

Jasper County Cares Coalition Meeting

Agenda: Awards and Networking

Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at 10:30 AM: Tentative Agenda

Location: 315 W 3rd St N., Large Conference Room, Newton, Iowa 50208

Mission: To enhance awareness of health & human service resources & promote collaboration to serve Jasper County.

Vision: Safe, healthy, and connected Jasper County.

Sign in:

Welcome new attendees

Networking: Feel free to stay after the meeting.

Member Introductions /Share (1 minute for each person)

- Please stand up & state your name, organization, services provided, any changes, projects, events, etc.
- Volunteer or program needs or job openings. Take a moment for any questions.
- Share one good thing that happened last month.

Announcements: See Jasper County Cares Facebook page and website. See packet.

Upcoming Organizational Spotlights 2026 Schedule:

- April 8: Jaime Paca, [Clive Behavioral Health jaime.paca@uhsinc.com](mailto:jaime.paca@uhsinc.com)
- May 13: [Progress Industries, Keith.Isley@progressindustries.org](mailto:Keith.Isley@progressindustries.org)
- June 10: [Jasper County Senior Nutrition, Kelli Van Manen, kvanmanen@jasperia.org](mailto:kvanmanen@jasperia.org)
- July: Networking Event, Location TBD
- August: [Colfax Child Care Center- Tim Salmon tsalmon@colfaxmingo.org](mailto:tsalmon@colfaxmingo.org)
- September: [United Way Jasper County, Jessica Lowe Vokes unitedwayjc@gmail.com](mailto:unitedwayjc@gmail.com)
- October: [Dolly Parton Imagination Library, Rita Baker director@pcciowa.com](mailto:director@pcciowa.com)
- November: [Central Iowa Shelter and Services, Amber Tompkins ATompkins@centraliowashelter.org](mailto:ATompkins@centraliowashelter.org)
- December: Annual Awards Event

Backup Speakers

- [American Lung](#) of Iowa (pig lungs) Emma Krapfl
- [Dolly Parton Imagination Library, Newton Public Library](#), Rita Baker
- [Newton YMCA](#), George Sorensen, new programs
- [Capstone Behavioral Healthcare](#), Substance IOP Treatment, Open House 5/1/2026, Julie Smith

