



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Mid-Iowa Community Action (MICA)



Introduction

MICA helps people who are experiencing poverty meet their needs, build on their strengths, and achieve their goals.

These 18 simple words capture the joint efforts of 124 full time MICA staff (plus 4 part-time and 28 casual staff) working in over 20 programs. Poverty is complex, but our strategy is simple: meet families where they are at, connect them with the resources they will need to meet their goals, and let them lead the changes they want to see in their lives.

In 2024, MICA added two new cross agency committees to dial in on our Strategic Plan goals. We continue to pivot towards a whole family approach, focusing on the holistic needs of families in our communities. MICA's Whole Family Approach team is diving into our services and the ways families can access them, which will influence innovations to better serve families.

We know families are struggling with basic needs right now. Our Basic Needs Committee is a group of dedicated front line service providers who's focus is to find resources available to families, and how MICA can address any gaps in needs.

Our culture of No Wrong Door, means families can come to any of our offices and staff and receive the same care and connection to all MICA's programs. By connecting families to all programs they qualify for, families get a wide range of support to help them achieve their goals, without the burden of running between different offices

We will continue to innovate our programs and processes to better serve our families.

Our Impact

At MICA, we measure our impact in the number of lives we change.

We served 25,168 individuals in 8,790 families

From energy assistance to one-on-one family support, each of these families partnered with MICA this year to help meet their needs, build on their strengths, and reach their goals.



44% of the individuals we served were under 18 years of age.

41% of households MICA serves were cross enrolled in more than one service

More resources and support for families result in better outcomes!

6,400 individuals were served in our three emergency food pantries.

Food insecurity is one of the biggest needs for families in our area. We continue to innovate to reach more families with deliveries, mobile pantries and more.

In other words...

MICA families share the impact we have made in their lives this past year.



Education for Both Generations

"I was struggling in nursing school to find affordable daycare/learning program for my 4 year old son. With the help of morning pre-k via MICA, I was able to finish the nursing program and obtain employment. This will not only help my son and myself, but also Iowa's Veterans."

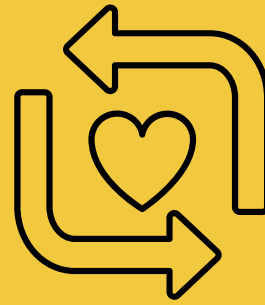
Head Start Parent



Multi-Faceted Support

"I have had a child enrolled Head Start or a WIC program since 2015 consistently. MICA programs allowed me to maintain mental health success, to have the opportunity to be an employee and a working adult student. They have advocated and supported my child in receiving evaluations and services, and have made many resources available to our family during times of stress."

WIC and Head Start Parent



Paying It Forward

"I love community action. MICA was my stepping stone, my place. My experience with MICA has inspired me to pay it forward. I have worked my way up to a position where I can help other families in the community. As a family enrolled in the program, and as a staff member. MICA always felt like home. I honestly can't say enough how truly grateful I am for MICA."

Past Family

2024 Highlights

2024 brought focuses on creating easier service delivery plans for families, while also working to educate those who can make systemic change.



60 years of Excellence

Starting in October 2024, MICA started celebrating our 60 years of service to our communities. Sharing new and old stories from families, staff, and the community to highlight the work we do.



Advocacy Focused

Advocacy became a large focus for us. Our A-CAST team, Advocacy - Community Action Story Tellers, was established. Building relationships with decisions makers at local, state, and federal levels and sharing the stories of our communities was our priority.



One-Stop Shop

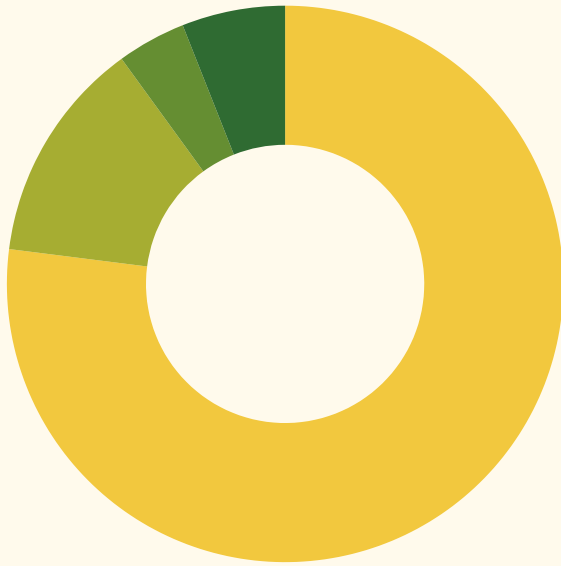
As of September 2024, MICA services are almost completely co-located. Families can now receive health services, sign up for energy assistance, and get emergency food in one location. This removes any confusion on which MICA office families need to visit, and allows them to receive all services in one spot.



Early Literacy

In fall of 2024, MICA established a new early literacy program called Bookworm. Families in Hardin, Marshall, Story, and Boone counties received free books and bookshelves when receiving MICA services.

Financial Reports



Support and Revenue

Federal grants: 77%

State grants: 13%

Contributions and public support: 4%

Other (grant revenue, in-kind, program income): 6%



Expenses

Staff: 50%

Direct client assistance: 26%

Contractual: 8%

Other (space, supplies, materials, insurance): 16%

View MICA's complete audit and 990 on our website at www.micaonline.org/reports.



