

**Head Start** is a comprehensive early childhood development program funded to serve income eligible children and their families. Through the stimulus funding, WCCA will form a partnership with the Council Bluffs Community School District and begin two new pre K classrooms starting August 2009. There will be 16 in each classroom and these are NEW slots – WCCA will be expanding. Please call 1(800)698-5886 for more information regarding these new openings for the 2009-2010 school year.

In addition, WCCA is working on some other additional funding sources, so additional slots may be opening within our entire region in the near future. Please contact WCCA at 1-800-698-5886 for more information late summer of 2009.

**Family Development Self-Sufficiency Program (FaDSS)** - Client self-sufficiency is a primary goal of WCCA. Intense work with the families to help them achieve control over their lives and realize proper employment is the focus. This program develops a comprehensive system of support services so the families may work their way out of poverty. Services are provided in a manner that promote, empower and nurture the family toward self-sufficiency and healthy reintegration into the community. Through the **stimulus funding**, WCCA will be working with families recently exited from FaDSS who need further assistance. If you qualify, please call (712)322-5966 for more information.

**Outreach offices:**

Cass–Atlantic	(712)243-5421
Crawford–Denison	(712)263-3538
Fremont–Sidney	(712)374-3367
Harrison–Logan	(712)644-3388
Mills–Malvern	(712)624-8172
Monona–Onawa	(712)423-2603
Montgomery–Red Oak	(712)623-2339
Page–Shenandoah	(712)246-2585
Pottawattamie–Council Bluffs	(712)322-2621
Shelby–Harlan	(712)755-5135

**Food Pantry Assistance** is a program offered by 6 of our local Outreach offices: Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Montgomery, and Shelby Counties. There are no income restrictions for this program – anyone may enter the home county office and receive a food pantry, after some minimal paperwork. For those counties that do not offer food pantries within WCCA county offices, we will attempt to assist other food pantries within those counties to stock their shelves. People will have to locate such food pantries on their own and contact them for guidelines and more information.

**Direct Assistance/Non-Traditional Assistance** will be a program that will offer a variety of means of assistance to clients who qualify. Income guidelines will apply, and there will be applications/paperwork to complete. Clients will be at 200% or less of poverty level. This program may be used by a client once throughout the time frame. Assistance will vary and OR staff and the Administration will determine what qualifies, but a few examples include, but are not limited to: medical bills, car repairs, appliances, utilities, rent/mortgages, educational needs, child care, etc... The assistance will be for no more than \$250 per family.

# West Central Community Action



## STIMULUS FUNDING

## PROGRAM INFORMATION & SERVICES OFFERED



West Central Community Action's mission is to assist families and individuals to reach their highest potential.

**West Central Community Action (WCCA)** has received several grants through the FY 2009 American Recovery Reinvestment Act (ARRA) or the stimulus funds. Through these funds WCCA plans to implement some new programs, expand existing programs and create some positions of employment, both within WCCA and within WCCA's communities. This brochure is intended to advertise and provide information to clients, potential clients and all citizens of WCCA's communities and counties of the programs and services WCCA is offering at this time. As program services change, are updated or added, WCCA staff will keep clients and communities informed.

### **VISION**

West Central's vision is to make a positive impact on citizens of the 10 counties we serve. It is our objective to provide opportunities for people to become responsible, independent, self-reliant members of society. We will be recognized by our clients and partners as an organization that cares about all those that it serves as well as those it employs. We will promote an environment that nurtures and encourages innovation and creativity. We will take a leadership role in creating a more unified system to serve the best interests of the low-resource client.

**Senior Aides Employment and Training Program** provides part-time employment, part-time on the job training and additional income to persons over the age of 55 with limited income. WCCA places Senior Aides in positions for public and non-profit community organizations to work 20 hours a week. The Senior Service America, Inc. coordinates the federally funded programs. WCCA will be hiring additional Senior Aides through funding from the ARRA, so new slots are available. Please call (712)755-5135 for more information, and to inquire about becoming a part of this program. You may speak to Doug or Ivy.

**Weatherization Assistance Program** helps low-income households increase the energy efficiency of their homes and save money on fuel costs. Staff evaluate homes and private contractors are engaged to insulate attics/walls, repair or replace windows and doors, install weather stripping, and perform minor repairs. Eligible households are prioritized, based on heating costs on a county basis. The income requirements have increased from 150% of poverty to 200% of poverty, so more citizens of our communities may be eligible. Applications will be taken in any of our Outreach offices, which are listed on the back panel of this brochure. Please call (712)755-5135 for more information or call your local Outreach office.

**Lead Testing/Hemoglobin Checks** – the WIC program already conducts Hemoglobin checks on all clients/infants and children. Lead testing will be performed on all clients as well. In addition, these services will be available to all Head Start children and all members of the family of either WIC clients or Head Start children, under the age of 18. Anyone tested must be at or below 200% of poverty level. The results will be available within 3 minutes and if needed arrangements may be made for care that is more appropriate. Children are eligible for WIC until the age of five, but age requirements do not apply to the mothers. Children are at a high risk for lead poisoning, and Iowa law states that by fall of 2008, all children must be tested for lead before entering school. These lead screenings will qualify as the test needed for school. Please call 1-800-338-4129 for more information.

*Serving: Cass, Crawford, Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie & Shelby counties.*

**West Central Community Action is private, non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization. Please call (712)755-5135 if you are interested in donating or volunteering.**

[www.westcentralca.org](http://www.westcentralca.org)