Funding

- [Jasper Community Foundation](#) Grant due 4/30/2026

Events- See the events calendar

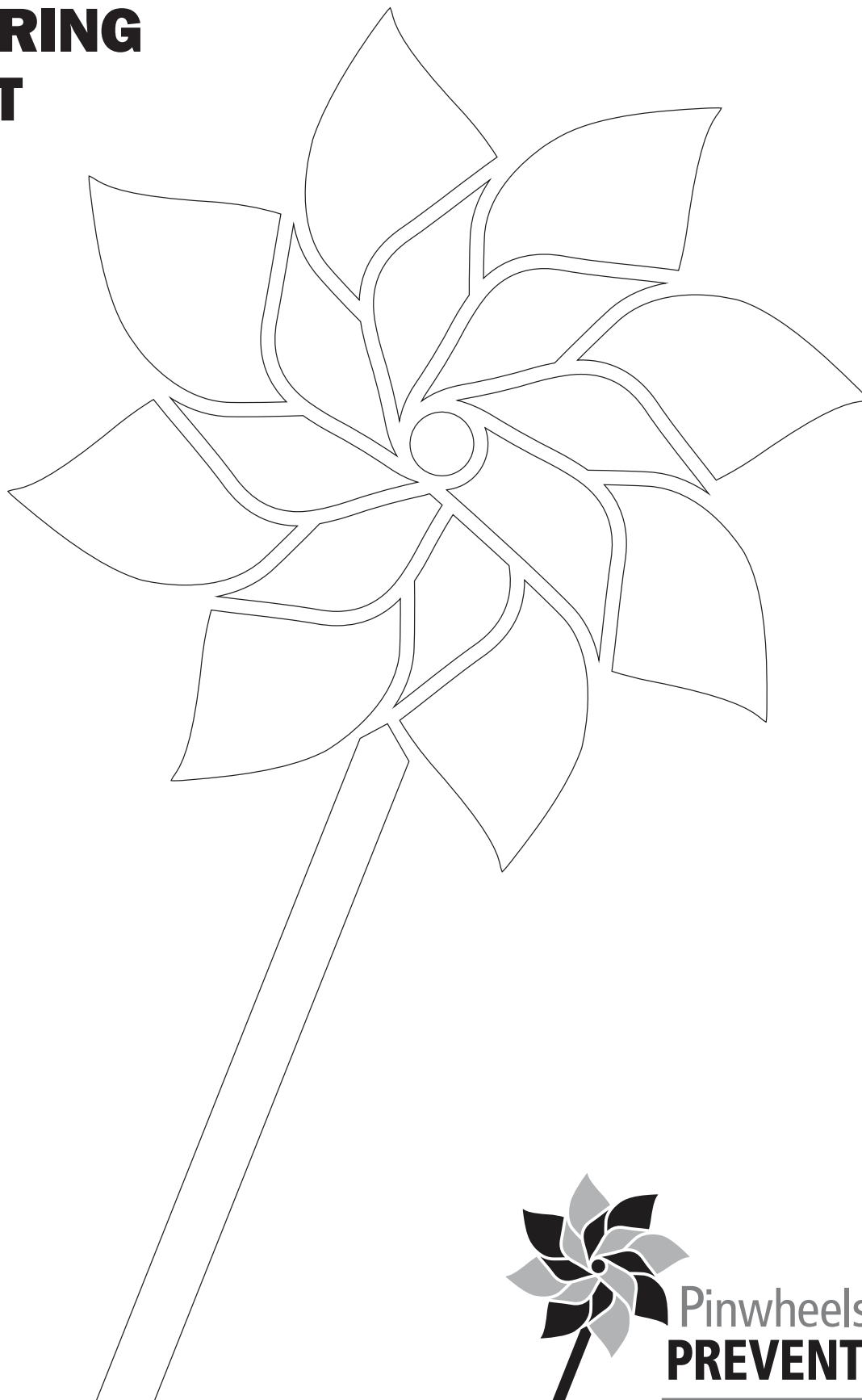
- April: Child Abuse Prevention Month, pinwheel gardens, wear blue
- May: Mental Health Awareness Month, wear green.
- Healthy Kids Day- Saturday, 4/25/2026
- Senior Health and Fitness Fair, Wednesday, 5/27/2026
- Car Seat Event, Saturday, 5/16/2026. Contact Melissa Gary, mgary@jasperia.org

[Website](#) and [Facebook](#)

- Events: <https://www.jasperia.org/calendar/> Check your events and submit events to the County calendar. If you have questions, contact Jenn Cross, at jcross@jasperia.org
- [Resource Guide: https://www.jasperia.org/resources/](https://www.jasperia.org/resources/)
- [Information Table at meeting](#): Please bring information or giveaways for the resource table. We keep track of attendance.
- Contact: Becky Pryor jaspercocares@jasperia.org. If your information changes, please let us know.

Next Cares Meeting: Wednesday, May 13, 2026, 10:30 A.M.

PINWHEEL COLORING SHEET



10 Tips for Healthy Boundaries



Every child has the right to safe boundaries – the rules and limits we set for our bodies and feelings. It’s our job as adults to acknowledge, respect and protect those boundaries.

Here are 10 Ways to Build Safe and Healthy Boundaries.

1. Let children decide what kinds of physical affection (hugs, cuddles) they want.
2. Model boundaries, beginning with very young children. “Ouch, please don’t bite me, that hurts!”
3. Offer children simple choices for care. “Should we wash your toes first, or your belly?”
4. Don’t take it personally when your child’s wishes are different from yours.
5. Let children decide when to end physical play like wrestling or tickling. One “Stop!” is enough.
6. Be sure children know what to expect in situations where they have less control over touch (such as a doctor or dentist visit).
7. Use the correct names for all body parts.
8. Set aside a few moments every day to talk to your child without distraction.
9. Be mindful of your child’s privacy when posting on social media.
10. Be clear and direct if someone violates a boundary, even if it’s a close friend or family member.

For more prevention resources, visit pcaiowa.org or call **515-244-2200**.



REMEMBER: Children are never responsible for stopping or preventing abuse. It’s the adult’s responsibility to protect our children.

