

CSEI Serves Thousands of Adults/Children

Community Solutions of Eastern Iowa (CSEI) is the non-profit organization within ECIA that manages the homeless program. CSEI was able to apply for both COVID 1 and COVID 2 funds through the Iowa Finance Authority. In total, CSEI was awarded \$652,776 over the two funding rounds. (COVID 1 funds = \$427,776; COVID 2 funds = \$225,000) The funds are being used in partnership with CSEI, (the applicant), Clinton YWCA, and Hawkeye Area Community Action Program (HACAP) to provide homeless prevention services to those at risk of becoming homeless, as well as rapid rehousing services for up to twenty-four months to those who are currently homeless. These three agencies cover Clinton, Delaware, Dubuque, and Jackson Counties.

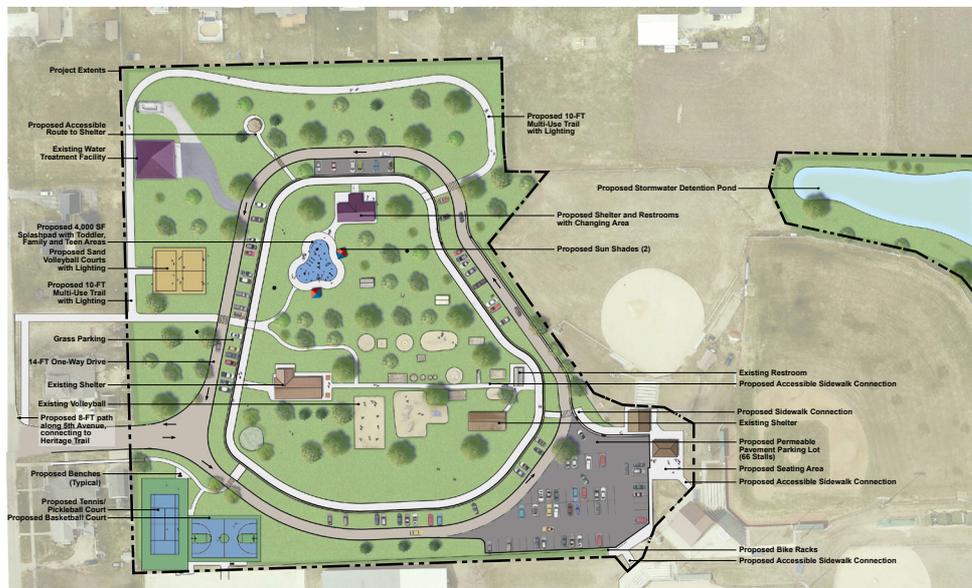
Additionally, as the result of the pandemic, CSEI staff, the United Way, and the Dubuque Area Labor Harvest (DALH) are partnering to assist those who were shut in their homes and in need of groceries due the pandemic. Those in need of groceries contact CSEI staff on the toll-free hotline and staff sets them up with a food delivery from the DALH. To date, 3,389 adults and 1,657 children have been connected to food deliveries over the last year as the result of this partnership. The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque graciously provided CSEI with a \$10,000 grant to cover staff time to make this possible in March of 2020.



CSEI recently applied for another grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque and was awarded \$29,120 to continue the food box partnership, as well as streamline the process of those accessing help through the hotline number. CSEI staff will compile a list of those in need and connect that list to service providers. This process is helpful for those seeking assistance as they do not have to call several different numbers.

Wellmark Selects Farley Park Legacy Project

The city of Farley received \$100,000 in the competitive Wellmark Foundation Large Match round. Funding will be used for the relocation of three sports courts: basketball, sand volleyball, and tennis/pickleball. The courts are a part of a complete \$1.94 million revitalization of the more than 50-year-old city park. The Wellmark Foundation's focus on safe environments in which to be physically active aligned with the City's vision for new, expanded, and safer recreational amenities for the community.



Farley Community Park
Conceptual Plan

Farley, IA
6/2/2020



Limited RLF Money Still Available

ECIA Business Growth still has limited funds available from the EDA CARES revolving loan fund program at low interest rates. Over \$1.4 million has been lent of the \$2 million awarded to ECIA from EDA. Any business, nonprofit or government impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic that is in need of loan funds for expansion, capital improvements, equipment, or working capital may contact Dawn Danielson, ECIA Lending Development Specialist, at 563-690-5772 to apply for a loan.

ROSS Grant Renewed for EIRHA



Eastern Iowa Regional Housing Authority (EIRHA) was notified in early April that it was awarded another three-year grant for the HUD Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Elderly Self-Sufficiency (ESS) Program. EIRHA program coordinator, Michelle Huseman, provides a critical service by working with medical and social support providers to enable elderly and handicap individuals to age in place in public housing units, thereby avoiding costlier forms of care.

Maquoketa on the Move

The city of Maquoketa has had a winning streak for funding in recent months with grants awarded from USDA and CDBG, and recognition by Governor Kim Reynolds.

USDA Grant for Firefighters

Maquoketa received a \$56,685 USDA grant to help fund the cost to retrofit its 35 volunteer firefighters. Fire Department gear that is not National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) compliant, or nearing ten years old, needs to be replaced. With the USDA funds, Maquoketa was able to purchase new gear plus an extra piece of protection to keep cancerous carcinogens from coming up the pant leg and waist of their coats.

Facade Revitalization Nearly Complete in Maquoketa

The City of Maquoketa was also awarded a \$500,000 CDBG to provide for the revitalization and rehabilitation of a target area. Downtowns are a symbol of a community's economic health, quality of life, and pride and history, all which were driving forces for the City's renewed emphasis on downtown revitalization. Dave Heiar, Senior Advisor and Community Coach for the Jackson County Economic Alliance, noted "The CDBG Facade Grant, along with other grants and incentives, has helped transform Maquoketa's downtown. It has not only changed the physical appearance of the downtown but has provided a morale boost to the community's self-image." Eight properties are currently participating in this particular project, with an estimated total cost of \$1 million and completion date of September 2021.

Three Cities Receive Award

In March, Governor Kim Reynolds recognized Keep Iowa Beautiful Award Winners from both 2020 and 2021. Since awards were not able to be held last year, recipients were recognized at a ceremony for both years. The cities of Maquoketa and Lost Nation received the annual Keep Iowa Beautiful Robert D. Ray Award of Excellence for 2020 and 2021 respectively. Maquoketa was recognized because of their implementation of its Vision 2020 plan, which included the completion of a \$4.1 million streetscape project in 2016 and has also implemented a downtown incentive program to leverage private investment in downtown properties. Meanwhile, Lost Nation and the Hometown Pride Committee were awarded for creating a new pocket park, an RV park, new holiday social events and regular clean up days. Additionally, First Trust & Savings Bank of Wheatland received the corporation of the year award for 2020.



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