



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

December 18, 2024

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 the Safe & Stable Housing Program. One family who came to our agency for assistance was a two-parent household with an infant and another young child. The father had been laid off from his job and the family were homeless and temporarily staying in a hotel. We were able to assist with funds to pay the security deposit and first month's rent for a safe, affordable rental unit in Independence.

This is just one example of how our programming benefits individuals and families in our community. In fact, last fiscal year ***we served 7% of all residents living in Independence– 448 people.*** Of the Independence residents served, 55% were living below the Federal Poverty Level (\$20,440 for a two-person family) and 29% 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 2026 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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(319) 334-6081

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1535 Lafayette Street
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Buchanan County

Programs and Services

Fiscal Year October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024

Community Services —————> **489 (unduplicated) Households = \$565,002**

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	432
Assessment & Resolution	429
Crisis Support	91
Pocket Change	1
Operation Santa Claus	35

Early Learning and Family Services —————> **33 Households = \$148,184**

Family Development & Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS) Program	20
Parents as Teachers (PAT)	13

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) —————> **312 Individuals = \$236,160**

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

Weatherization —————> **1 Homes = \$31,358**

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

Asset Building & Housing —————> **8 Units = \$48,193**

Affordable Rental:	8 Units (9 families)
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Total Estimated Value of Services = \$1,028,897

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.