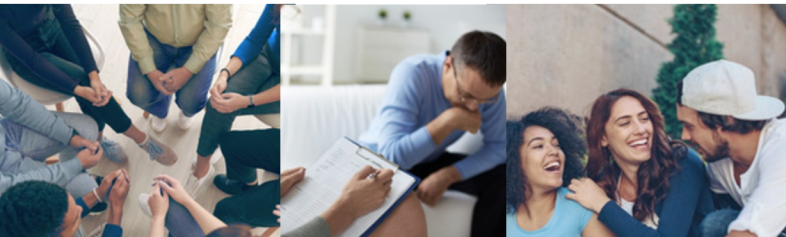


Hickory
RECOVERY NETWORK

1-800-639-0069 Opt 1

HICKORY TREATMENT CENTER AT GRINNELL

The road to recovery doesn't need to be painful and difficult. This is why Hickory created a client-centered, strength-based treatment model that draws from the latest research in drug and alcohol addiction medicine. Our treatment team empowers clients to regain control of their lives while alleviating symptoms of substance use disorder. Once clients complete residential treatment at a Hickory Treatment Center, our team focuses on providing each client with an effective relapse prevention and aftercare plan.



Experts in Treating:

- Alcohol
- Benzodiazepines
- Cocaine
- Fentanyl
- Heroin
- Methamphetamine
- Opiates
- Prescription Pills

Co-Occurring Disorders:

- Anxiety
- Bipolar
- Borderline Personality
- Depression
- PTSD
- Trauma

Are you ready to start your new life?

1-800-639-0069 Opt 1

HickoryTreatmentCenters.com/grinnell-iowa

Treatment Specialties

- Withdrawal Management with 24-Hour Care
- Substance Use Disorder
- Alcohol Addiction
- Co-Occurring Diagnosis
- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Personalized Case Management and Discharge Planning
- Relapse Management & Prevention

Treatment Modalities

- Individual & Group Therapy
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)
- Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT)
- SMART Recovery
- Health & Wellness Programs
- Music & Art Therapy

All Programs Accept Insurance
• Medicaid • Commercial • Private •

- Transportation Assistance Available
- Smoking Allowed



415 6TH AVE W.
GRINNELL, IA 50112

How to Make a Referral:

24/7 Admissions Call Center

1-800-639-0069 Opt 1

Fax: 515-461-9426

Email: IowaReferrals@HickoryRecovery.com

Online: HickoryTreatmentCenters.com/grinnell-iowa



Join our
TEAM



MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST

Hiring: MSW, LISW, TLMHC, LMHC, or Psychologists

Grow with us!

Why Join Capstone?

- Sign-on incentive may be available
- Student loan repayment assistance
- Flexible scheduling with telehealth options
- Full-time or part-time hours
- Supportive team with manageable caseloads
- And so much more!



To learn more or to apply, please email your resume to
Julie Smith, Executive Director at julies@capstonebh.com
website: capstonebh.com

Join Our

**SUBMIT YOUR
RESUME NOW!**

Team!



DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS DSP

REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ Must be 21 years of age
- ✓ High school diploma or equivalent (GED)
- ✓ Pass a background check
- ✓ **MUST** have auto insurance

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- ✓ Night shift and weekend availability preferred
- ✓ Manage medications
*certification needed (not required for hire)
- ✓ Assisting people with varied mental and physical support needs in personal care, community participation, and daily living skills.



**SEND YOUR RESUME
DIRECTLY TO:**

trinam@capstonebh.com



Open HOUSE INVITATION

MAY 1ST, 2026 11 AM-1 PM

Come celebrate with us at the Open House for our newly renovated Connections building and brand-new Substance Abuse space! Explore all that our updated facility has to offer, meet our team, and see how we're growing to better serve the community.

Be one of the first 50 visitors and receive a special May Day basket filled with delightful goodies—it's our way of saying thank you! You won't want to miss this exciting event!

Address:

306 N 3rd Ave E

Newton, IA 50208

May 1st, 2026 11 AM-1 PM

Contact Us:

Capstone Behavioral Healthcare
Substance Abuse Support
(641) 792-4012

Contact Us:

Connections
Drop-In Peer Support
(641) 792-3330

RECOVERY STARTS WITH CONNECTION.

Peer Recovery Support Groups

MercyOne House of Mercy

Real Support. Real People. Real Recovery.

If you are in recovery or seeking recovery, you do not have to face it alone. Our Peer Recovery Support Groups are built on shared experience, mutual encouragement, and practical tools that help you stay strong in your journey.

WHY JOIN A PEER SUPPORT GROUP?

