impacted were transferred to Head Start classrooms in order to have them fully staffed so they could remain open.

Effective 12/14/21 – One EHS classroom in Spencer was closed. Two staff transferred to Head Start classrooms.

Effective 12/28/21 – Two EHS classrooms in Storm Lake were closed. Three staff transferred to Head Start classrooms.

Positions have been posted and will remain posted in hopes of hiring qualified individuals so as to re-open as soon as possible.

Early Childhood Programs-Continued:

The staff members impacted were team players in meeting the needs of students and families during this very difficult time. I greatly appreciate their dedication and support during such trying times.

Disabilities: The program is currently serving 40 children who have qualified to receive special education services. Our target is 48 which is 10% of our funded enrollment.

New Early Childhood Centers:

Exciting time for our western Head Start classrooms to be fully incorporated into school district early childhood centers we have had three school districts include our Head Start programs!

Sheldon – In the construction phase with a spring completion date anticipated.

Sibley – In the planning phase.

Hartley – Has completed and Head Start children are utilizing the new classroom!



**November, 2021 Outreach Report for Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Hamilton, Humboldt, O'Brien, Osceola,
Palo Alto, Pocahontas, Webster & Wright.**

By: Jamie Flugstad

Buena Vista

Happenings:

We continue receiving beautiful donations from Hy-Vee, Walmart, and Fareway.
We continue serving families every Friday starting at 7:30 a.m. until the food runs out.
Working on Energy Assistance.
We started receiving gifts for our Christmas Program and bikes are also coming in this week.
Iowa Select Farms will bring pork loins for 1,000 families in BV County.
Had a beautiful donation from the Mayor at the Board Meeting from City Hall today.

Clay

Happenings:

Distributed 120 Thanksgiving Food Boxes.
Processing LIHEAP and LIWAP Applications.
Receiving many large food donations.
Outreach staff met with Head Start parents during Coffee and Conversations Event.
Preparing for the Christmas Program.

Dickinson

Happenings:

Getting ready to wrap up our Adopt a Family Program and will start arranging for families to pick up December 7th.
Working on LIHEAP.
Several people are coming in needing housing assistance.
We have had several large donations from Key Club and EL Forastero MC Club, Grapetree and other Spirit Lake School Organizations.
We gave away 110 Thanksgiving Baskets and are getting ready for our Christmas Baskets in a week or so.

Emmet

Happenings:

Food Pantry is held every Friday from 10:00-12:00 & 1:00 -3:30.
We continue to receive food, non-food, & 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 cake mix, frosting, candles, plates and napkins.
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.
Making appointments for Coats for Kids as applications come in.
Handed out 107 Thanksgiving Baskets.

Hamilton

Happenings:

Accepting applications for a total of 50 families this year for the Adopt a Family Christmas Program. Working with the community to get the kids adopted out for Christmas.
Picking up toy donations once a week from Dollar Tree.
Partnering with Elderbridge on the Santa for Seniors Program.
Bikes for Tikes applications continue to come in.



Hamilton Continued:

Holiday Food Drives from the Webster City Middle School, Webster City National Honor Society, VanDiest Medical Center, & Asbury Church.
Processing LIHEAP Applications.
Picking up Fareway produce and dairy donations on Tuesday mornings.

Humboldt**Happenings:**

The office is now open with their new hours Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. & 12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Food pantry is given out Monday – Friday with help of volunteers.
Birthdays 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.
All applications have been received for the Christmas Program. Each family has been adopted.
Families are continuing to pick up coats for the Coats for Kids Program.
Continue to use the Fiscal System to complete purchase orders, client service vouchers, and cash disbursements.
Collecting food donations for the food pantry each day.
We have a table with garden produce and Hy-Vee bakery items for people to take.
Food donations from Hy-Vee are now being dispersed at the Humboldt Homes for low income families with lesser access to transportation to have access to pastries and bread donations.

