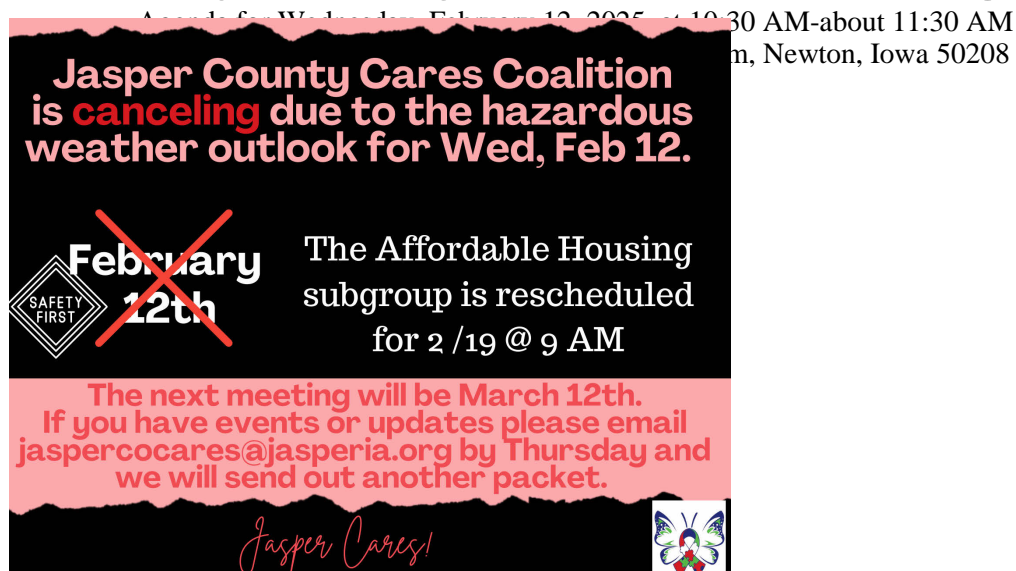


Jasper County Cares Coalition Meeting



Mission: To enhance the awareness of health & human service resources & promote collaboration to better serve Jasper County.

Vision: Safe, healthy, and connected Jasper County.

Sign-in and information table: Please bring information or giveaways for the resource table.

Jasper County Cares Information:

- Website: https://www.jasperia.org/health/jasper_county_cares/
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JasperCountyCaresCoalition>
- Events/calendar: <https://www.jasperia.org/calendar/>
 - Coming soon. You will be able to submit your events to the County calendar.
- Resource Guide: <https://www.jasperia.org/resources/> Please check your agency information.
- Contact: Becky Pryor jaspercocares@jasperia.org If you have staff information changes, please let us know.

Welcome/Updates: New Attendees. Welcome folders are available.

- [Newton YMCA CEO](#), George Sorensen, george.sorensen@newtonymca.org
- [IMPACT Community Action Partnership](#) Amanda Scalise, ascalise@impactcap.org
- [Immanuel Pathways/PACE](#), Brendan Johnson, bjohnson@immanuel.com
- [PCM School](#) Contact, Kristen Souza, ksouza@pcmschools.org

Subgroups for February 2025

Affordable Housing (Updates) When: 9:15 AM **BEFORE** the Jasper County Cares Meeting

Schools in Jasper County When: **AFTER** Cares. Usually about 11:30 AM.

- Location: Jasper County Office Building Large Conference Room
- Everyone is invited to attend.
- See the packet for agenda and handouts.
- Address Community Health Improvement Plan

Spotlight Agency for March: [MICA \(Mid Iowa Community Action\)](#)



The graphic features a dark green background with yellow and orange starburst icons. At the top, it says 'ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT MICA Mid-Iowa Community Action'. Below this, on the left, is a green box with white text: 'Helping people. Changing lives. Building communities.' To the right of this is a yellow box with black text: 'MICA Services in Jasper Co' followed by a bulleted list: '• Maternal and Child Health', '• I-smile (Dental)', '• WIC clinics in Newton & Colfax', '• 1st Five (for providers)', and '• FaDSS/Family Development'. At the bottom left is a green box with white text: 'MORE INFORMATION' followed by contact details: '(641) 752-7162', 'info@micaonline.org', 'micaonline.org', and '1001 S 18th Ave Marshalltown, Iowa'. To the right of this is a green box with a white MICA logo and the text 'Mid-Iowa Community Action'.

ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT
MICA
Mid-Iowa Community Action

Helping people. Changing lives. Building communities.

MICA Services in Jasper Co

- Maternal and Child Health
- I-smile (Dental)
- WIC clinics in Newton & Colfax
- 1st Five (for providers)
- FaDSS/Family Development

MORE INFORMATION

(641) 752-7162
info@micaonline.org
micaonline.org
1001 S 18th Ave
Marshalltown, Iowa

MICA
Mid-Iowa Community Action

- Jana Larsen, Maternal and Child Health, leads the MCH Subgroup which will be held in March.
- Jessica Miller, 1st Five
- Sierra Stevens, WIC
- Devon McAnally, FAADS/Family Development

Updates:

- [Gridshock](#) is a documentary exposing the hidden and disturbing reality behind human trafficking in Iowa. We want to host an event in Jasper County in April. It is free. We may have funding available through [CPPC](#). Who else wants to be involved?
- After Gridshock, we are planning with Blank Children's Hospital: My Body, My Rules Janelle Ballhagen, Program Coordinator, Center for Advocacy & Outreach, [CAP](#) (Child Assault Prevention). Janelle is also willing to coordinate for the schools or organizations for next school year.
- Congratulations to the Colfax-Mingo Schools on the Colfax Childcare Center for \$1.7 million grant. They are fundraising to raise their match. Learn more and donate at [cedcoiowa.com](#).
- [Aging Resources of Central Iowa](#) Rural Options Counselor, Ace Stonehocker will be in Jasper County on February 13th and 27th to meet with individuals. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please stop by and see Ace or contact her at the following. Email: ace.stonehocker@agingresources.com or call (515)255-1310 <https://www.agingresources.com/>

Funding Opportunities:

- [Jasper County Opioid Settlement](#): funding is coming soon.
- [Jasper Comm. Foundation Grant](#): Due 4/30/25
- [De-categorization \(Decat\)](#) and CPPC funding: The funding is related to child abuse prevention. If you have projects, please talk to Becky or contact: Meredith.Hershner@linncountyiowa.gov

Upcoming Agency Spotlight: 10 minutes

- March: [United Way of Jasper County](#), Jessica Lowe Vokes. Women United and Speaker Series.
- April: [Crisis Intervention Services](#), Jodi Blackford
- May: [The Well Thrift Store](#), Mary Romberg
- June: [American Lung of Iowa](#), Emma Krapfl
- July: [EFR](#), Raichel Beierle
- August: [Family Crisis Center](#), Shelley Koons
- September: [Iowa Child Care Resource & Referral of Central Iowa](#), Brenda O'Halloran
- October: [St. Croix Hospice](#), Jennifer Nevels
- November: [Salvation Army of Newton](#)- pending
- December: [Newton YMCA](#)- pending

Member Introductions/Share (1 minute for each person)

Please stand up & state your name, organization, services provided, any changes, projects, events, wins. Any volunteer needs or job openings? Take a moment for any questions.

Sustainability and workforce training:**Free Resources: Share with your staff!**

- Canva: free account for graphics for newsletters or social media posts. <https://www.canva.com/>
- ChatGPT: <https://chatgpt.com/> AI (Artificial Intelligence) technology.
- Grammarly: editing documents. <https://app.grammarly.com/>

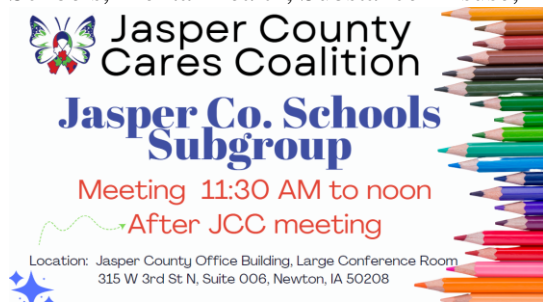
Leadership: This is an example of a one-on-one meeting sheet for supervisors and employees.

- [One on One meeting from Cy Wakeman](#) (Handout)

Anything else you would like to share?

Jasper County Cares Schools Subgroup: meeting after the Cares meeting

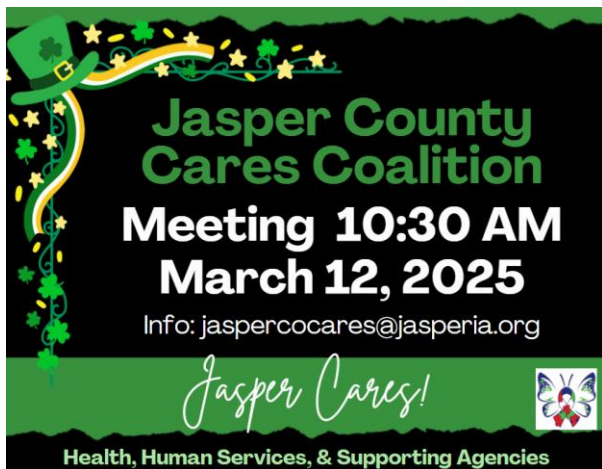
Led by Julie Smith, Capstone Behavioral Health
Schools, Mental Health, Substance Misuse, Human Services



Schools:

- 1.) Introductions
- 2.) Child Abuse Prevention month. Activity: pinwheel garden and elementary coloring contest. <https://pcaiowa.org/>
- 3.) Love for Red, Period Supplies, <https://www.loveforred.org/>
- 4.) Blank Children's Hospital: My Body, My Rules
 - Janelle Ballhagen, Program Coordinator, Center for Advocacy and Outreach, CAP (Child Assault Prevention)
 - Email: Janelle.Ballhagen@unitypoint.org and Tel: (515) 241-6703 office
 - Website: <https://www.unitypoint.org/locations/unitypoint-health---blank-childrens-hospital/advocacy-and-outreach/child-assault-prevention-program>
 - Possible funding from CPPC or Decat.
 - Any schools interested in program for next school year?
- 5.) Mental Health/Substance Updates
- 6.) Funding Opportunities
 - Jasper County Opioid Settlement Fund coming soon. https://www.jasperia.org/health/opioid_settlement/
 - Jasper Comm. Foundation Grant <https://www.jaspercommunityfoundation.org/grant-application> Due 4/30/25
 - De-categorization (Decat) and CPPC funding, Contact person: Meredith.Hershner@linncountyiowa.gov
- 7.) Resource Guide:
 - Link to resource guide on school website
 - Making sure all counselors and teachers know about resource guide
 - Add to newsletter
- 8.) Resource Events for Schools
 - Baxter Schools:
 - Colfax Mingo:
 - Lynnville-Sully:
 - Newton: new teacher luncheon
 - PCM:
 - Newton YMCA: Healthy Kids Day, Date: April 26, 2025
- 9.) Discussion:

Next Meeting will be Wednesday, March 12, 2025.



March's guest speaker will be Jessica Lowe Vokes from the United Way of Jasper County.

