



# WE FIGHT FOR FINANCIAL STABILITY

**United Way of East Central Iowa's (UWECI) mission is to unite the caring power of communities to invest in effective solutions that improve people's lives.**

We partner with donors, volunteers, corporate partners, and agencies throughout East Central Iowa to ensure every member of our community has the opportunity to reach their full potential through education, financial stability, and healthcare.

It's difficult for low-income families to transition from financial crisis to stability. Providing employment and education opportunities can increase income, but access to stable housing, food, and transportation remains a challenge for people making less than the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

**When basic needs are not met, progress toward financial stability is nearly impossible.**

- 18% of Linn County families are below the 200% poverty level
- 42% of Linn County renters are spending more than 30% of their monthly income on housing (housing cost burdened)
- 31,000+ people in East Central Iowa are food insecure

**UWECI works alongside the following organizations to invest in programs, collaborations, and solutions to help financially unstable families and individuals in East Central Iowa have the skills and opportunities to reach their full potential:**

- Catherine McAuley Center
- HACAP
- Horizons
- Iowa Legal Aid
- Jane Boyd
- Waypoint
- Willis Dady Emergency Shelter

**"THERE IS BRAVERY IN ACTION HERE EVERY DAY.** It takes courage to walk through [our door], courage to ask for help, and even more courage to take that outstretched hand."

*Staff member, Catherine McAuley Center*

## FY18 Results



### Meeting Basic Needs

**834 POTENTIALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS** were diverted from shelter or assisted with housing

### Stabilizing Households

Free tax preparation services returned **\$3.8 MILLION TO LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS**

### Workforce Skill Development

**272 PEOPLE** increased their literacy or basic skill level



United Way  
of East Central Iowa