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, they also receive cake mix, frosting, candles, plates, and napkins.
Mobile Food Pantry from Paulina and Hartley will continue to be held on the 3rd Monday.
Continuing to work on LIHEAP and Crisis as they come in and appointments.
Been making appointments for coats for families.
Christmas Program and Adopt a Family.
Christmas Baskets and recipe books for the meal we provide.
Recipe book for pantry items.

Osceola**Happenings:**

COVID-19 precautions.
A new Holiday Program for Thanksgiving dinner for Osceola clients who are wanting to sign up. It's limited to how many we can bless.
Pantry is available when appointments are made for LIHEAP, which simplifies the process for a monthly food box.
Getting the word out about the mobile food pantry as well.
Served 27 Thanksgiving meals.
Adopt a Family/Seniors are being blessed with gift.
Assisting with LIHEAP, LIWAP, and rent.

Palo Alto**Happenings:**

Still receiving food donations.
Handling crisis payments for clients.
Taking appointments for LIHEAP.
Receiving Adopt a Family Applications.
Our Outreach was able to have all of our families adopted for Christmas.

Pocahontas**Happenings**

Working on LIHEAP apps daily and water crisis as they come in.
 Food pantry is open daily.
 Accepting Adopt a Family apps until December 3rd.
 We served 94 households during our November drive thru pantry.
 We received 1,115 lbs. of food this month.

Success Story:

We were able to help many families and children receive brand new coats from our Coats for Kids Program. Many children and adults also received hats, gloves and gently used coats that were so kindly donated to us.
 – Julie Schosow, Pocahontas Outreach

Webster**Happenings:**

Drive thru pantry on 11/18/21 was fast. We helped 286 households. The next drive thru is 12/16/21.
 Bikes for Tikes apps are completed and we will be giving out bikes on December 9th.
 Christmas apps are full and have been adopted. We will be giving out Christmas gifts on 12/10/21.
 We had a few food boxes come in for the Thanksgiving Box Food Challenge.
 Abate donated so many toys on 11/10/21 to counties for Christmas. They spent over \$7,500.00.
 Solider Creek Winery donated food twice for the month of November for a total of 400 lbs.
 Susan Hayden donated a box full of knitted and crocheted hats for kids and we will be giving them out at Christmas.
 New Covenant Church donated \$400.00 for November & December. Holy Trinity Parish \$300.00 ongoing support for Webster County Outreach Programs.
 We received shampoo and conditioner from Eric and Aimee.
 Sertoma Service Club did a shopping spree of \$500.00 and donated over 600 lbs. of food and frozen goods for the pantry.
 Preemie and newborn diapers and clothing were donated for the Baby Room from Robin Graves.
 Iowa Works staff in Memory of Kim M. donated 200 lbs. of food for the pantry this month.
 Booked solid with water disconnects and LIHEAP apps.

Wright**Happenings:**

Decorated the front window for a contest they are having.
 Finished up with the Coats for Kids Program.
 Preparing for the Christmas Program and Bikes for Tikes.
 Advertised for Adopt a Family on Facebook.
 Received donations.
 Entering LIHEAP applications and scheduling appointments.

Numbers Served

Number of Families Served: Buena Vista: 140, Clay: 324, Dickinson: 199, Emmet: 226, Hamilton: 149, Humboldt: 129, O'Brien: 67, Osceola: 55, Palo Alto: 126, Pocahontas: 128, Webster: 609, Wright: 115
Number of Individuals Served: Buena Vista: 454, Clay: 807, Dickinson: 382, Emmet: 574, Hamilton: 384, Humboldt: 355, O'Brien: 159, Osceola: 115, Palo Alto: 277, Pocahontas: 355, Webster: 1,324, Wright: 289
Year to Date Families Served: Buena Vista: 373, Clay: 504, Dickinson: 357, Emmet: 345, Hamilton: 327, Humboldt: 246, O'Brien: 197, Osceola: 128, Palo Alto: 255, Pocahontas: 249, Webster: 1,237, Wright: 273
Year to Date Individuals Served: Buena Vista: 930, Clay: 1,078, Dickinson: 582, Emmet: 752, Hamilton: 703, Humboldt: 553, O'Brien: 345, Osceola: 224, Palo Alto: 468, Pocahontas: 539, Webster: 2,301, Wright: 506