A graphic titled "ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT" in large yellow letters on a red background. Below the title, it says "United Way of Jasper County" in blue. A yellow banner below that reads "United Way of Jasper County works to stabilize and uplift those in need in Jasper County, Iowa." The graphic is divided into two columns of text. The left column states: "Our vision is to foster strong, resilient, and equitable communities where every individual has the opportunity to thrive and live their best life." The right column states: "This vision is realized through our strategic priorities, which focus on:" followed by a numbered list: "1) Healthy Community; 2) Youth Opportunity; 3) Financial Security; and 4) Community Resiliency". At the bottom, there is a red box with "MORE INFORMATION" in white, followed by contact details: a phone icon with "(641) 792-1684", an email icon with "unitedwayjc@gmail.com", a globe icon with "UnitedWayofJasperCounty.org", and a location pin icon with "321 1st Ave West, Newton, Iowa". To the right of the contact information is a blue circle containing a white logo of a hand holding a person with arms raised, with yellow sun rays above.

****Mark Your Calendar for Subgroups****

March: MCH (Childcare) Jana Larsen from MICA is the lead.

April: Healthcare Providers: LTC, Newton Clinic, DMACC, Hospital, Public Health, Urgent Care, Home Care, Hospice, medical or health providers, EMS, and others.

May: Food Insecurities: Food pantries, Food Bank of Iowa, Salvation Army, Discover Hope, Schools (lunch and summer program), WIC, Senior Nutrition, Aging Resources, Churches, all the places that donate food- Walmart, HyVee, Fareway, gas stations and restaurants.



MID IOWA COMMUNITY ACTION



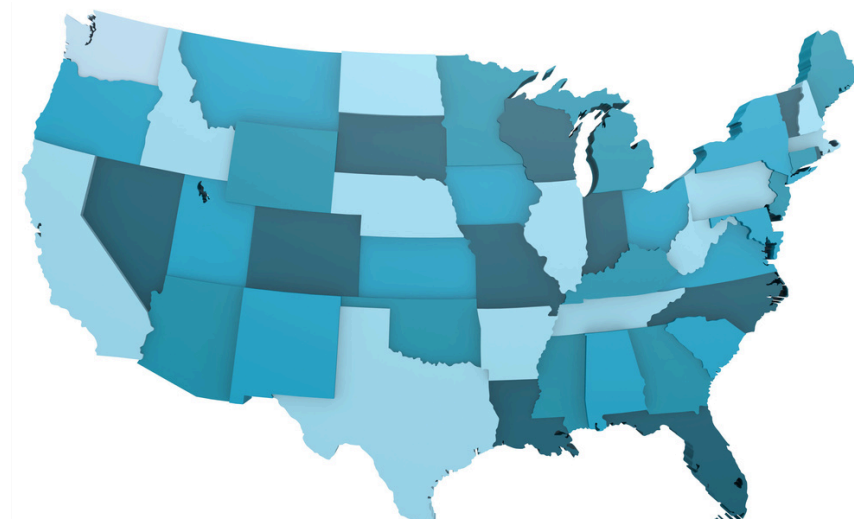
What is Community Action?



PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON DECLARED THE WAR ON POVERTY

January 8, 1964

Purpose: Eliminate poverty, expand educational opportunities, increase safety net for the poor and underemployed, and tend to health and financial needs of elderly.



1,000 COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES SERVING THE US

Cover 96% of the nations counties

Primary source of direct support to more than 34.5 million people in the US.



WHAT MAKES US A COMMUNITY ACTION?

Funded by Community Services Block Grant

Tripartite Board

- 1/3 members from low income community
- 1/3 from private sector
- 1/3 are public officials

Did you know?

By age 35, nearly 1/3 of the US population will spend a year below the poverty line. (1 person household making less than 14,580 a year)

By age 65, more than half of the population

By age 85, two thirds of all Americans.





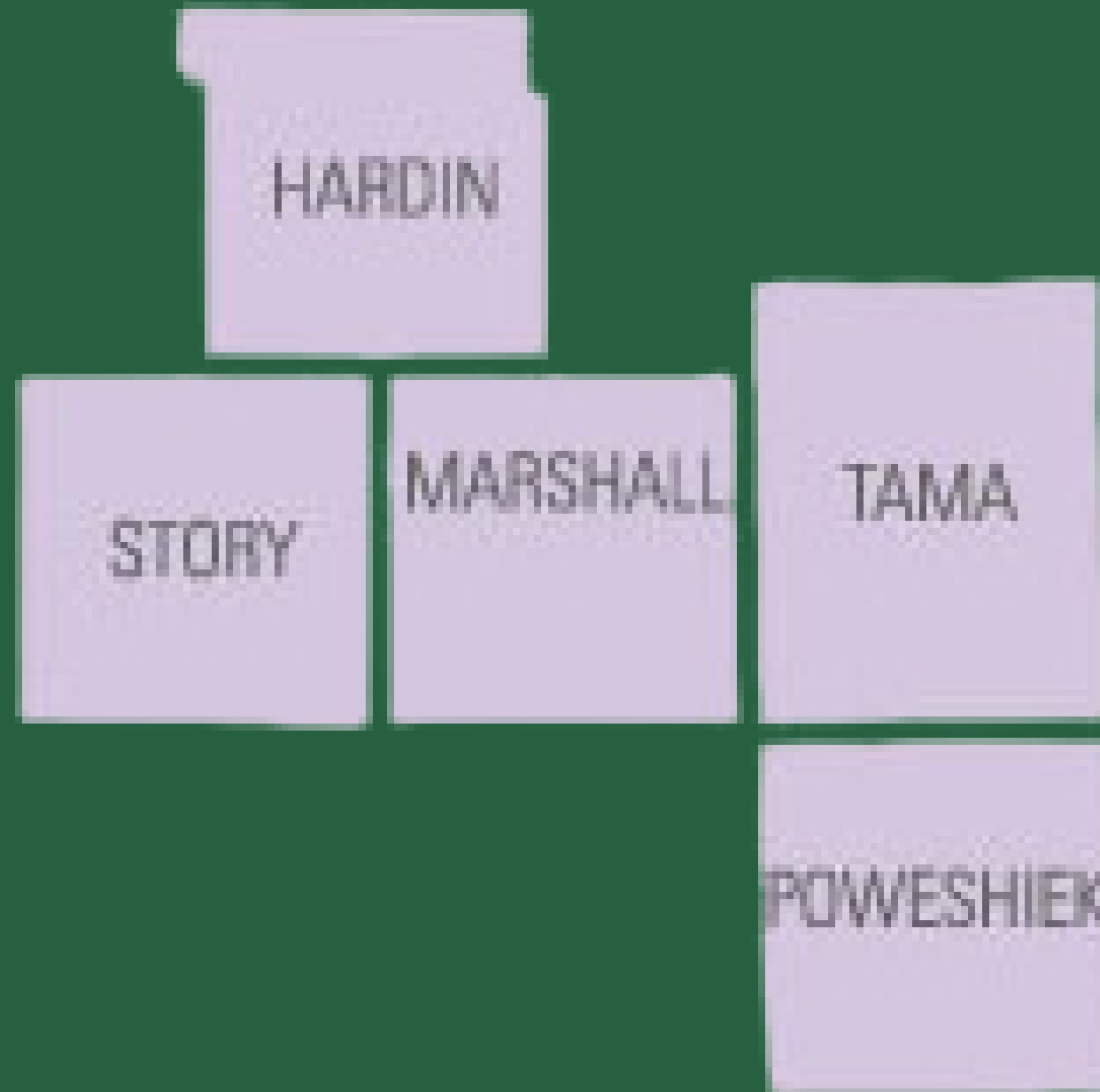
OUR STORY

MICA is a private, non-profit agency serving children and families in the heart of Central Iowa.

We were established in 1965, and we have been waging the war on poverty for almost 60 years!

MICA serves families in 5 core counties.

But, some of our programs expand outside of these counties.



OUR MISSION

MICA helps families experiencing poverty to meet their needs, build on their strengths, and achieve their goals.

OUR VISION

MICA's Vision is resilient central Iowa communities where all people thrive.

MICA CARES

Compassion
Advocacy
Resiliency
Equity
Service



MICA is MORE



21,898
people

Served in FY 2023. Filling Wells Fargo Arena with an extra 5,000 people outside.

40% of our
families are under
50% of FPL

That is less than \$13,875 a year for a family of 4

287 Children

Served by our Early Childhood Programs





Weatherization

**100 homes per year,
average**

**Provide energy saving
improvements including:**

- Attic insulation
- Wall insulation
- Replacement of furnaces or water heaters
- Replacement of inefficient refrigerators and freezers
- Installation of energy efficient light bulbs and shower heads.

**Average cost of work done
per home \$27,000**



Family Development and Self-Sufficiency Program

Serves families receiving cash assistance (FIP), income eligible, or parents in school.

Home Visits are based on the needs of the family, ranging from weekly to monthly

Families have options of curriculums to follow

Focus on the families goals and coach them to reach their goals.



Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Provides nutrition education and counseling

Breastfeeding education and support

Referrals to other resources

Food Benefits on an EBT card

Provided benefits to over 5,200 individuals FY23





Breastfeeding Peer Counseling

WIC Peer Counselors = women who have been on WIC and had their own successful breastfeeding experiences, who support families with normal breastfeeding experiences.

24/7 support via
text/call/email

Federally funded



Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant Program

Enacted in 1935, and nations
oldest federal-state
partnership

59 states and jurisdiction
receive this funding

Federally funded and recieves
Medicaid reimbursements for
some services.

