

East Central Intergovernmental Association is committed to working with member governments, their citizens, and others to empower eastern Iowa communities through sustainable partnerships to enhance the quality of life in Cedar, Clinton, Delaware, Dubuque and Jackson Counties. We exist because of the need for local governments facing similar problems to cooperate in finding solutions. Through ECIA membership, local governments share resources they could not afford individually. The services and programs provided by ECIA cover six broad categories: Community Development, Economic Development, Housing Assistance, Employment and Training, Transit, and Transportation and Planning.



Community Development

ECIA provides community development management assistance to communities in several vital areas.

Grant & Loan Applications

- water
- wastewater and storm sewer systems
- housing rehabilitation
- homeownership assistance programs
- community facilities and services projects
- streets and curb/gutter
- recreational facilities
- libraries
- group homes
- daycare facilities
- imminent threat and/or emergency projects
- sustainability plans

Technical Assistance

- grant writing
- fundraising
- strategic planning
- budget preparation
- financial reports
- city codes and ordinances
- personnel policies
- comprehensive and land use plans
- zoning ordinances
- annexation and disincorporation petitions
- incorporation
- community builder plans
- housing needs assessment studies
- hazard mitigation programs and plans
- emergency response plans
- special studies
- census information
- building inspections



For more information visit www.ecia.org/programs/commdev

Economic Development

E.C.I.A. Business Growth, Inc. (www.eciabusinessgrowth.com) promotes the expansion of businesses and the creation of new jobs through the following programs:

Small Business Administration 504 Program

10- and 20-year fixed rate loans to almost any small for profit business for fixed asset purchases. Territory includes Buchanan, Cedar, Clinton, Delaware, Des Moines, Dubuque, Henry, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Jones, Lee, Linn, Louisa, Muscatine, Scott, Van Buren, and Washington counties.

Revolving Loan Fund Programs

Economic Development Administration, Dubuque County, ECIA Regional, and Jackson County RLFs give loans of up to \$250,000 at a low fixed interest rate and targets industries who need financing for fixed assets.



Brick Arch Winery, West Branch

Grant Writing

Staff also assist with grant writing for economic development projects to initiate road, water and sewer expansions.

Prosperity Eastern Iowa

Prosperity (www.prosperityeasterniowa.org) is a four-county economic development partnership consisting of Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson, and Jones Counties and the city of DeWitt, working in cooperation to promote the region to expand the economic segments and to retain and create jobs. Within Prosperity are two successful sustainability initiatives: Buyer Supplier, a program that encourages local purchasing connecting buyers and sellers in eastern Iowa - www.buyersupplier.org; and Petal Project, a green business certification program - www.petal-project.com.



Housing Assistance

Eastern Iowa Regional Housing Authority (EIRHA) provides decent, safe, and affordable housing for eligible households; to provide opportunities and promote self-sufficiency; create economic independence; and provide homeownership opportunities for Housing Choice Voucher and Public Housing participants.

Public Housing

Participants pay a minimum of 30% of their adjusted income toward rent and utilities or \$50, whichever is greater.

Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher

Participating households pay a minimum of 30% of their adjusted income toward rent and utilities or \$50, whichever is greater.



Family Self-Sufficiency

Promotes employment and offers an opportunity to save money for Section 8 HCV or Public Housing families that participate.

Elderly Self-Sufficiency

Promotes self-sufficiency to elderly Section 8 HCV or Public Housing participants through social activities, emotional support, and connecting them to appropriate resources in the community.

Public Housing Homeownership

Public housing units available for first-time home-buying, for low-income households participating in one of our housing programs.

Section 8 HCV Homeownership

Convert rental assistance to mortgage assistance.

Housing Counseling

The EIRHA is approved as a housing counseling agency to provide Money Debt Management, Pre-purchase Counseling and Home Improvement and Rehabilitation Counseling.

For more information on ECIA's housing assistance, visit www.easterniowaregionalhousing.org

Employment and Training

ECIA administers the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) in Dubuque and Delaware Counties, providing career counseling, job search assistance, and other services through the IowaWORKS of Northeast Iowa integrated service delivery partnership.

Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs

Services are provided to job-seekers and employers through one-stop career centers designed to provide quality employment and training services to assist eligible individuals in finding and qualifying for meaningful employment, and to assist employers in finding the skilled workers they need to



compete and succeed in business. Services include job search and placement assistance; assessment of skills and aptitude; career planning; and training opportunities. For more information, visit www.ecia.org/programs/dislocated_worker.

Youth Programs (age 14-21)

Eligibility is based on household income guidelines and other criteria. Services include: tutoring, study skills training, and drop-out prevention strategies; alternative secondary school offerings; summer employment opportunities linked to academic and occupational learning; work experiences including internships and job shadowing; occupational skill training; leadership development opportunities; support services; adult mentoring; post-program services; and comprehensive guidance and counseling.

Transit

ECIA manages two public transit systems in the region; the Dubuque urban system and the three-county rural system.

Delaware Dubuque Jackson County Regional Transit Authority (RTA)
RTA provides transit service to the cities and rural areas of Delaware, Dubuque, and Jackson counties. The RTA contracts with ECIA for management services. Types of transportation the RTA provides, include:

- Job
- Daycare
- School
- Group
- Medical Appointment

Many cities in the RTA region have daily service within their city as well as commuting to other cities, while other communities have service several times per week. For more information on the RTA, visit: www.rta8.org. Find us on Facebook by searching for Regional Transit Authority or on Twitter: @RTA_8.



The Jule

The Jule strives to provide a safe, timely, and comfortable mode of public transportation for citizens to and from their destinations on fixed routes. Fixed route service provides transportation to Dubuque citizens to access various services, shopping, entertainment, community functions, and employment opportunities within the City.

Mini-bus promotes independence for seniors and persons with disabilities by providing demand-response service and passenger assistance to life's destinations.

Trolley buses operate seasonally on a looped-shuttle service between the Port of Dubuque and key downtown locations. For more information, visit www.Juletransit.org.

Transportation and Planning

The ECIA transportation planning staff serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Dubuque urbanized area and Regional Planning Affiliation 8 (RPA) in Iowa. The MPO organizes and oversees the long range planning and development of the multimodal transportation system and develops the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the investment of Federal transportation dollars.



Dubuque Metropolitan Area Transportation Study

DMATS is a tri-state MPO located at the boundary intersections of Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin. The MPO is responsible for the development of a seamless transportation system for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods within and between modes of transportation (roads, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit, rail, water and air) in Dubuque County.

Regional Planning Affiliation 8

The RPA 8 is a four-county region including the counties of Clinton, Delaware, Dubuque and Jackson in Eastern Iowa. The RPA organizes and oversees the development of the multimodal transportation system using Federal funds under the guidance of the State of Iowa. The committee identifies transportation improvements and prepares plans for the development of all parts of the transportation system in the rural area.

ECIA transportation and planning staff also offer:

- Planning Services
- Comprehensive Planning
- Planning and Zoning/Subdivision Ordinances
- Travel Demand Modeling
- Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
- Project Management

For more information, visit www.eciatrans.org.

ECIA

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICES TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE REGION



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