- ❖ Connect with others who truly understand
- ❖ Build accountability and healthy relationships
- ❖ Learn practical strategies for maintaining sobriety
- ❖ Strengthen confidence in your recovery
- ❖ Experience a safe, judgement free environment

Hope Is Stronger When We Stand Together.

MercyOne House of Mercy

200 N 8th Ave E

641-792-0717

Kendi.mccollum@mercyone.org

Weekly Groups

-Tuesdays at 4:30 PM

Mindfulness

-Wednesday at 1 PM

Better Boundaries

-Thursdays at 4 PM

Relationships in recovery

-Thursdays at 5 PM

Self-Love for Women

Groups held at:

200 N 8th Ave E

Newton IA

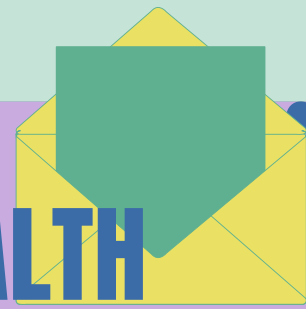
UPDATED
MARCH
2026



MICA HEALTH Newsletter

WWW.MICAONLINE.ORG

March 2026



WHAT'S NEW

Coming for the 2026-2027 School Year: I-Smile @ School staff will be taking dental radiographs. This will allow kids with severe decay to be referred to local dentists for immediate treatment. I-Smile Staff will be attending trainings this summer to learn more.

VISION & MISSION

MICA helps families experiencing poverty meet their needs, build on their strengths, and achieve their goals.

MICA's vision is resilient central Iowa communities where all people thrive. MICA's Health Services Department facilitates 11 different programs to improve health outcomes for families in our service area.



WHAT'S TRENDING?

WIC Participation Numbers for February:

Boone Co. 223

Poweshiek Co. 240

Jasper Co. 479

Story Co. 1,217

Marshall Co. 1,359

Tama Co. 267



Kimball & Beecher *Give Kids A Smile Day* stats:

Marshall County

41 kids were seen

Around \$32,000 in dentistry provided

Poweshiek County *Give Kids A Smile Day* stats:

8 families, 13 kids seen

Treatment for dental decay provided as well as referrals for additional care (orthodontics, wisdom teeth)

EPSDT Care for Kids staff continue to connect with families in all our counties. They have increased their Inform Completion Rate by 3% from Summer 2025 to Fall 2025. They have explained Medicaid benefits, connected them to providers and resources individualized to the family's need.

Family Feedback

"We initially didn't want to sign up for WIC because we felt like we were taking away from someone who needed it more. We realized that our family needed WIC benefits too and I'm glad we joined WIC. My daughter loves berries and now I can always say yes to having fruit as a snack because of the fruit and vegetable benefit."

"I get both WIC and SNAP. WIC is helpful because I can use my WIC benefits for the foods WIC provides which saves on my SNAP dollars."

In regards to breastfeeding "I was feeling so overwhelmed in the beginning but your support made me feel better. I know when I have questions I can call and get them answered at any time." Baby struggled with weight gain initially and mom was triple feeding and had goal to wean off + BF exclusively and she met her goal with the support of WIC staff.

MICA Health Programs

- EPSDT(Care for Kids)
- I-Smile
- 1st Five
- I-Smile @ School
- Child Health Nurse Consultant
- Child Health
- WIC
- Hawki
- Maternal Health
- Teen Outreach Program(TOP)
- Breastfeeding Peer Counseling

To learn more about MICA's health programs call 641-752-7162 or email micahealthservices@micaonline.org



OUR MISSION

Reducing the barriers and burdens people in poverty experience by increasing access to essential needs.

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR WINTER HEATING BILLS?

The 2025-26 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) can help eligible households stay safe and warm in the winter by providing financial assistance with home heating bills and protection from disconnection until April 1st, 2026.

IMPACT serves Boone, Jasper, Marion, Polk & Warren Counties in Iowa.



ELIGIBILITY

Your household may be able to receive a one-time payment to your utility provider if you meet income guidelines and provide the required documentation for your household.

Household Size	Annual Gross Income
1	\$31,300
2	\$42,300
3	\$53,300
4	\$64,300
5	\$75,300
Add \$11,000 for each additional household member	

DOCUMENTS

1. Social Security Cards for all household members.

- We can also accept: Birth Certificates, Unexpired Iowa Driver's License/Real ID, Passports, Tax Returns, or I-94 plus a verbal of your social number.