Serves over 60 million individuals

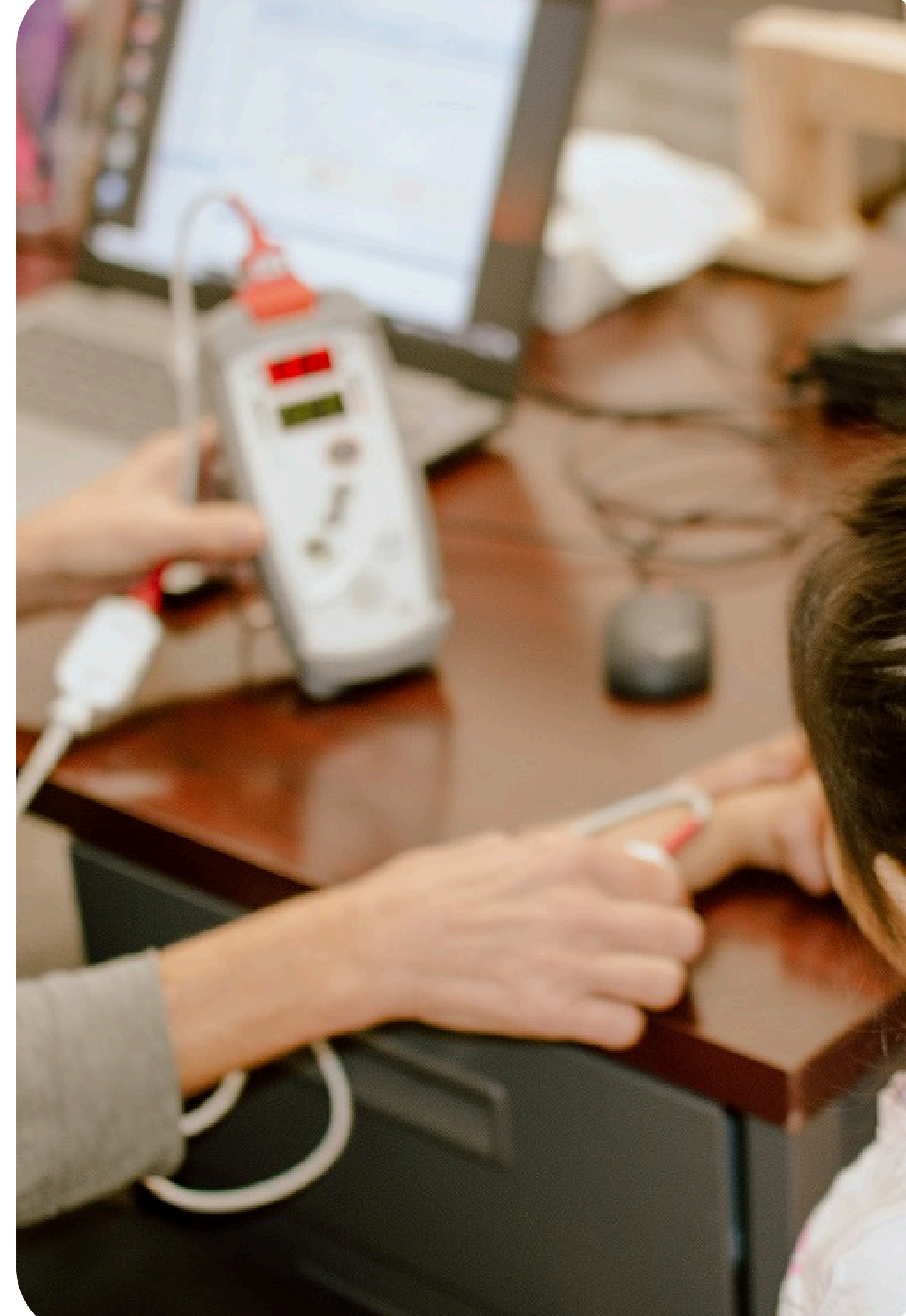
- 92% of all pregnant individuals
- 98% of infants
- 58% of children nationwide
including children with special
health care needs.



Child Health Services

Children ages 0-21

- Informing services
- Presumptive Medicaid eligibility
- Care coordination
- Immunizations
- Oral Health Services
- Nutrition counseling
- Development Testing
- Lead Testing
- Caregiver depression screening
- Domestic violence screening
- Substance abuse screening



Maternal Health Services

Pregnant and Postpartum People

- Presumptive Medicaid eligibility
- Medicaid Prenatal Risk Assessment
- Care coordination
- Health Education
- Nutrition assessment and counseling
- Psychosocial assessment and counseling
- Oral health
- Assessing for tobacco use
- Listening visits
- Postpartum home visits



1st Five

Builds partnerships with health care providers and practices, and public service providers to enhance high quality well-child care by:

- Promoting standardized developmental screenings during well child visits
- Helping identify children who are at risk in any development area
- Providing early intervention for caregiver depression
- Identifying of adverse family stressors
- Producing overall better outcomes for children



I-Smile

Connects Iowans with dental, medical, and community resources to ensure a lifetime of health and wellness.

State- funded and can receive Medicaid

I-Smile can:

- help set up dental appointments
- provide reminders of appointments
- arrange transportation
- provide education and preventative services





I-Smile @ School

School based sealant program provides dental screenings, fluoride and dental sealants.

Focus on children in 2nd, 3rd, and 7th grades.

School must have free and reduced lunch rate on 40% to qualify

All students are eligible

Last year, we provided over 1,300 sealants



Child Care Nurse Consultant

Provides on site consultation, training, and technical assistance to early child care and education providers.

Childcare centers and providers may call or send questions to a nurse about health and safety policies, health of personnel, and a specific child health or safety issue.

Use national and state performance measures to help providers improve the quality of care and protect the safety of children

Funded through Early Childhood Iowa



PRESENTATION FINISHED

ANY QUESTIONS?

memegenerator.net

*Thank
you!*



Contact Us

Abra Dougherty

abra.dougherty@micaonline.org

Resource Development and
Communications Coordinator

Sierra Stevens

sierra.stevens@micaonline.org

WIC Coordinator

Website

www.micaonline.org

Phone Number

641-752-7162

Email Address

info@micaonline.org





UNITED WAY OF JASPER COUNTY

VOICES OF INSPIRATION

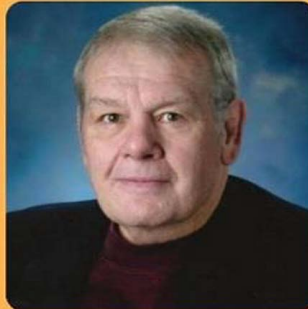
ENGAGING | INFORMATIVE | MOTIVATIONAL
ENTERTAINING | ENLIGHTENING



Matt Stutzman

Paralympic Athlete &
Gold Medal Winner

Feb. 27



Mike Chapman

Author, Historian &
Journalist

March 6



**Ernie Schiller
& Nathan Unsworth**

Rebuild Nepal

March 13



Terry Rich

Retired: Iowa Lottery, "Idea
Dude," Speaker & Author

March 27



Mary Anne Owen

Donna Reed Foundation &
Daughter of Donna Reed

April 10

Doors Open:
6 p.m.

Program:
6:30 p.m.

**DMACC Newton
Auditorium**

600 N. 2nd Ave. W.

**All Ages Welcome
Free Will Admission**

Thank you to our sponsors!

Dodd's Trash & Recycling & Black Hills Energy

**Pence Reese Funeral Home, Ryan's Tire & Auto,
Doug & Rhonda Wolf Family,**

Erik Vokes & Jessica Lowe Vokes, DMACC Newton

www.unitedwayofjaspercounty.org

Jasper County Cares contact list	
Name	Organization
Ace Stonehocker	Aging Resources of Central Iowa
Alexis Thompson	St. Gregory Recovery Center
Amanda Scalise	IMPACT
Amanda Sinclair	House of Mercy, Newton
Amanda Wobken	MercyOne Central / Western Iowa
Amelia Garber	Proteus
Amy Hansen	IMPACT
Amy Blanchard	Greater Poweshiek Community Foundation
Andi Borsch	Department of Human Services IHHS, Newton
Angela Barnell	Parent Partners
Angela Busick	Iowa, Probation/Parole - IDOC
Angie Wells	Progress Industries
Araceli Roberts	Mid Iowa Community Action Agency MICA
Art Sathoff	Prairie City Schools
Ashley Baker	Together for Good
Becca Decker	Habitat for Humanity, Greater of Des Moines
Becky Pryor	Jasper County Health Dept
Beth Andrew	Quakerdale Family Services
Bill Ehler	NAMI Central Iowa
Bill Peters	DMACC- Des Moines Area Community College, Ne
Bobbi Streeter	Pella Regional Prairie City Clinic
Brad Magg	Candidate for Iowa House/Owner of Goldie's
Brad Shutts	Jasper County Sheriff's Office
Brenda O'Halloran	Orchard Place- CCR&R childcare resource & referral
Brendan Johnson	Immanuel Pathways
Brian Feist	Telligen
Brooke Ramsey	HIRTA
Caitlyn Hecht	Care Initiative Hospice
Cathy Drost	Iowa State Extension ISU
Chelsea Etter	Newton Clinic
Chelsie Slack	Progress Industries
Chloe Barkema	Mercy One Newton
Chloe Hird	Telligen
Chris Clark	Optimae Life Services
Chris Peterson	Baxter Schools
Chris Pierson	Heartland AEA
Christine Dawson	Newton Schools
Christine West	Phoenix House- Newton
Cindy Rybolt	Iowa Legal Aid
Clay Harrold	Baxter Schools
Cody Daugherty	The Way
Connie McQuiston	Jasper County General Assistance

Corey Van Kooten	Jasper County Sheriff's Office/ LS SRO
Craig Armstrong	Lutheran Church of Hope
Dan Donohue	Newton Village
Danielle Kenworthy	Short Years Program, PAT
Danny Schnathorst	HIRTA
Darcy Baughman	Drake University Head Start
Daryl Dotson	Newton Schools, Berg Middle School Principal
Deana Van Brocklin	Iowa Courts, Juvenile Court
Deb Tupper	Pella Regional Prairie City Clinic
Devon McAnally	MICA
Drew Zwack	Clive Behavioral Health
Elizabeth Reibsamen	Parent Partners
Emmaline Krapfl	American Lung of Iowa
Erick Zehr	Newton YMCA
Erin Ouverson	Mid Iowa Community Action Agency MICA
Evelyn George	Newton, City of, mayor
Felicia Hazelton	Short Years Program, PAT
Gary Martin	Friends in Hope
George Sorensen	Newton YMCA
Hannah James	Accura Healthcare Administrator
Jamey Robinson	Jasper County EMA Emergency Management Agency
Jana Larsen	Mid Iowa Community Action Agency MICA
Janelle.Ballhagen	Blank Children's Hospital, Child Abuse Prevention
Jarica White	CICS Jasper County (Mental Health)
Jasmine Bailey	ISU Extension
Jason Soddors	Iowa Courts
Jeff Garney	ISU Extension
Jeff Wisnieski	Home Instead
Jenn Tielbur	Team CSA-Community Support Advocates
Jennifer O'Halloran	Lynnville-Sully School
Jensyn Hall	NAMI Central Iowa
Jeremy Burdess	Colfax Police Department
Jessica Lowe Vokes	United Way of Jasper County
Jessica Miller	Mid Iowa Community Action Agency MICA
Jill Halter	Baxter Schools
Jill Robinson	Capstone Behavioral Health
Jodi Blackford	Crisis Intervention Services
Joe McQueery	EFR- Employee and Family Resources
John Hoyt	Walmart, Newton
Josh Price	General Assistance/VA
Judy Monroe	Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Julie Britton	Newton Police Department
Julie Smith	Capstone Behavioral Health
Justine Wyma	Lynnville-Sully School Nurse
Kairee Bishop	EFR- Employee and Family Resources
Kara Dirksen	DMACC- Des Moines Area Community College, Ne
Karie Foster	ISU Extension

