



OPERATION THRESHOLD

The Community Action Agency Serving
Black Hawk, Buchanan and Grundy Counties
www.operationthreshold.org

November 23, 2023

Mayor Brad Bleichner
331 1st Street E
Independence, IA 50644

RE: Funding Request

Dear Mayor Bleichner:

For 60 years Operation Threshold has been dedicated to providing programming designed to meet the needs of Buchanan County residents. One example of this is the programming we were able to offer in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As the pandemic began to spread throughout the country we immediately became aware that it would have devastating consequences for low-wage and at-risk families. We quickly set up a crisis assistance program specifically for households impacted by the pandemic, receiving grants from both local and state funders.

This is just one example of how our programming benefits individuals and families in our community. In fact, last fiscal year ***we served nearly 10% of all residents living in Independence— 538 people.*** Of the Independence residents served, 55% were living below the Federal Poverty Level (\$18,310 for a 2 person family) and 23% of those served were children. We anticipate serving at least this number of Independence families with our programming in the coming year. A summary of all services provided in Buchanan County is enclosed for your review.

In order to provide quality programming, we depend upon local support from our communities. Your support results not only in the provision of such services but also helps us combat poverty and alleviate the struggles of the poor in our communities. ***As you plan your Fiscal Year 2025 budget, please consider allocating \$2,000 to support Operation Threshold's efforts.*** We are able to lay out the services we provide in a contract form if you prefer.

We appreciate your support and consideration of our funding request. Partnerships with our communities help Operation Threshold meet the specific local needs of our residents. We would welcome the opportunity to present further information about our services to you and the Independence City Council. If you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me directly at (319) 292-1877 or at bgrant@operationthreshold.org.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Grant
Executive Director

Enclosure
cc: Donna Boos

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Independence, IA 50644
(319) 334-6081

Central Office
1535 Lafayette Street
PO Box 4120
Waterloo, Iowa 50704-4120
319-291-2065

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1606 G Avenue
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Grundy Center, IA 50638
(319) 824-3460



OPERATION THRESHOLD

Buchanan County

Programs and Services

Fiscal Year October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023

Community Services —————→ **549 (unduplicated) Households = \$428,068**

Low-Income Home Energy	
Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	465
Low-Income Home Water	
Assistance Program (LIHWAP)	28
Assessment & Resolution	86
Crisis Support	143
Pocket Change	2

Early Learning and Family Services —————→ **46 Households = \$93,167**

Family Development & Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS) Program	5
Parents as Teachers (PAT)	38
Nest	3

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) —————→ **229 Individuals = \$152,824**

Health and Nutrition Assessments
Health and Nutrition Education
Breastfeeding Education and Support
Healthy Food Benefits
Breastfeeding Peer Counseling

Weatherization —————→ **8 Homes = \$219,684**

Weatherization
Home Insulation
Furnace Clean & Tune, Repair, Replacement
Water Heater Repair & Replacement
Safety & Energy Conservation Measures

Asset Building & Housing —————→ **8 Households = \$73,649**

Affordable Rental:	8 Units
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Total Estimated Value of Services = \$967,392

The mission of Operation Threshold is to collaborate, educate and provide services to help meet the basic needs of people and create opportunities for self-sufficiency.