Monetary Donations

Buena Vista: \$3,683.00, Clay: \$12,645.22, Dickinson: \$9,228.00, Emmet: \$5,414.00, Hamilton: \$2,306.49, Humboldt: \$880.00, O'Brien: \$1,202.00, Osceola: \$20,078.00, Palo Alto: \$4,010.40, Pocahontas: \$2,850.00, Webster: \$2,740.00, Wright: \$175.00, TOTAL: \$65,212.11

December 2021 Outreach Report for Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Hamilton, Humboldt, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Pocahontas, Webster & Wright.

Buena Vista

Happenings:

Thank you to Hy-Vee, Walmart and Fareway for your generous donations every day!

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.

The Energy Assistance Program continues until April 30th and we continue serving families asking for help with their gas bill.

BV County was declared a disaster and we will help families if they come to apply and explain the process and what we need from them.

Adopt a Family was again awesome! We had 200 families and 50 seniors. We served more families that didn't sign up until the end. We had beautiful donations from our community and I was able to help them as well.

We helped a family with a furnace because it was not working and the house was cold. She was so thankful!

Clay

Happenings:

Distributed 200 Christmas food boxes & 75 baking boxes.

Processing LIHEAP and LIWAP applications.

Receiving many large food donations.

Delivered gifts to 54 seniors through the Santa for Seniors Program.

Delivered Christmas gifts and meals to 105 children through the Tree of Joy Program.

Delivered Christmas gifts to 85 families through the Community Christmas Program.

Participated in a window display during Grand Meander.

Attended Clay County Hunger Coalition Meeting.

Dickinson

Happenings:

We are still receiving Walmart donations Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Our food pantry is on Wednesday and we are helping a lot of people. A lot of new faces as well.

Adopt a Family is done and we served 50 families.

We handed out over 80 Christmas baskets.

Still have the Coats for Kids Program going on.

We have a great community and donations have been amazing.

Still working on LIHEAP applications and a few crisis.

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.

Been making appointments for Coats for kids as they come in.

We handed out senior boxes from the Co-op for Christmas.

We handed out 73 Christmas baskets during our food pantry on the 17th.

Success Story:

One of my first clients was going through some hard times including lost job for medical reasons. I was able to help him with LIHEAP, referred him to housing where he received help and he started coming to the weekly food pantry. He had recently talked about a job interview and I didn't see him at the last pantry. Turns out he got that job and was working that day. I was so excited for him. – Ashley Cooklin, Emmet County Outreach

Hamilton**Happenings:**

Gave out 19 bikes for the Bikes for Tikes Program.

Adopt a Family served 50 households this year.

Partnered with Elderbridge this year for the Santa for Seniors Program. A total of 20 seniors were adopted.

Processing LIHEAP and LIWAP applications.

Food donations and monetary donations have been coming in.

Mobile Food Pantry was held on December 21st, 2021.

Received the William Morrison Grant for \$4,000 to go towards client services.

Hamilton County was declared a disaster. Applications and questions have been coming in regarding this program.

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.

Disaster assistance is being offered to families impacted by the 12/15 storms.

All Christmas Program gifts have been distributed as well as Bikes for Tikes.

Our conference room is officially completed with a new table and chairs.

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 have gotten a great amount of positive feedback with this!

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.

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, they also receive cake mix, frosting, candles, plates, and napkins.

Mobile Food Pantry from Paulina and Hartley will continue to be held on the 3rd Monday.

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

Been making appointments for coats for families.

Christmas Program and Adopt a Family.

Christmas Baskets and recipe books for the meal we provide.

Recipe book for pantry items.

Accepting applications for O'Brien County Disaster Grant.

Happenings:

COVID-19 precautions.

Christmas Program was successful. 40 Christmas meals donated from UDMO and over 136 Adopt a Family and seniors.

Processing LIHEAP.

Assisting with rent, utilities, and Embrace Grant.

Receiving monetary donations weekly this month, food donations, and toys donated for the birthday room.