Karin Mills	Nightingale Center
Kathy Dooley	Iowa Department of Public Health IHHS
Kathy Ellis	Jasper County EMA Emergency Management Agency
Katie Finch	Discover Hope 517
Katie Kuhn	St. Croix Hospice
Kayla Van Gorp	Iowa Healthiest State Initiative
Katlyn LeMaster	Iowa National Guard
Keith Isley	Progress Industries
Kelli Van Manen	Jasper County Senior Nutrition
Kelly Kirk	community
Kelly Sorenson	Newton Schools
Kelly Yeggy	Iowa, Mental Health Advocate
Kelly Zach	Salvation Army, Newton
Kelsey Miranda	Discover Hope 517
Kendi McCollum	House of Mercy, MercyOne, Newton
Kendra Perry	Colfax Mingo School Board
Keri Powers	Hickory Recovery Network
Keri Schippers	Mercy One Newton Medical Center
Kim Brannan	Heavenly Excursions, NEMT
Kim Zantingh	ITS Integrated Treatment Services
Kris Reicks	Optimae
Kristina Burma	MICA I-smile
Kristina Winfield	Jasper County Health Dept
Kristen Souza	PCM High School
Kylee Steenhoek	Capstone Behavioral Health
Larry Anderson	First Presbyterian Church
Lauren Asman	EFR- Employee and Family Resources
Lauren Pendroy	Mercy One Newton Medical Center
Leann Andre	Orchard Place- CCR&R
Lee Cochran	Jasper County Hunger Relief
Leisa Zylstra	Park Centre
Linda Anderson	Kid Assist
Lindsay Porter	Colfax Mingo Schools
Lindsey Anderson	Iowa Courts, Fifth Judicial District Court of Iowa
Lindsey Sinn	Central Iowa Shelter, Rolling Hills
Lisa Fiorentin	Pella Regional Prairie City Clinic
Lori Eisbrener	Community member
Lori Reynolds	State of Iowa VA
Lori Ward	community- homeless
Luke Skinner	Accura, Traditions Memory Care
Mari Wilson	Park Centre
Mariah Fox	Newton Healthcare Center NHCC
Mark Thayer	Newton Clinic
Martha Brightman Gasca	UCS Healthcare

Mary Romberg	The Well Thrift Store/Newton
Matt Dunsbergen	Lynnville Sully Schools- Sup
Megan Garrett	Iowa Courts
Megan Thompson	Mid Iowa Community Action Agency MICA
Megan Van Beek	Mid Iowa Community Action Agency MICA
Melissa Adams	Crisis Intervention Services
Melissa Gary	Jasper County Health Dept
Mercedes Grimes	Optimae
Meredith Hershner	Linn County Community Services
Michaela Gunsaulus	Lynnville-Sully Elementary School Counselor
Michelle White	Aging Resources of Central Iowa
Mike Gunsaulus & Poppy	Jasper County Sheriff's Office/Therapy dog
Mike Hunsberger	Sheepgate - division of Adult & Teen Challenge of th
Miranda Caldwell	Newton Village
Mollie Michelfelder	MercyOne House of Mercy
Nicholas Pietrack	Jasper County Attorney's Office
Nick Marois	Newton Village
Nicole Terry	Newton Library, City of Newton
Paul Millhollin (Pastor)	First Presbyterian Church
Paul Richards	Central Iowa Shelter, Rolling Hills, Homeless contac
Paula Arkema	IMPACT Community Action Partnership
Phil Grout	Hy-Vee - Newton and Grinnell
Rachel Bardwell	Short Years Partnership
Rachel Beierle	EFR- Employee and Family Resources
Rachel Ferguson	Traditions Memory Care
Raichel Beierle	EFR- Employee and Family Resources
Rebecca Becky Peterson	House of Mercy, MercyOne, Newton
Rex Heisdorffer	Newton Fire Department
Rita Baker	Pregnancy Center of Central Iowa
Rob Burdess- Chief	Newton Police Department
Robert "Robbie" Robinson	Discover Hope 517
Roxanne Petersen	NAMI Central Iowa
Ryan Adams	Iowa Family Resource Collaborative
Ryan Larson	High Mark Senior Living
Sara Tiedje	Baxter School Nurse
Sarah Patterson	RSVP (Senior Volunteer Program)
Sarah Pittman	Newton YMCA
Sarah Urias	Capstone Behavioral Health
Scott Pritchard	Clearview Recovery
Shawn Kinnison	Hospice of the Midwest
Sheena Sullivan	Short Years Partnership
Sheldon Henderson	First Christian Church
Shelley Koons	Family Crisis Center
Sierra Stevens	Mid Iowa Community Action Agency MICA
Steve Ashing	Jasper County EMA Emergency Management Agenc
Sue Nation	Jasper County Attorney's Office

Terianne Marsh	Proteus
Terra Cleveland	Aging Resources of Central Iowa
Terry Sallis	ITS Integrated Treatment Services
Tim North	Salvation Army Newton
Tim Salmon	Colfax Mingo Schools
Tina Lawson	Optimae Life Services
Tom Messinger	Newton School- Sup
Tracie Backstrom	Short Years Parents as Teachers
Ty Harris	Food Bank of Iowa
Victoria Williamson	ITS Integrated Treatment Services
Whitney Morrison	Newton Healthcare Center NHCC



Jasper County Cares Coalition

Meeting Dates (2nd Wednesday)

2025

Feb 12

Mar 12

Apr 9

May 14

Jun 11

July 9

Aug 13

Sep 10

Oct 8

Nov 12

Dec 10

Contact: jaspercocares@jasperia.org

Jasper Co. Office Building, Large Conference Room
315 W. 3rd St N. Newton, IA

Jasper County Opioid Settlement Application for Funding

All funds must be used in Jasper County and for Jasper County residents for prevention, abatement, or treatment according to the Opioid Settlement guidelines.

Organization:
Federal Tax ID: (Must provide W9.)
Address:
Contact and title:
Telephone:
Email:
Website:
Description of the organization:(list the year established, mission, services)
Project Title:
Requested amount: \$ Detailed budget must be included.
Does your organization receive funding from other sources for this project?
Is this a capital or program request?
Project focus area: (pick one) prevention, abatement, or treatment

Summary of the project:
The target population to be served in Jasper County:
Estimated # of people to be served in Jasper County:
Timeline for the project and the completion of this project:
(Attachments are allowed.)
Describe in detail how the funds will be used (for opioid prevention, abatement, or treatment)
How will this project impact Jasper County with opioid prevention, abatement, or treatment?

I agree that the funds provided by Jasper County to this organization from the Jasper County Opioid Settlement Fund will be used for an approved Opioid Remediation Use for residents of Jasper County and any misuse of such funds may result in legal action. (See Exhibit #1 for approved Opioid Remediation Uses).

Print Name and Title

Signature of Director/Chair

Date

Email: bpryor@jasperia.org for a Word version.

Updated 1/30/2025

How to apply for Jasper County Opioid Settlement Funds?

To be considered for funding, the application MUST include the following items:

- A complete and signed Application for Funding
- Federal Tax Identification Number copy.
- A detailed budget of the project included estimates of expenses for staff time, capital, or program costs. Please indicate other funds used for this project.

Submit the required documentation by the deadline to:

Jasper County Health Department

Attn: Opioid Settlement Committee Funding/Becky Pryor

315 W 3rd St N, Suite 100, Newton, IA 50208

or

Email: bpryor@jasperia.org Once received, a confirmation email will be sent.

Procedure for Opioid Settlement Funds:

1. Deadlines will be established by the Opioid Settlement Committee and posted on the website, Jasper County's Facebook, and in the Jasper County Cares meetings.
2. All requests must be a non-profit organization located in Jasper County and the funds are only to serve Jasper County residents.
3. Return the completed application and required documentation by the deadline. Additional sheets and attachments are acceptable.
4. The Jasper County Opioid Fund Committee will meet and review the applications.
5. If qualified and the committee chooses to consider the project, the Jasper County Opioid Fund Committee will request the organization's presence at a meeting.
6. A decision by the committee for recommendation will be made within 2 weeks of the meeting date to determine eligibility, whether to recommending to fund or not to fund, or a request for additional information.
7. The Opioid Settlement Committee will make recommendations to the Jasper County Board of Supervisors for approval. The organization will be notified of the date of the meeting (Tuesdays at 9:30 AM located at the Jasper County Courthouse).
8. If funding is issued, the organization will be required to complete a W9 with the Jasper County Auditor's Office.
9. The organization's W9, agreement, and all required paperwork will need to be signed to the Jasper County Auditor's office located on the 2nd floor in the Courthouse.
10. A progress report will be due to the Jasper County Auditor every 3 months from the receipt of funds until the project is complete. See the dates on the form. (Exhibit C)
11. Funds must be spent within the designated timeline approved by the committee or a payback to the County may be required. If additional time is needed for the project, the organization must submit a request in writing to the address above for approval before the end of the agreement.
12. The next deadline for fund consideration will be **TBD**.
13. If or when additional funding is available, future deadlines will be determined.
14. Exhibit 1 includes a list of all allowable projects and all projects must meet the requirements.
15. The application and Exhibit 1 will be located on the Jasper County website and a hard copy at the address listed above.
16. Promotion about the funds will be on the Jasper County website, a press release to the media, the social media accounts, and the Jasper County Cares Coalition meetings and Facebook account. We strongly encourage awarded organizations to promote funding received on their social media, press releases, and websites. Organizations should include information on publications that include "Funded by Jasper County Opioid Settlement Funds".
17. The committee may choose areas that they feel are most needed in Jasper County or a gap in service for Jasper County
18. Organizations will be allowed to apply for more than one project, more than one time, as long as funding is available. Priority may be given to new projects.
19. Disclaimer: The funds should not be considered ongoing, and organizations should explore other avenues for future sustainability.
20. For any questions or concerns, please contact Becky Pryor at bpryor@jasperia.org.

Updated 1/30/2025

Jasper County Opioid Settlement Funds Report - Exhibit C

SAMPLE REPORT

Quarterly reports are due:

- January- March, due April 15th
- April-June, due July 15th
- July-September, due October 15th
- October-December, due January 15th

Reports are due to the Jasper Co. Auditor, Jenna Jennings, jjennings@jaspercounty.iowa.gov

Organization:
Date of report:
Name and Title:
Email:
Project focus area: (pick one) prevention, abatement, or treatment
Amount of funds awarded:
Amount of funds spent: (Please submit detailed receipts of expenditures.)
Estimated # of people served:
How were the funds used?
Tell us a positive impact story about the funds used:
Any barriers? yes or no If yes, describe.
Is the project complete? yes or no
Comments:



SERVING STORY, JASPER, MARION,
WARREN, POLK, MADISON
DALLAS AND BOONE COUNTIES

OUR PROGRAMS



Information & Assistance

Our specialists can help connect you to services and programs.



Family Caregiver Program

Our Family Caregiver Program helps you be the best caregiver you can be.



Elder Abuse Prevention & Awareness

If you and/or a loved one suspect financial exploitation/abuse



Aging & Disability Resource Center

Explore all your options.



Nutrition & Wellness

Learn about programs and services to help you live a healthy lifestyle.



Aging Well

Find tools to take charge of your health and well-being.

Populations We Serve:

- Adults 60 years old and older
- Adults 18+ years of age and older with a disability
- Family Caregivers
- Grandparents Caring For Grandchildren



Contact us today!

(515) 255-1310 - Office
(515) 255-9442 - fax
(800) 747-5352 - Toll-Free

5835 Grand Avenue, Suite 106
Des Moines, IA 50312-1444

A collection of red and pink hearts of various sizes hanging from the top of the page by thin black lines.