2. Income Documentation for all household members 18+ from either...

- The most recent 30 days **OR**
- Previous years' Annual Income via W-2s or Tax Returns

3. Most Recent Utility Bills for Heat AND Electric Vendors

TO APPLY



ONLINE

Scan the QR Code and click the APPLY ONLINE button at the top of the page.



OVER THE PHONE

Scan the QR Code and click the SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT button at the top of the page to schedule online, or call 515-518-4770 to schedule over the phone.



IN PERSON

For Boone, Polk, & Warren Counties: Scan the QR Code and click the SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT button at the top of the page to schedule online, or call 515-518-4770 to schedule over the phone. For Jasper & Marion Counties: Call 515-518-4770 to schedule over the phone.



BY MAIL

Scan the QR Code to visit our website. On this page, you can download a paper application. To request one be mailed to you, call 515-518-4770 or email info@impactcap.org

UPCOMING EVENTS IN JASPER COUNTY

Throughout the 2025-26 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) season, the IMPACT team will be available in person at a variety of partner locations in Jasper County to accept applications for households that would like to apply in person*.

Call **515-518-4770** or email info@impactcap.org to schedule your appointment.



DISCOVER HOPE

TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH, 2026

733 1st Ave E, Newton, IA 50208

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Appointments Available 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Open to walk-in applications starting at 1:00 PM

COLFAX PUBLIC LIBRARY

TUESDAY, APRIL 21ST, 2026

25 W Division Street, Colfax, IA 50054

11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Appointments Available 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Open to walk-in applications starting at 1:00 PM

NEWTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

TUESDAY, APRIL 28TH, 2026

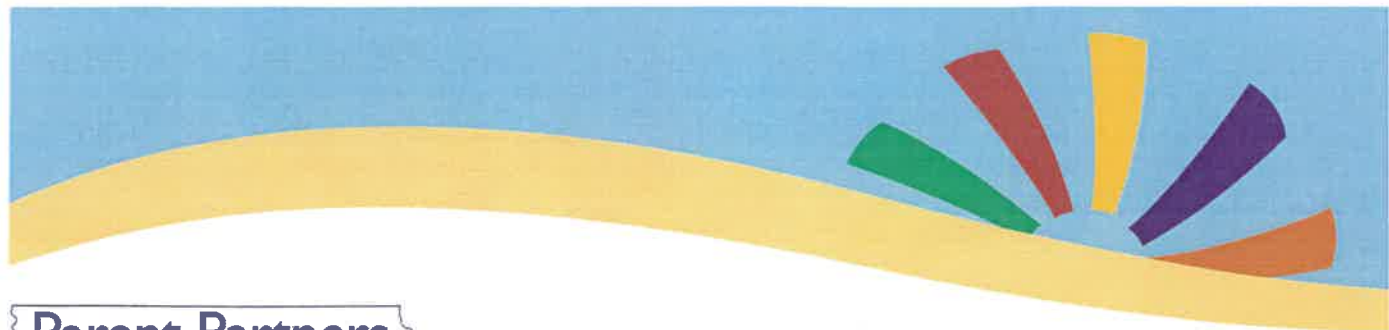
100 N 3rd Ave W Newton, IA 50208

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Appointments Available 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Open to walk-in applications starting at 1:00 PM

- **Home visits are also available for those that qualify. Call us to schedule an appointment!**
- **In need of transportation to one of these events? Call HIRTA: 877-686-0029**



Do you have HHS involvement?

Were your children **REMOVED?**

Parent Partners can support you through this process!

The Parent Partner will:

- * Work intensively with birth parents (parents of children in care) to promote engagement in case plan activities.
- * Help maintain connections between parents and children while in out of home care.
- * Share insight and understanding about their own personal experiences that may help the birth parents be successful in their own reunification efforts.
- * Assist in the goal of reunification and/or the development of appropriate alternative permanent plans.
- * Provide a sense of hope and inspiration to parents in the "system."
- * Connect parents with resources.
- * Provide encouragement, outreach and support.

We've been there...

Parent Partners are men and women who have been involved with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) due to child protection issues. At one time, their children were removed from their primary care and have since been successfully reunified.

