

Summer 2025



<https://iacommunityhub.org>

Newest HUB Navigator Employee Spotlight

Katherine Sosa Lucerna

Katherine worked as a Certified Nurse's Aide for 5 years prior to joining the United States Air Force where she served for 5 years as a Logistics Manager in North Dakota. While serving in the Air Force, Katherine obtained a Bachelor's degree in health science from Purdue University and most recently completed a Masters in Healthcare Administration. She is currently working on completing the Community Health Worker certification course.

"Growing up surrounded by healthcare workers and directly caring for the elderly, has fueled a strong passion for advocacy, healthcare, and overall well-being for myself and others."



Iowa Community HUB Welcomes New Board Members

We are excited to welcome two exceptional professionals to the Iowa Community HUB Board of Directors. Each brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to advancing community well-being, public health, and workforce development across Iowa.



Sonia Reyes

Sonia Reyes is a results-driven leader with 22+ years of experience across government, nonprofit, and community sectors. She has held key public service roles, including at the Iowa Department of Human Rights' Office of Latino Affairs, and now with the Community Services Bureau at Iowa HHS. Sonia has a strong record of designing and leading community-driven programs, building cross-sector partnerships, and advancing policies that improve outcomes for Latino, LGBTQ+, immigrant, and other underserved populations. A founder and board member of multiple nonprofits, she has also led statewide initiatives to expand access to resources, strengthen service delivery, and empower communities facing systemic barriers. Her work is grounded in a deep commitment to fair access and opportunity for all Iowans.



Nancy "Nan" Strutzenberg

Nan is the Director of Development for the Iowa Environmental Council, where she leads strategic fundraising initiatives to support the organization's mission and long-term sustainability. With over 15 years of experience in nonprofit fundraising, Nan brings a strong background in donor relations, campaign management, and organizational growth. She is passionate about building meaningful partnerships and advancing programs that drive lasting impact. Prior to joining IEC, Nan held leadership roles at Drake University, Goodwill Industries of Central Iowa, and Lutheran Services in Iowa. When not working, you can find her on stage performing with a Minneapolis based competitive show chorus, traveling the world with her husband, or in her workshop honing her woodworking skills.



Iowa Community HUB Awarded \$40,000 Community Betterment Grant for Produce Box Program

We are excited to announce that Prairie Meadows has awarded a \$40,000 Community Betterment Grant to the Iowa Community HUB to support the continued efforts of our Fresh Produce Box Program. With this funding, we can provide program participants across the state who are experiencing food insecurity with monthly home deliveries of fresh produce throughout their time in the program.

The grant period runs through September 1, 2026, and we look forward to implementing this initiative in partnership with Prairie Meadows. A special thank-you to their Board of Directors for supporting local health and nutrition efforts.

Stay tuned for updates as we roll out the Fresh Produce Box Program in the months ahead!



Farm Credit Services of America

The Iowa Community HUB was awarded \$5,000 from Farm Credit Services of America for our fresh produce box program.

Farm Credit Services of America is dedicated to financing agriculture. Their entire organization – from their people to their ag-friendly products, services and support – works to help producers succeed.

Eat Well

Support Healthy Food Access in Your Community

Access to fresh, nutritious food is a basic human right and it's essential for building a healthier, more resilient community. Through programs like our Fresh Produce Box Program, we're connecting individuals and families with the fresh fruits and vegetables they need to thrive. But we can't do it alone.

Since 2024, we have delivered more than 1,900 boxes of fresh produce to over 500 Iowans participating in a health program, but the need continues to grow.

We're actively seeking financial support to expand this critical food program. Together, we can ensure that those living with chronic health conditions and facing food insecurity, have reliable access to fresh, affordable, and healthy produce.

If interested in supporting our fresh produce efforts, please reach out directly to Jennifer Walters jwalters@iacommunityhub.org or Adria Huseh aHuseh@chpcommunity.org



HUB Site Selected for CDC Case Study on Lifestyle Change Interventions

We are proud to share the Iowa Community HUB has been selected by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to participate in a national case study focused on implementation strategies for Lifestyle Change Interventions (LCIs), programs designed to help individuals adopt healthier behaviors such as walking.

The HUB was one of 18 sites selected nationally to participate in a CDC evaluability assessment and was subsequently chosen for a case study recognizing its contributions to the field of lifestyle change interventions. This selection reflected the organization's strong structure, ability to reach and enroll large numbers of participants in a variety of evidence-based LCIs, and its commitment to addressing the social determinants of health (SDOH) needs of those it serves. Planning begins in August.