Aging Resources Rural Dates

February

Rural Option Counselor, Ace will be available in Jasper and Marion Counties to help with questions, applications, and referrals.

MARION COUNTY

The Well - Knoxville IA - 02/06 -
10 AM to 1 PM

The Well - Knoxville IA - 02/20 -
10 AM to 1 PM

JASPER COUNTY

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Office
- Newton, IA - 02/13 -
9 AM to 1 PM

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Office
- Newton, IA - 02/27 -
10 AM to 1 PM

Why Donate?

Human trafficking is one of the fastest-growing crimes in the world, exploiting millions of lives each year. But together, we can change that. Your donation to the Lighthouse Foundation directly supports efforts to:

- Empower Survivors: Help provide safe housing, counseling, and critical resources to individuals reclaiming their lives.
- Educate Communities: Fund prevention programs in schools, churches, and workplaces to stop trafficking before it begins.
- Raise Awareness: Support campaigns that shed light on the hidden realities of human trafficking.
- Advocate for Change: Help us push for stronger laws and policies to protect the vulnerable and prosecute traffickers.

When you donate to the Lighthouse Foundation, you're not just giving money—you're giving hope, safety, and a brighter future to those who need it most.

Together, we can be the light that ends human trafficking.

Psalm 119:105

*Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light for my path.*

*If you would like us to do a presentation
at your school or at a public event,
please reach out to us via email below.*

*To make a donation you can do so by
writing a check out to The Lighthouse
Foundation, or via venmo:
@LighthouseFoundation*



E-mail Address

TLHF2025@gmail.com



Our Location

Pella, Iowa

 *The Lighthouse Foundation*



*Lighting the way to Freedom & Hope for
survivors of human trafficking & abuse*

Our Services

At the Lighthouse Foundation, we are committed to ending human trafficking and abuse and supporting survivors through education, advocacy, and care. Our services include:

Prevention Education (Current Service)

We offer tailored workshops and training for:

- Schools: Teaching students and educators how to recognize and respond to trafficking risks.
- Community Groups: Equipping parents, faith-based organizations, and local leaders with prevention tools.
- Businesses: Helping companies identify and prevent trafficking in their operations and supply chains.



Advocacy for Change

We work with policymakers and law enforcement to:

- Strengthen anti-trafficking laws and victim protections.
- Increase funding for survivor services.
- Create safer communities for everyone.



Survivor Support (Future Service)

We stand by survivors on their journey to healing with:

- Access to safe housing and emergency resources.
- Trauma-informed counseling and therapy.
- Legal services assistance.
- Job training and life skills development programs.

Awareness Campaigns

We use public events, social media, and partnerships to:

- Shine a light on trafficking in local communities.
- Share stories of hope and survival to inspire action.
- Promote the importance of prevention and intervention.



Get Involved

Join us in the fight against human trafficking and be a beacon of hope for those in need. There are many ways to make a difference:



Volunteer Your Time

Help us expand our reach by:

- Assisting at community events and fundraisers.
- Supporting survivor programs like job training or peer counseling.

Donate

Your contributions directly fund prevention programs, survivor support, and awareness campaigns. Every dollar helps bring hope and safety to vulnerable individuals.

DONATE ❤️

Advocate for Change

Raise awareness in your community by:

- Hosting a Lighthouse Foundation awareness event.
- Sharing our resources on social media.
- Writing to local leaders to support stronger anti-trafficking laws.

Partner with Us

Businesses, schools, and organizations can join our mission by:

- Sponsoring events or programs.
- Offering employment opportunities for survivors.
- Hosting training sessions for employees and staff.

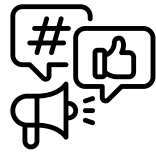


Be the Light

Whether you give your time, resources, or voice, you're helping us build a world free from human trafficking. Together, we can make a lasting impact.



Online Safety



For Individuals and Families:

1. Social Media Awareness

- **Privacy Settings:** Ensure your social media accounts have strong privacy settings. Avoid sharing personal information like your location, school, workplace, or daily routines publicly.
- **Be Cautious with Strangers:** Avoid accepting friend requests or engaging with strangers online, even if they seem friendly or share mutual interests.
- **Think Before You Post:** Be mindful of the content you share online, as traffickers may use it to profile potential victims.

2. Guard Personal Information

- Avoid oversharing sensitive details like phone numbers, addresses, or financial information on public platforms or insecure websites.
- Be cautious about quizzes or surveys that ask for personal details—they may be used for phishing or grooming purposes.

3. Spot Grooming Behaviors

- Traffickers often build trust by pretending to be friends or romantic partners online. Look out for excessive flattery, offers of gifts, or requests to meet in person.

4. Safe Communication for Minors

- Teach children to communicate only with people they know in real life. Monitor their online activities and discuss the dangers of sharing explicit images or meeting online acquaintances in person.

5. Cybersecurity Best Practices

- Use strong, unique passwords for all accounts and enable two-factor authentication.
- Avoid clicking on suspicious links or downloading unknown attachments that could compromise your device.



Recognize, Respond, Report

What is human trafficking?

Labor Trafficking

Is forced work or services under threat or coercion.

Sex Trafficking

Exploitation through force, fraud, or coercion.



Signs of trafficking

Behavioral Signs:

Fear, anxiety, submission, paranoia.

Situational Indicators:

Lack of ID, restricted movement, or signs of physical abuse, tattoos of barcodes on their neck or inside of lip.

Who is at risk?



Everyone:

Traffickers don't care about age, gender, or race. But vulnerable groups are foster youth, runaway teens, immigrants, and marginalized communities.

How to help!



Recognize the signs

Report suspicious activity to local authorities or the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

**Hotline: 1-888-373-7888 or text
"HELP" to 233733 (BEFREE)**

MY BODY MY RULES

Personal Safety Information for Kids

MY BODY BELONGS TO ME!

- I can say **"No"** to anyone who wants to hug or kiss me when I don't want to.
- These are things I can do instead - fist bump, high five or a handshake.
- It's MY body and I'm the boss of it!



MY SAFE AND TRUSTED ADULTS

- I have **5 safe adults** I can tell anything to.
- If I feel frightened, uncomfortable or nervous about something, I can tell one of these 5 adults.
- If one of my safe adults doesn't listen or believe me, I need to **keep telling** other safe adults.



WARNING SIGNS

- If I begin to feel scared or unsafe, my body may begin to sweat or I might get a funny feeling in my tummy. My heart might start to beat really fast too. These are warning signs that might mean something is wrong.
- If I get these kinds of feelings, it's important **I tell one of my 5 grown ups right away.**



PRIVATE PARTS

- My private parts are the parts of my body that my swimming suit covers up.
- I call my private parts by their correct names - not nicknames.
- No one can touch me in my private parts and no one can ask me to touch someone else's private parts.
- No one should ever show me pictures of someone's private parts either.
- If something like this happens, **I need to tell one of my trusted adults** right away.



UNSAFE SECRETS

- Unsafe secrets are secrets that make me feel scared or uncomfortable. If someone asks me to keep something a secret that makes me feel frightened, I need to tell a trusted adult right away.
- Kisses and touches are things that should **never be kept a secret.**



Blank Children's Hospital
UnityPoint Health

VILLAGE CLOSET

Poweshiek Public Health



Supplies for Newborns up to 12months old

Expectant mothers, grandparents and foster parents in need can now access free essential items for their babies.



By Appointment

Schedule an appointment by calling (641) 236-2385, option 3 or emailing dm_village_closet@unitypoint.org. Provide us the size, gender and any specific items needed. We will prepare a bag for you!



The closet offers a wide range of free items. Some of which are carseats, pack & play, bottles, hygiene products, maternity clothes, NB-12mo clothes and some breast feeding essentials.

THE VILLAGE CLOSET IS DONATION RAN AND ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF NEW OR LIKE-NEW ITEMS.



Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA)

MICA helps families experiencing poverty meet their needs, build on their strengths, and achieve their goals.

Serving Families in: Boone, Jasper,
Marshall, Poweshiek, Story and Tama Counties.

Board of Health Newsletter January 2025

WIC Participation	December 2024
Marshalltown	1,397
Grinnell	189
Tama	248
Colfax	78
Newton	455
Settlement	23
Boone	237
Ames	1,149
Nevada	139
Traer	22
Brooklyn	35
Agency Total	3,972

*WIC grant requires participation numbers in all BOH newsletters.

October-3,948 November 3,993

Give Kids A Smile Day

MICA's I-Smile Team is partnering with Kimball & Beecher in Marshalltown to host Give Kids A Smile Day. This will be held Friday, February 7th at Kimball & Beecher – 105 W. Merle Hibbs Blvd. Marshalltown from 8am to 12pm. Free preventative dental services and treatment will be provided for children ages 1-13. Appointments are on a first call basis until spots are filled, 641-753-3383.



Success Stories from FY24:

- 1- The WIC and Child Health team saw a child with a low HGB. MICA's nurse called McFarland and referred the child to see his primary doctor that day as his HGB was extremely low, prompting concerns. A few weeks after seeing the doctor the family reported that he was seen by a specialist in DSM as well and his current HGB is already three points higher. Had this not been tested and identified by the WIC/CH team this child could have become very weak and ill.
- 2- A mom brought her young child in for a Child Health appointment and throughout the visit the nurse could see mom was very sad and teary. Mom shared she was going through a really hard time, she hardly had enough gas to make her WIC appointment but she needed the food benefits she would receive that day to feed her family. The CH nurse was able to connect her to a gas card through another local program to help ease some barriers and worries. At the family's next visit mom brought her son in for his final appointment at WIC and she hugged the CH nurse commenting that the gas card saved her and she wouldn't ever forget it. The nurse's compassion and knowledge of community resources were able to help that family out during a very difficult time.
- 3- MICA's Child Care Nurse Consultant (CCNC) helped a family receive services for their young toddler as the doctor and Early Access had told the family it was "just a phase". This 1-year-old child had severe anxiety, would sleep sitting up at childcare and at home when mom was away. The child often rocked back and forth and clutched items in her hands "most of the time" per family and childcare provider. The CCNC worked with the family directly, giving instructions on how to fill out an ASQ-SE via email and telephone calls. The CCNC emailed the correct tool to the mother who filled the ASQ out and sent it back to the CCNC. The CCNC then scored this for them and the child scored very high, out of range, which indicated she could use interventions/services to support development. The CCNC then directed the mother to take the ASQ score and a referral letter written by the CCNC to her physician and ask for a 1st Five referral. Mom did so and the child was then referred to 1st Five. Through guidance and referrals from 1st Five the child now has support services, play therapy and had an autism screening completed within a couple of months. The child received a diagnosis on the autism spectrum and is now receiving the care and services she needs to thrive. Through these connections the family and childcare provider were also able to learn and alter their caregiving to better support the child with her daily needs.

For more information about MICA Health Services call 641-752-7162

Additional Health Program Updates:

Child Care Nurse Consultant (CCNC)

MICA's CCNC Program provides health and safety guidance as well as technical assistance to local childcare providers. Centers and In-Home daycares can receive support from one of MICA's Child Care Nurse Consultants. CCNCs also help providers through the new IQ4K process by completing health and safety checklists. MICA's CCNC has been busy providing trainings such as *Safe Sleep, Medication Administration and Caring for Children with Allergy, Anaphylaxis and Seizures*.

