



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

November 20, 2025

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

RE: Funding Request

Dear Mayor Bleichner:

For over 60 years Operation Threshold has been dedicated to providing programming designed to meet the needs of Buchanan County residents. One example of this is our Crisis Assistance program. With this program we recently assisted a client who had just moved to the county to be closer to his daughter, who resides with her mother locally. The client had been working out of state prior to relocating but did not have sufficient funds to cover rent, deposit, and utility establishment costs for his new residence. Operation Threshold assisted the client with his electric utility deposit to ensure service connection. Staff also provided a local resource guide and information on additional community supports. The client reported having multiple employment interviews scheduled in the upcoming weeks.

This is just one example of how our programming benefits individuals and families in our community. In fact, last fiscal year *we served approximately 7% of all residents living in Independence*. Of the Independence residents served, it is estimated that over 50% were living below the Federal Poverty Level (\$21,150 for a two-person family) and approximately 30% of those served were children. We anticipate serving at least this number of Independence families with our programming in the coming year.

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 2027 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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