Often Parent Partners have had personal experience with domestic violence, substance abuse, and or mental health issues. It is these experiences that make Parent Partners so beneficial to families who are currently receiving HHS services due to child protection issues. Parent Partners are able to offer hope, realistic advice, and advocacy for families. Parent Partners are selected based upon their interpersonal skills, successes, and proven abilities to overcome obstacle, whose "life experiences" are seen as valued education.

CONTACT

PARENT PARTNER COORDINATOR

Angela Barnell

SERVING COUNTIES

Appanoose, Jasper, Mahaska, Monroe, Poweshiek

(P)

(E) angelab@cfiowa.org

BAKE SALE

FUNDRAISER!

SUPPORTING

HANDS THAT HELP



1st STATE BANK • BROOKLYN

APRIL 3RD • 10 AM - 4 PM

Come Enjoy Delicious Homemade Treats!



GIVE WHAT YOU CAN TO HELP SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY!

Everyone,





175^{YEAR} ANNIVERSARY



HEALTHY KIDS DAY[®]

Free To The Public!



APRIL 25th
10:00AM-12:00PM

NATIONAL SPONSORS



Newton YMCA
641-792-4006 Newtonymca.org

BOWL-A-THON



\$45/ Single
\$250/Team
(up to 6 players)

NEWTON LANES

Let the good
times **ROLL**

OPEN TO ALL NO MATTER YOUR AGE OR SKILL LEVEL

9:00AM - 11:30AM

May 2, 2026

Proceeds support programs that ensure every child thrives by providing access to activities through scholarships and resources

1.5 HOURS OF GLOW BOWLING, SHOES RENTAL, 1 PIZZA & DRINK PER LANE

VISIT WWW.NEWTONYMCA.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

STRIKE UP SOME FUN. JOIN A TEAM. SPONSOR A LANE. DONATE TODAY.