WIC

Statewide, WIC has seen an increase of **5.19%** for December, translating to **3,039 additional participants** across the network from last year. MICA's increase for December was **7.09%**. Our Grinnell WIC Clinic has now co-located with MICA's Poweshiek County Family Services at 609 4th Avenue in Grinnell. Families are able to come to the MICA building in Grinnell to receive WIC, LIHEAP & food pantry items as well as other family support services. Our goal is to continue co-location efforts in each county to bundle services and reduce barriers to families. We are also able to offer TeleWIC appointments for families who experience barriers getting to our office (transportation, illness, etc.)

1st Five

1st Five continues to partner with local pediatric and family practice providers in Boone, Jasper, Marshall, Poweshiek, Story and Tama Counties to promote the use of validated developmental screening tools such as the ASQ at well-child visits. Through early identification 1st Five is able to support families by getting children connected to early intervention services, promoting healthy growth and development before they start school.

Maternal Health

The Maternal Health Program at MICA serves pregnant individuals throughout their pregnancy and postpartum. Through appointments with our Maternal Health nurse, patients receive one-on-one education and support to help them have the healthiest pregnancy possible. The Maternal Health Nurse can also provide referrals for tobacco cessation and newborn necessities. Free prenatal vitamins are also offered to those participating in the Maternal Health Program.

Child Health

The Child Health Team has completed 32 lead draws since October 1, 2024. This is a gap-filling service for children who are at high risk. If children have a high lead level the nurse connects them to a medical provider for a follow up venous draw and will coordinate care as needed to address risk factors associated with high lead. The Child Health Nurse has also completed 32 caregiver depression screens and 71 ASQ developmental screenings. If concerns are identified on either screening, referrals are sent to community partners for ongoing support and care to improve mental health and overall development.

Pick A Better Snack

Since October, Pick A Better Snack has been facilitating lessons with zucchini, pears, sweet potatoes and kiwi. 2nd and 3rd grade students at all Marshalltown Elementary Schools and 1st and 2nd graders at South Tama Elementary receive these monthly lessons to increase healthy snacking habits and promote physical activity for a healthy lifestyle.

I-Smile

Since October 1, 2024 the I-Smile @ School team has screened 568 students and placed a total of 952 sealants on 221 kids. 313 of the students screened had a history of decay. Sealants are a prevention effort, placing a thin, protective coating on teeth to fill the grooves and pits therefore preventing decay. Sealants are ideal for school-aged kids after their permanent molars come in. Kids receiving oral health services at school also get a screening, oral health hygiene instruction and nutrition education to promote healthy teeth and gums.

TAI CHI FOR ARTHRITIS AND FALL PREVENTION



TAI CHI IS AN ANCIENT CHINESE EXERCISE PROGRAM TO PROMOTE STRENGTH, FLEXIBILITY, AND BALANCE. INDIVIDUALS WILL LEARN WARM-UP, COOL DOWN, 6 BASIC FORMS, AND 6 ADVANCED FORMS. MODIFICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO NEED TO REMAIN SEATED FOR ALL OR MOST OF THE CLASS.

**Starting March 6, 2025
Every Thursday
12pm for 45 minutes
Classes held for 16 weeks
The Gathering Place
113 S Monroe St, Monroe, IA**

Classes offered on a contribution basis for those age 60 and over. For those under the age of 60, there is a \$4 charge. All donations go to Aging Resources of Central Iowa, a non-profit agency serving older adults in central Iowa. If you have not been exercising frequently you are encouraged to consult your health care provider prior to attending class.

Call Stephanie Labenz with any questions: 515-650-9505



ARE YOU 60+ YEARS OLD?

DO YOU NEED LEGAL HELP/ADVICE?

- Eviction or Other Housing Issues
- Debt collection issues/Bankruptcy
- Medicare/Medicaid Denial
- Wills/POA/End-of-Life Planning
- Social Security Issues
- Veteran's Benefits Issues
- Other Civil Legal Issues



Iowa Legal Aid's Rural Justice Project

Iowa Legal Aid's Rural Justice Project for Older Iowans offers **FREE**:

- In-person (or phone) legal assessments
- Disaster preparedness counseling
- Holistic needs assessments and case management services

A representative from Iowa Legal Aid will be at:

Jasper Community Center

2401 1st Ave E

Newton, IA 50208

(10:30 am – 1:30 pm)

Tuesday 02/18/25

Tuesday 3/25/25

Tuesday 5/20/25

Tuesday 7/22/25

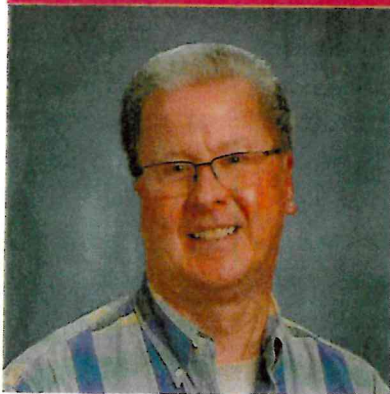
Tuesday 9/16/25

Tuesday 11/18/25

weather permitting

The Rural Justice Project for Older Iowans is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$195,393 with 75 percent funded by ACL/HHS and 25 percent funded by non-federal sources. The contents of the project are those of Iowa Legal Aid and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by ACL/HHS or the U.S. Government.

CONNECTION'S MONTHLY CATCH UP



Well, HAPPY NEW YEARS EVERYONE!! We here at Connections are hoping that your holidays were great and you were also able to spend time with family and friends. Here at Newton Connections, we have been busy little elves. Of course we began our first edition of the newsletter, decorated the entire center for Christmas, including a brand new Christmas tree. We also made several decorations, snowflakes, spool trees, ornaments, Christmas cookies, eggnog. Rowdy volunteered to take several members through the Maytag Park Christmas light show here in Newton, many took advantage of it and went several times. We played a very good Christmas game of Bingo, everyone went home with a little something, we did Christmas word searches, word scrambles and mazes. We had an awesome Christmas dinner, with ham, cheesy potatoes, green bean casserole, rolls and pie of course. Following the dinner we had fun with a gift exchange, Christmas movies with of course popcorn. This month is our target date to get our Newton Connections Facebook Page up and running. I am also excited about our January activities here at Connections, winter crafts, plating flowers indoors to take home and plant in the spring, many soups dinners to warm our tummies. I will include a small copy of the calendar in this edition as we did last month.

Thanks so very much,

Joe McCombs Connections Peer Drop-In Center Director

A "Special" Encounter

On February 14, 2007, I was asked to help present an award. My brother got to go also. The award was given to our new Governor, Chet Culver at the time. It was an award from the Special Olympics . The award honored him for his involvement with Special Olympics

I was nervous at first to meet him, but I think that I handled it well. This was my first opportunity to meet the Governor of Iowa.

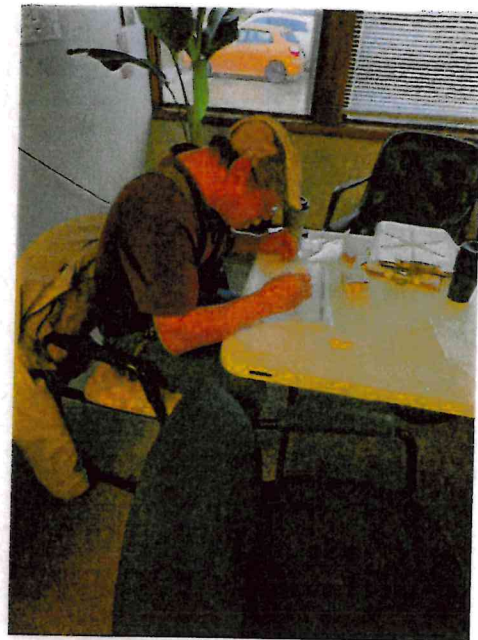
I was surprised to find out how tall that man was. I didn't think that he was quite that tall.

I got to go into Governor Culver's office. While in there, I got to sit in his chair! He talked with us quite a bit. He even asked us questions about our medals..

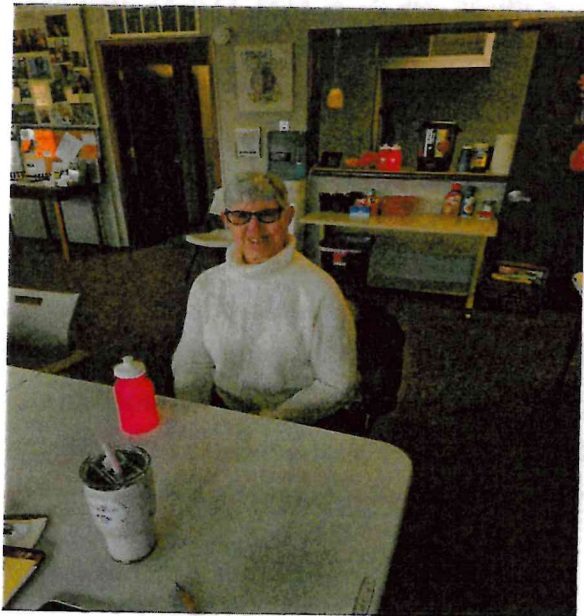
Although it was a busy day, I enjoyed myself. I would do it again if given the opportunity. And I think That I will get the change to again.

By: Kenard Prunty





Some of our activities we have done this year at Connections, cooking, grilling, toothpick sculptures, dice and Pen Pals with Accua East Nursing Home.



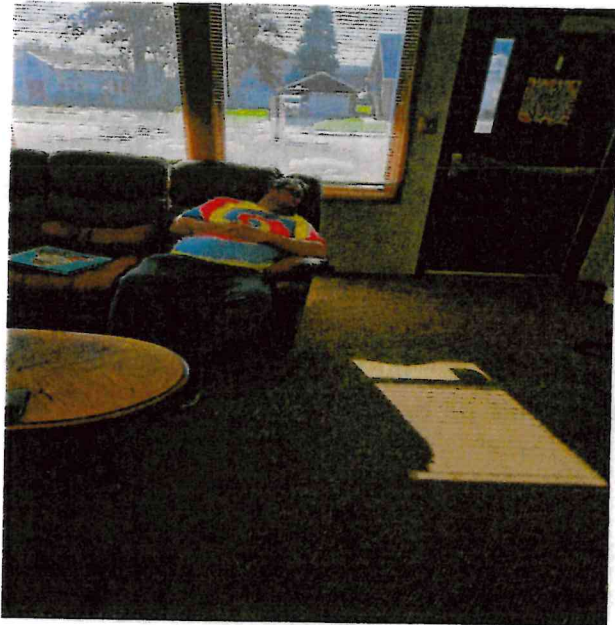


Hello Everyone, my name is Jennifer Prough. I am a Peer Support Recovery Specialist here at Connections. A Peer S.S. is a person who has a mental Health diagnosis and substance abuse issues. A Peer SS uses their lived experiences to offer empathy and support enhancing the recovery process. Recovery includes a process of change through which individuals improve their mental health and wellness. The individual strives to live a self directed life and stives to reach their full potential.