Move More

"I wanted to take a moment to personally thank you and your team for your contributions to the field of lifestyle change interventions (LCI) through your outstanding work at Iowa Community HUB. Our team at CDC has been so impressed by your organization's structure and ability to reach and enroll so many participants in a menu of evidence based LCIs. Your organization's commitment to meeting the SDOH needs of your participants is commendable."

Health Scientist
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Department of Health and Human Services



Feel Better

The HUB Earns Full+ Recognition and MDPP Supplier Designation

We are proud to announce that the Iowa Community HUB has been awarded Full+ Recognition status by the CDC, along with achieving the designation of Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP) supplier. These milestones mark a significant advancement in our efforts to expand access to diabetes prevention services across Iowa.

Being a MDPP supplier means the HUB can act as the central billing and administrative entity for community-based organizations (CBOs) delivering the program across Iowa. Many local organizations have the ability to reach participants but lack the infrastructure, capacity, or accreditation to bill Medicare directly. This ensures local organizations can be financially supported through reimbursement rather than one-time funding streams.

We'll begin testing our first Medicare claims submission this summer. Stay tuned for updates as we continue this important work.



Improving Patient Referrals: PHC and Iowa Community HUB Wrap Up National Design Sprint

Primary Health Care (PHC) recently completed a five-month Design Sprint in partnership with the Iowa Community HUB through the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) to improve referrals for patients with hip and knee osteoarthritis.

Represented by Teresa Fisher, RN, and Lashelle Goode, ARNP, the PHC team worked alongside the HUB and focused on reducing workflow barriers and enhancing patient support. Key solutions included expanding the Nurse Care Manager role and developing patient education around the management of arthritis and the navigation services of the HUB. The result: a more efficient, patient-centered referral process and stronger community care collaboration.

A Closer Look At the Outcomes:

- **Streamlined the referral workflow, reducing provider burden and delays.**
- **Improved patient awareness of local programs through simplified, accessible education.**
- **Strengthened coordination between clinical teams and community-based resources through the HUB.**



Iowa Community HUB Launches FHIR-Based Project to Advance Referral Management

In partnership with EMI Advisors LLC, the Iowa Community HUB has launched a two-month initiative to develop a FHIR-based (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources) use case focused on improving referral management for individuals with arthritis.

Funded by the USAging Center of Excellence, this project uses modern health data technology to connect clinics with the Iowa Community HUB, making it easier to share important health information. By linking these systems, the project supports new ways to improve care and health outcomes. The goal is to create a model that can be scaled and applied to other chronic conditions beyond arthritis.

A Closer Look At the Framework:

The Iowa Community HUB in partnership with EMI Advisors and conducting this work with Primary Health Care and Iowa PCA, will bring together collaborative partners to:

- Identify pain points and workflow gaps in the clinical-to-community data exchange for the arthritis program
- Learn through real-world examples how FHIR-based standards are being applied locally to build real-time, patient-centered connections between clinical care and community-based services.
- Co-design business and technical requirements for a scalable solution for other health systems, health plans, and community partners.

Cultivating Collaboration: A Primary Care Setting and Community Hub Address Arthritis Management and Social Health Needs

This article, written by our partners at NACDD, highlighting the HUB's pilot project with Primary Health Care, was published by the Harvard Medical School Center for Primary Care.

Arthritis Care Gets a Boost from Public Health Collaboration

Harvard's Perspectives in Primary Care spotlighted a new pilot framework designed to improve care for patients with osteoarthritis by bridging clinical and community services. The national pilot model was developed in partnership with primary care teams, public health experts, and researchers.

Key elements include:

- Screening patients in primary care for arthritis and related social needs
- Referring them to evidence-based programs for exercise and self-management
- Strengthening communication between providers and community health teams through community care hub model

The goal: to reduce pain, improve mobility, and address barriers like transportation and social isolation, especially for patients in underserved communities.

To read the article in full context visit:

[HERE](#)

What is a Community Care HUB (CCH)?

The CCH infographic visually shows what a CCH is, what it does, who it works with – and how they work together – helping to make the concept of a CCH easier to understand.

Community Care Hubs

Improving health through efficient coordination of services and supports



To read the article in full context visit:
HERE