**#FORALL |  NEWTONYMCA |  NEWTONYMCA50208
SARAH.PITTMAN@NEWTONYMCA.ORG 641-792-4006**



**AN EVENING WITH MOVIE
STORYBOARD ILLUSTRATOR**

ADAM VAN WYK

APRIL 9 at DMACC NEWTON

DOORS: 6 PM | PROGRAM: 6:30 PM



UNITED WAY
Jasper County

VOICES OF INSPIRATION



**IT'S NOT THE HEAT, IT'S THE
HUMIDITY: AN EVENING WITH
IOWA'S STATE CLIMATOLOGIST**

DR. JUSTIN GLISAN

**APRIL 23 at DMACC NEWTON
DOORS: 6 PM | PROGRAM: 6:30 PM**



UNITED WAY
Jasper County

VOICES OF INSPIRATION

PROCEEDS SUPPORT UNITED WAY OF JASPER COUNTY
& THE OPEN ARMS FOUNDATION OF JASPER COUNTY

BACK *to the* **'80s**

BINGO

APRIL 30

DOORS: 5:30 * BINGO: 6:30

DMACC, 600 N. 2ND AVE. W., NEWTON

**TICKETS \$30 IN ADVANCE AT
UNITEDWAYOFJASPERCOUNTY.ORG**





NAMI Central Iowa

April 2026
Support Group Links

Tuesday FSG @ 11 AM

Meeting ID

897 4439 1367

Password

510983

Wednesday Connection @ 11AM

Meeting ID

883 8103 0824

Password

869754

Deputy Director | Jensyn Hall

515-292-9400 |

jhall@namicentraliowa.org

April

NAMI Central Iowa

Deputy Director | Jessyn Hall
515-292-9400 | jhall@namicentrallowa.org



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		Connection @Wellness Center 11 AM (Hybrid Available) Open Peer Support 10-2PM Government Application, Housing and Employment Assistance 1-2PM	1 2	3
Problem Solving Techniques Skill Group 10-11AM Budgeting & Financial Stress Reduction Group 1-4PM (45min Sessions)	FSG @Wellness Center 11AM (Hybrid Available) Open Peer Support 10-4PM Government Application, Housing and Employment Assistance 1-4PM	Connection @Wellness Center 11 AM (Hybrid Available) Open Peer Support 10-2PM Government Application, Housing and Employment Assistance 1-2PM	8 9	10
Problem Solving Techniques Skill Group 10-11AM Yoga & Mindfulness Meditation Group 1-4PM (45min Sessions)	FSG @Wellness Center 11AM (Hybrid Available) Open Peer Support 10-4PM Government Application, Housing and Employment Assistance 1-4PM	Connection @Wellness Center 11 AM (Hybrid Available) Open Peer Support 10-2PM Government Application, Housing and Employment Assistance 1-2PM	15 16 Only Open for FREE Haircuts 10-2PM	17
Problem Solving Techniques Skill Group 10-11AM Depression & Self Care Practices Group 1-4PM (45min Sessions)	FSG @Wellness Center 11AM (Hybrid Available) Open Peer Support 10-4PM Government Application, Housing and Employment Assistance 1-4PM	Connection @Wellness Center 11 AM (Hybrid Available) Open Peer Support 10-2PM Government Application, Housing and Employment Assistance 1-2PM	22 23	24
Problem Solving Techniques Skill Group 10-11AM Journal Writing for Emotional Processing Group 1-4PM (45min Sessions)	FSG @Wellness Center 11AM (Hybrid Available) Open Peer Support 10-4PM Government Application, Housing and Employment Assistance 1-4PM	Connection @Wellness Center 11 AM (Hybrid Available) Open Peer Support 10-2PM Government Application, Housing and Employment Assistance 1-2PM	29 30	

Wellness and Recovery Drop- In Center Hours
Monday – Tuesday (10-4PM) – Wednesday (10-2PM)
424-5th Street Ames, IA 50010

 **APRIL FOOL'S**



Heart of Iowa Regional Transit Agency

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN



Introduction

The Why

Public transit is more than a ride. It is access to healthcare, education, employment, and community. In Iowa, thousands of residents rely on transit every day to stay connected and independent, especially in rural areas where options are limited.

Heart of Iowa Regional Transit Agency (HIRTA) provides door-to-door service that helps people reach the places that support their wellbeing and quality of life.

Yet, this vital service depends on strong public awareness and support. When communities understand the value of transit, they become powerful advocates for the funding and policies that keep people moving.

This campaign will help Iowans learn who HIRTA is, why public transit matters, and how they can speak up to protect and strengthen access for their neighbors, families, and themselves.

Together, we can keep Iowa moving forward.

Public Transit at the Federal Level

Bus prices have increased by 70% since 2020

More than 430,000 people work for public transit agencies

87% of trips on public transit directly benefit the local economy

5-to-1 economic return produced by long-term investment in public transit

1.4 million jobs are created or sustained per year because of public transportation

\$77 billion in transit spending flows to the private sector

Public Transit in Iowa

1 of every 16 households rely on public transit

Public transit provides over \$100 million in economic benefit to the state

Iowa's 35 public transit systems provide service in all 99 counties of the state.

60% of transit rides are work-related

\$1 invested by the state of Iowa equals \$4 received from federal

For every \$1 spent on transit provides a \$3 economic return

PUBLIC TRANSIT POWERS IOWA

People depend on transit

1 in 16 Iowa households rely on public transit

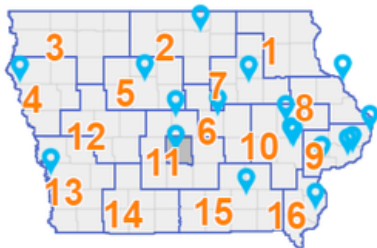
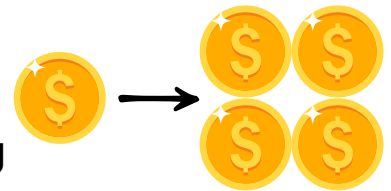


Transit boosts Iowa's economy

Every \$1 spent on transit provides a \$3 economic return

State investment leverages federal funding

\$1 invested by the state of Iowa brings \$4 in federal funding

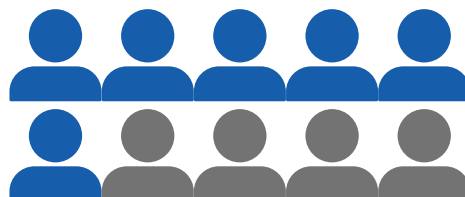


Transit reaches every county

Iowa's 35 public transit systems serve all 99 counties

Transit gets people to work

60% of transit rides are work-related



What are the challenges?

Funding gaps are growing as cities and counties struggle to provide the match needed to sustain service. We work hard to find other funding, but stronger local support is still essential.