Recovery is attainable through team work between self and professionals to provide effective treatments. Team work is when the client and Peer SS work together to build bridges, open communication, and establish trust working with medical and mental health professionals The Peer SS works between the client and staff to achieve wellness and recovery.



Connection's Activities, Dice, cards, carving some pumpkins, roasting pumpkin seeds, napping and TWC. Consumers, Peg, Dennis, Matt, Liz, Dorothea, Josh, Kris and Jerry





Support Groups

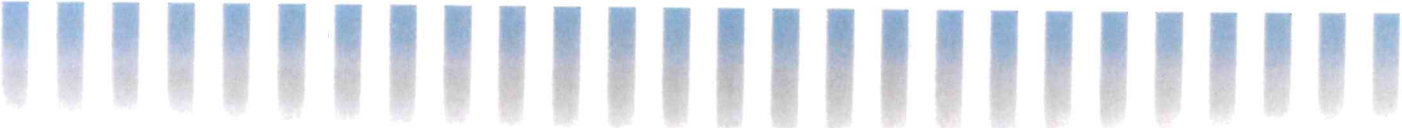


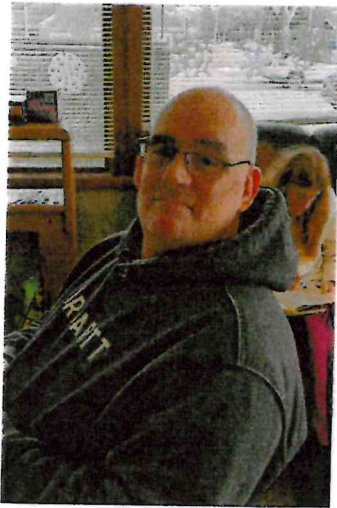
Here at Connections we have a variety of support groups offered each month. Please refer to our monthly calendar for current group schedules.

Wellness & Recovery Group is geared toward just that, Wellness and Recovery. Recovery is a universal acceptance for one self's personal role in achieving wellness and recovery. Mindfulness includes a personal commitment to improve our own ability to manage our own mind. This group comes with a lesson plan that teaches how to think and feel positive.

Together We Can is a peer support specialist lead group out of Marshalltown. Join us every Wednesday of January and February @ 10AM for WRAP—Wellness Recovery Action Plan.

NAMI—National Alliance on Mental Illness is an organization of families, friends and individuals whose lives have been affected by mental illness. Together we advocate for better lives for those individuals who have a mental illness diagnosis





Hello, my name is Rowdy Twoggod. I'm a Peer Support Specialist here at Connections Jasper County. I have worked at Capstone for over 3 years. I also work inside the group home setting on the weekends. There at the group homes, I provide structure and support in reaching their goals. I also help mentor and advocate with fellow peers to promote wellness and also recovery.

One of my biggest and most favorite interests and hobbies are raising reptiles. At my home, I have 5 albino reptiles as pets. I have a Albino Ball Python, Albino Honduran milkshake, Albino Pac-Man Frog, Raspberry Albino Pac-Man Frog and 2 Sri Lahman Star Tortoises.

INTERESTING FACT: The Pacman Frogs are the only frog in the world that have teeth and they will indeed **BITE YOU!!!**

Thank you, Rowdy



Here is a little drawing from our local artist, Liz, she draws many pictures free hand here at Connections all day. She has volunteered to teach an art class a few times next month, February! Tune in to see the beautiful creations that will be made.

Monday
March 3, 2025
6:30-7:45 PM

DMACC-Newton
600 N 2nd Ave West
Newton, Iowa 50208

Storm Spotter Training 2025

Join us for FREE Spotter training and learn the basics of what to look for during severe weather.

This training is provided by the
National Weather Service Des Moines

DOWNLOAD OUR
NILE APP TODAY!



Sponsored by Jasper County Emergency Management



Jasper County Cares: February Subgroup



Wednesday,
February 12,
2025
9:15-10:15 AM

**JASPER
COUNTY
AFFORDABLE
HOUSING
CARES
SUBGROUP**



Location: Jasper Co.
Office Building- Large
Conference Room,
Before the Jasper
County Cares Meeting

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: 2.12.2025

Before Cares Meeting 9:15-10:15 AM

Led by Becca Decker, Jasper County Habitat for Humanities, and Becky Pryor, Jasper County Health Department.

Anyone is welcome to attend. Feel free to share this information.

Agenda:

- Sign in and Introductions
- Community Health Assessment: Affordable Housing
 - o https://jasperia.org/health/community_health_assessment_health_improvement_plan/
- Promotion of Resources:
 - o Social media
 - o Jasper County People in Need
 - o 60 Serving Spoons/Utensils “Stirring up success, one resource at a time!” with Salvation Army. DONE

- o Flyers, New
- o Resource events at schools
- o Health Fairs at Newton YMCA, Kids and Senior
- o Resource guide, update as needed.
- o LIHEAP (IMPACT) and Habitat: Open appointments at locations Grace Food Pantry. Amanda Scalise is new 2025.
- Habitat updates
 - o Accepting applications for houses, takes about 18 months to complete.
 - o VA Heros
 - o Qualifications for a home or repair.
 - o Iowa Prison Industries.
 - o The goal is to build 3 houses in Newton by 2027.
- Homeless Resources
 - o School contacts
 - o CISS: Point In Time Event Complete by CISS/Discover 1.29.2025
 - o Where to start if someone is homeless? CISS. Contact: Paul

Who else needs to be involved?

Sharing:

Need Help?

Jasper County
Resource Guide

SCAN HERE



www.jasperia.org/resources



RESCHEDULE

Wednesday,
February 19,
2025
9 AM



**JASPER
COUNTY
AFFORDABLE
HOUSING
CARES
SUBGROUP**

Location: Jasper Co.
Office Building- Large
Conference Room,
Before the Jasper
County Cares Meeting

Lack of affordable housing concern for Jasper County

1/31/2025

Almost half of county residents report problems with their current living arrangements

By Christopher Braunschweig
Newton News

Editor's note: This is the third in a series of articles exploring the results of the Jasper County Community Health Needs Assessment.

Following mental health and substance misuse and lack of healthcare professionals, lack of affordable housing rounds out the top three priorities for Jasper County. According to the Jasper County Community Health Needs Assessment, secondary data indicated that housing problems



Jamee A. Pierson/Newton News

The Jasper County Community Health Assessment found that lack of affordable housing was the third highest priority for residents.

of substandard housing are slightly higher than Iowa rates.

Of residents surveyed, almost half, or 46.65 percent, reported experiencing a problem with their current living arrangement. Housing damage was identified as

spondents with lack of affordable housing impacting just more than 20 percent of the residents.

For home owners or renters that have issues the top response was lack of complete plumbing

within the county.

IMPACT will promote services in the community by offering open events with community partners including Discover Hope. Habitat for Humanity will work to build at least three houses in Newton by 2027, explore fundraising opportunities and look for way to work with Iowa Prison Industries for affordable housing.

JCCC will also work with area school housing/homeless contacts to make resources available and have a referral process. Finally, JCCC partners that work specifically on housing will meet to discuss resources, protocols and gaps of service for affordable living situations. The county's goal is to have these strategies complete by Dec. 31, 2027.

Housing

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facilities followed by lack of complete kitchen facilities, one or more occupants per room and monthly housing costs, both renting and owning, greater than 30 percent.

The percentage of housing units with substandard conditions in Jasper County is 23.8 percent, higher than the Iowa rate of 23.41 percent. The only specific condition where Jasper County performs more poorly than the state is housing units lack-

ing a complete kitchen. Housing units in Jasper County (2.64 percent) that lack a complete kitchen is 2.65 percent higher compared to the state at 2.64 percent.

In the county, 23.58 percent of households have housing costs exceeding 30 percent of their total household income. The rate is slightly higher than the state average of 23.04 percent.

The county did come in under the state average for overcrowding, which is defined as more than one occupant per room at 1.22 percent compared to 1.75 percent for the state.

For current living conditions, 95.65 percent of those surveyed said

they have a steady place to live and 96.46 percent are not worried about their housing status for the next two months.

To address a lack of affordable housing, the county will work to promote affordable and safe housing resources within the county. To do that, it plans to launch a public awareness campaign through local media, highlighting the importance of affordable and safe housing in improving community health. It will work with the Jasper County Care Coalition (JCCC) to share new information and update the resource guide with what is available to residents. Central Iowa Shelter and Services will lead a Point in Time homeless count once a year in the county and JCCC will explore ways to reduce homelessness

Jasper County Community Health Improvement Plan

Affordable Housing

updates as of 2.5.2025

Actions

By 12/31/2027, promote affordable and safe housing resources in Jasper County.

1.) Launch a public awareness campaign through local media (social media, newspapers, radio) highlighting the importance of affordable and safe housing in improving community health.

2/2025 Resource guide to Cares, Law enforcement, Schools, Churches, EMS

2.) Affordable housing providers will participate in Jasper Co. Cares Coalition meetings and share new information. Jasper County Cares Coalition partners that work on housing will meet to discuss resources, protocols, and gaps of services for affordable housing.

Scheduled 2/12/2025 before Cares. Met with Habitat.

3.) JCCC will update the resource guide with available resources in Jasper Co. 2/2025

4.) CISS will lead a Point in Time Homeless count in Jasper County yearly. Complete

1/29/2025 CISS.

5.) Jasper County Cares Coalition will explore ways to reduce homelessness in Jasper Co.

6.) IMPACT will promote LIHEAP and other services in the community by offering open events with community partners such as Discover Hope. New IMPACT representative, Amanda

Scalise. Going to Grace Pantry on 2/27/2025. Amanda Scalise <ascalise@impactcap.org>

7.) Jasper Co. Cares will work with the school housing/homeless contacts for available resources and the referral process in Jasper County. Cares School meeting on 2/12/2025.

8.) Habitat will work to build at least 3 houses in Newton by 2027.

9.) Habitat will explore fundraising opportunities.

10.) Habitat will continue to explore opportunities to work with Iowa Prison Industries for affordable housing.

11- was duplicate 12. Moved to 2.

Likely Effect:

- Increase awareness about housing resources available in Jasper County.
- Increase the number of people aware of affordable housing resources.
- Decrease the number of homeless individuals.
- Improve living conditions in Jasper County.
- Increase the number of volunteers for housing organizations including Habitat

Resources:

Staff time
Resource Guide
Resource Table
Brochure Holder in Jasper County Building
Outreach: social media
Jasper County Cares Coalition monthly meeting
Funding Opportunities- Grants, fees, fundraising, taxes
Website
Volunteers
Iowa State Health Plan- Housing (homelessness, homeownership, housing affordability, housing problems)

Partners:

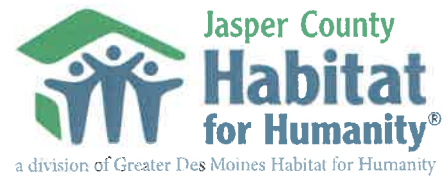
Central Iowa Shelter and Services/Iowa Housing Help- lead
Jasper County Habitat for Humanity- lead
IMPACT- lead **LIHEAP**
Central Iowa Regional Housing Authority (HUD)
Government Subsidized Housing
Landlords and rental companies
Aging Resources
EMA: FEMA for emergencies such as flooding, derecho
Iowa Legal Aid: housing concerns
General Assistance
Jasper Co. Treasurer: taxes
Jasper County and Cities Economic & Community Development including Newton Housing Development
Kid Assist- ramps
Jasper County Care Coalition
Capstone/Connections
Salvation Army -Emergency Rent &utilities
Discover Hope Restoration House
School: housing/homeless resource contacts
Churches
Jasper Co. Veterans Affairs,
Iowa Prison Industries
Friends in Hope: furniture and appliances
United Way of Jasper County: funding

Who else? email jaspercocares@jasperia.org to be added to list.