Palo Alto

Happenings:

Still receiving food donations.

Handling crisis payments for clients.

Taking appointments for LIHEAP.

Receiving lots of toys.

Handing out Adopt a Family gifts.

Pocahontas

Happenings:

Working on LIHEAP apps daily and water crisis as they come in.

Food pantry is open daily.

We served 39 families for our Adopt a Family Program.

We had over 1,600 lbs. of food donations this month.

We were able to fill up our non-food pantry items this month because of several large donations of laundry soap, hand soap, dish soap, toilet paper, and paper towels.

Webster

Happenings:

12/09/21 We distributed bikes at Fort Dodge Ford for the Bikes for Tikes Program with Alpha Media partnering and Unity Point handing out bike helmets.

12/10/21 We had our Adopt a Family gifts dropped off in the morning and in the afternoon being picked up by the families.

12/14/21 We were blessed to partner with New Co-op and handed out over 1,500 hams for families.

12/16/21 We had our monthly drive thru pantry at Corpus Christi helping over 200 families and 35 more families for pantries from the office.

The rest of the month we have been booked with LIHEAP, LIWAP appointments and Disaster appointments.

A total of \$17,999.72 in monetary donations for food, client services, and bikes and over 1,250 lbs. in food donated.

Many donations came in during the month of December. It's been a busy month for all and I hope I didn't leave anyone out.

Diapers, wipes, & hygiene misc.

Christmas gifts: Adopt a Family participants include Jesse tree, New Covenant Church.

Hats, gloves, scarves & \$200.00 from Grace Lutheran.

Handmade hats for kids.

Quilts donated, 37 adult & 14 baby from Good Shepard Lutheran Church.

Solider Creek Winery, ongoing food donations monthly, average 200 lbs. or more.

Availa Foundation \$1000.00 donation.

Catherine Deardorf donation \$5,000.00.

Interstate Inc. 1000 lbs. of food and \$2,000.00.

Fort Dodge Correctional Facility \$2,500 donation.

Bike donations \$5,874.54.

Dollar Tree gave toys, which were nice to use for stocking stuffers.

Menards gave bags full of toys.

Wright**Happenings:**

Wright County Farm Bureau donated \$1,000.00.
 Advertised on Facebook for the disaster help from UDMO.
 Entering LIHEAP applications and scheduling appointments.
 Received donated used coats for kids and adults.

Numbers Served

Number of Families Served: Buena Vista: 336, Clay: 385, Dickinson: 190, Emmet: 189, Hamilton: 148, Humboldt: 164, O'Brien: 98, Osceola: 68, Palo Alto: 111, Pocahontas: 128, Webster: 616, Wright: 130

Number of Individuals Served: Buena Vista: 1,210, Clay: 943, Dickinson: 408, Emmet: 439, Hamilton: 446, Humboldt: 420, O'Brien: 248, Osceola: 167, Palo Alto: 283, Pocahontas: 356, Webster: 1,557, Wright: 315

Year to Date Families Served: Buena Vista: 576, Clay: 614, Dickinson: 400, Emmet: 378, Hamilton: 385, Humboldt: 306, O'Brien: 252, Osceola: 152, Palo Alto: 304, Pocahontas: 284, Webster: 1,535, Wright: 341

Year to Date Individuals Served: Buena Vista: 1,684, Clay: 1,309, Dickinson: 692, Emmet: 844, Hamilton: 856, Humboldt: 683, O'Brien: 492, Osceola: 298, Palo Alto: 586, Pocahontas: 623, Webster: 3,036, Wright: 679

Monetary Donations

Buena Vista: \$8,425.00, **Clay:** \$29,822.68, **Dickinson:** \$10,295.00, **Emmet:** \$4,385.00, **Hamilton:** \$9,449.33, **Humboldt:** \$4,404.00, **O'Brien:** \$6,730.00, **Osceola:** \$2,158.71, **Palo Alto:** \$3,975.00, **Pocahontas:** \$6,220.25, **Webster:** \$17,999.72, **Wright:** \$1,900.00,