Local support is inconsistent with only nine of HIRTA's 87 cities providing funding. Without shared investment, service becomes harder to maintain.

Vehicles are hard to get and expensive to replace. With demand increasing, our fleet cannot keep up with what riders need.

Iowa's fleet is aging with one of the oldest transit fleets in the nation. 52% of Iowa's vehicles should have been replaced by now, putting service reliability at risk.

Costs keep rising for fuel, insurance, technology, and maintenance. Every dollar is stretched further than before.

Ridership is growing faster than the funding needed to support it, creating real challenges in maintaining reliable transportation for older adults, people with disabilities, and anyone who does not have a car.

Supporting the transit workforce is a growing challenge. Competitive wages and benefits are essential to ensure drivers and staff can continue providing reliable service.



Contact Us
1 (877) 686-0029
www.RideHIRTA.com



Family & Community Advancement Dept. NEWSLETTER



Scan to Register for a Class

641-792-4006

COOKIE.FUZELL@NEWTONYMCA.ORG



Program Spotlight

Ninja Training Academy is back at the Y! Kids will jump, climb, balance, and conquer fun obstacle challenges while building strength, confidence, and coordination. It's a high-energy class designed to keep kids moving and having fun while testing their inner ninja. We are beyond thrilled to bring this class back to the Y.



Super Pet Workshop

UPCOMING DEPT. PROGRAMS

- ◆ **Baby Gym**
April 1
- ◆ **Girl's Night at the Y**
April 2
- ◆ **Cardinal Clover Kids**
April 6
- ◆ **Power Kids Starts**
April 6
- ◆ **Homeschool Robotics Club**
April 7
- ◆ **Super Kitten Pals Workshop**
April 9
- ◆ **Earth Day Event**
April 22
- ◆ **Pop-In Sparkle Workshop**
April 23
- ◆ **Slime Labs**
April 27
- ◆ **Youth Strength & Fitness Class**
April 27

There's No Place, Like The Y

The YMCA continues to set itself apart by offering youth programming that goes beyond traditional activities. We aim to create meaningful experiences rooted in hands on learning and character development. The Y focuses on workshops that intentionally blend fun with life skills, helping children grow in confidence, responsibility, and compassion.

Events like the popular Pet Adoption Plush workshop gives kids the opportunity to "adopt" and care for their own stuffed animal. This teaches the importance of responsibility and empathy in a way that feels real and memorable. By weaving its core values into every activity, the YMCA is not just keeping kids busy, it is helping shape thoughtful, capable young individuals in our community.



A Message from one of our Team Members

I work here because I want to connect with the kids, and show them that the Y isn't just a place to work out. It is a place where they are welcome to be themselves.

— Ms. Penelope



Community Partnerships

Pinewood Derby Races

The YMCA was proud to host the local Pinewood Derby races for Scouting America, and what a great event it turned out to be! It was a fun and exciting day, and many Y staff even joined in the action by helping judge the races.

A big congratulations to all of the scouts who raced their cars and to the scout leaders who helped make the event possible. We loved being part of such a special tradition and can't wait to see everyone back for next year's race!



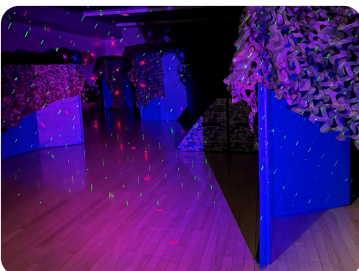
Previous Month Highlights



Thank you to the Crisis Canines of Midland for joining us for our Puppy Pals Workshop. It is always a treat to see these friends in action.



Cake Decorating was led by our very own instructor, Annie. Kids were able to learn decorating basics and take home their own cakes.



Nothing but smiles during our first Laser Tag sessions. Kids enjoyed a transformed studio & glow in the dark laser tag games.



Our Homeschool STEM class, was able to get messy in our Science Lab. We love hands on experiments.



Birthday Parties

Now Booking April - July

Looking for the perfect place to celebrate your child's birthday? Host your party at the Y! Our party space is available to rent and every celebration comes with two party hosts who help make your big day extra special. Choose from several fun party themes, including our new WonderPaws party where kids create their own stuffed animal to take home. Already, have a venue, no worries, ask about our mobile party packages. Let us handle the fun while you enjoy the celebration!



Scan for our April Kids Zone & Youth Center Hours