You could own a home!

Habitat can help.

Affordable homeownership
is available in **Newton** right now



Founded on the conviction that every person should have a decent, safe and affordable place to live, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope. We provide an affordable pathway to homeownership where homebuyers will spend no more than 30% of their income on their mortgage.

We are actively looking for a home buyer for Newton to build this year, which would be purchased by a homebuyer with an affordable Habitat mortgage.

Our program helps Jasper County residents prepare to own a home through homebuyer education, and program participants complete 200 hours of "sweat equity," volunteering to help keep our homes affordable.

Homebuyers purchase their home upon completion of the program, with a mortgage payment capped at no more than 30% of their income at the time of purchase.



Get started today! Scan the QR code or contact:

• Rebecca Decker | rdecker@gdmhabitat.org



We Do Business in Accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law

We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the Nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin.



CENTRAL IOWA
SHELTER & SERVICES

Lindsey Sinn

Case Manager

lsinn@centraliowashelter.org

1420 Mulberry St.

Des Moines, IA 50309

MOBILE: 515.608.9560

www.centraliowashelter.org

January Point in Time

Central Iowa Shelter & Services

January 29, 2025 12PM - January 30, 2025 12PM

What does homelessness look like in YOUR community?

Person(s) who lack an adequate place to stay at night.

- RV or house with no running water/electricity
- Abandoned buildings
- Cars

Person(s) living in a publicly/private operated shelter for temporary living arrangements.

- Congregate shelters
- Motels/hotels paid by agencies
- Transitional Housing situations

Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or other dangerous/life-threatening conditions

WHY?

This is an important time for people experiencing homelessness to connect/engage with community resources. Point in time is done to create a clear picture of how many people in our community are experiencing homelessness.

All information is confidential.

HUD Point-in-Time: every person counts!

Please reach out to Lindsey with any information about encampments or unhoused individuals in your community:

515.608.9560 or lsinn@centraliowashelter.org



**CENTRAL IOWA
SHELTER & SERVICES**

PLEASE PRINT NEATLY

Unanswered questions will not be "interpreted". Include notes at the bottom if necessary, but answer all questions.

Survey Type: <input type="radio"/> Observational <input type="radio"/> Interview		With Household <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes		TOTAL number of people in household #			
Name or identifier of person <i>First Last</i>		Head of household <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes					
Name of county where person was homeless		Name of the head of household					
"Where are (were) you sleeping on the night of January 29, 2025? "	<input type="radio"/> Abandoned Property	<input type="radio"/> Local Shelter	<input type="radio"/> Institutional Setting / Jail	<input type="radio"/> My House / Apartment	<input type="radio"/> Hotel / Motel	<input type="radio"/> Friend / Family (doubled up)	
	<input type="radio"/> Vehicle/Car	<input type="radio"/> On the streets, homeless camp, or other location not meant for habitation		<input type="radio"/> Other: _____			
Age	<input type="radio"/> Under 18	<input type="radio"/> 18 - 24	<input type="radio"/> 25 - 34	<input type="radio"/> 35 - 44	<input type="radio"/> 45-54	<input type="radio"/> 55-64	<input type="radio"/> 65 and older
Gender <i>Mark all that apply</i>	<input type="radio"/> Woman (Girl if a child)		<input type="radio"/> Man (Boy if a child)		<input type="radio"/> Culturally Specific Identity (e.g., Two-Spirit)		<input type="radio"/> Different Identity
	<input type="radio"/> Transgender		<input type="radio"/> Non -Binary		<input type="radio"/> Questioning		
Race & Ethnicity <i>Mark all that apply</i>	<input type="radio"/> American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	<input type="radio"/> Asian or Asian American	<input type="radio"/> Black, African American, or African	<input type="radio"/> Hispanic / Latina/e/o	<input type="radio"/> Middle Eastern or North African	<input type="radio"/> Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	<input type="radio"/> White
How long have you been living on the streets or in emergency shelters?				<input type="radio"/> Less than a year	<input type="radio"/> A year or more		
Number of times homeless (on the streets or in emergency shelters) in the past 3 years?				<input type="radio"/> 1 (this time)	<input type="radio"/> 2-3	<input type="radio"/> 4 or more	
Add together all the months in the last 3 years during which you spent at least one day on the streets or in emergency shelters				<input type="radio"/> Fewer than 12	<input type="radio"/> 12 or more		
Zip Code of Last Permanent Address: <i>(Last stayed 90 days or more)</i>							
Do you have a disability related to... <i>Mark all that apply</i>	<input type="radio"/> No Disability		<input type="radio"/> Mental Health		<input type="radio"/> Drug Abuse		<input type="radio"/> Physical
	<input type="radio"/> Developmental		<input type="radio"/> Chronic Health Condition		<input type="radio"/> Alcohol Abuse		<input type="radio"/> HIV/AIDS
Are (were) you fleeing a domestic violence situation on the night of the count?			<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Call 911 or a local crisis line for help. State of Iowa DV Helpline: 1-800-770-1650		
Have you served in the military?			<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes	Go to the Veteran Supplemental Form found on the back of this form.		
Put any notes to the data analyst here. Please still pick the categories above; otherwise the analyst will HAVE to guess at random.							

Veteran Supplemental form

**IF YOU COMPLETE THIS VETERAN'S SUPPLEMENTAL FORM
THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT WILL BE SHARED WITH THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION**

Social Security Number

____	____	____	____	____	____	____	____
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Branch of Service

☐ Army

☐ Air Force

☐ Coast Guard

☐ Marine
Corps

☐ Navy

☐ Space
Force

National Guard/Reserve

☐ No

☐ Yes

Full Date of Birth

____	____	____	____	____	____
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Contact information such as
phone or email

INFORMED CONSENT STATEMENT

READ TO EACH RESPONDANT

We are conducting a community-wide survey related to characteristics of people and their housing.

- Participation is completely voluntary.
- If you don't want to take the survey, you don't have to answer any questions.
- If you do the survey you can stop, you can change your mind, or you can skip questions, with no bad consequences.
- Doing the survey or not doing the survey won't change what benefits you qualify for.
- We will keep your participation in this survey completely confidential.
- The agency responsible for the Point in Time count will make reports from the surveys.
- The surveys don't get shared, and when the reports are done the surveys are deleted.
- The reports are used for planning and do not include names.
- If you agree to participate, I will read the question to you and I will record your answers. It will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

**IF YOU COMPLETE THE VETERANS SUPPLEMENTAL FORM THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT
WILL BE SHARED WITH THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION**

IF YOU ARE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE, PLEASE SIGN BELOW. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

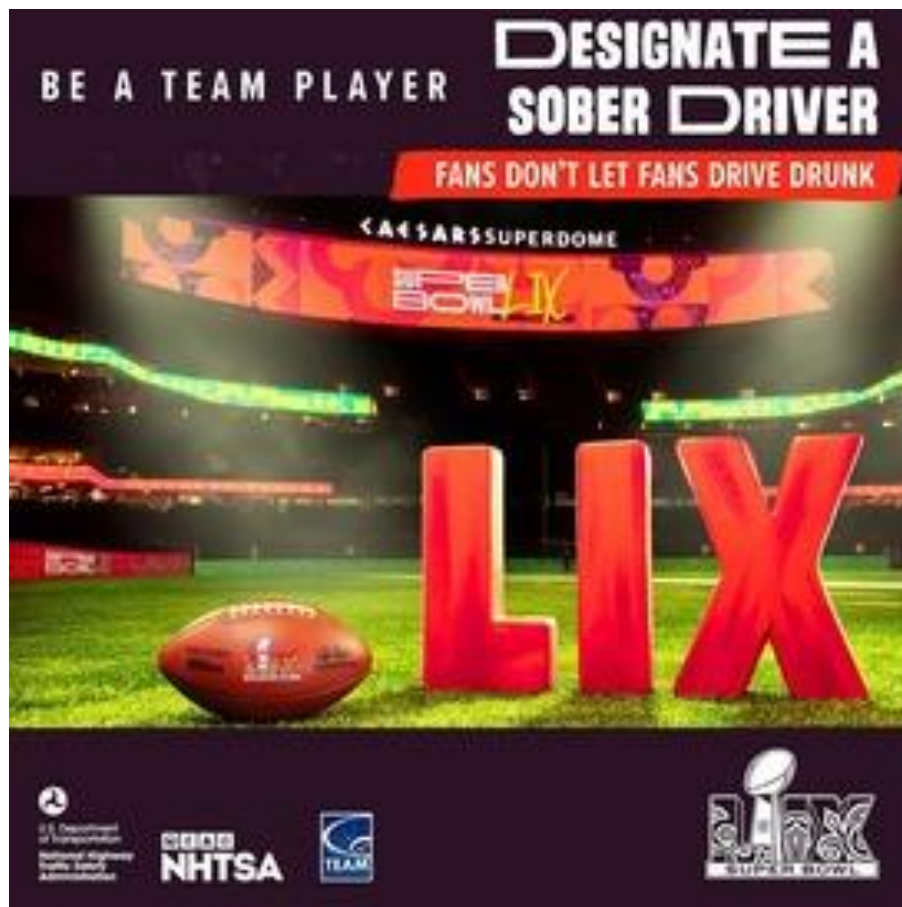
Signature of Respondant

Date

**I READ THE ABOVE CONSENT STATEMENT TO THE RESPONDENT AND TO THE BEST OF MY
KNOWLEDGE IT WAS UNDERSTOOD, AND THE RESPONDENT HAS AGREED TO PARTICIPATE.**

Printed Surveyor Name

Surveying Agency (Optional)



REALITY-BASED LEADERSHIP

Ego Bypass Tool

ONE-ON-ONE MEETING AGENDA

If you have a small team, it is ideal to plan a quick one-on-one with each of your people once a week. The benefit is that you keep abreast of any issues as they arise, so they don't metastasize, and that your people always know when their next scheduled one-on-one is, so they can save up any noncritical questions for the meeting.

Here's an example of what an agenda for such a meeting might look like:

NAME:

WEEK ENDING:

What has been the most challenging part of your week?

What has been the most rewarding part of your week?

Goals or planned actions for the week:	Progress on the goals or planned actions:
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

Issues to review:

Resources needed:

Questions:

Next week's goals or planned actions:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Additional discussion points: