

# Funder Research Report: Iowa Dept. of Human Services

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## Mission

According to the Iowa Department of Human Services website, "The Mission of the Iowa Department of Human Services is to help individuals and families achieve safe, stable, self-sufficient, and healthy lives, thereby contributing to the economic growth of the state. We do this by keeping a customer focus, striving for excellence, sound stewardship of state resources, maximizing the use of federal funding and leveraging opportunities, and by working with our public and private partners to achieve results."

## Types of Grants

The State of Iowa offers a great deal of funding and grants for a variety of purposes and organizations. At any given time grants from the State of Iowa may be viewed at the following website. <http://bidopportunities.iowa.gov/index.php?pgname=viewall>

There are three basic types of grants:

- \* Grants that create new opportunities and resources that meet the needs of the Iowa Department of Human Services and help them fulfill their mission
- \* Grants to help maintain current programs and resources that are being used statewide that are under the control and/or supervision of the Iowa Department of Human Services
- \* Grants to improve existing programs that the Iowa Department of Human Services has instituted or is currently helping to maintain and/or supervise.

## Eligibility

Depending on the particular type, the eligibility for the Iowa Department of Human Services grants can vary greatly. For many of their grants they simply require that the requirements in their request for proposal are met. For every grant and request for proposal that is available the Iowa Department of Human Services clearly gives all necessary requirement information. While the requirements do change the Iowa Department of Human Services does make it clear that they attempt to give all applicants an equal chance so long as they fulfill all the requirements stated in their request for proposal document.

## Application Process

The Iowa Department of Human Services grant opportunity website does specify how each application should be formatted and submitted. Each individual grant does have its own small page detailing who specifically is requesting the proposal and what the proposal entails and should include. In addition to this there is also a document available for download on each site detailing every aspect of the grant and the appropriate type of proposal to submit to obtain that grant.

## Recommendation

I highly recommend working with the Iowa Department of Human Services as they have a clear and concise mission statement that shows their intent to benefit the public. They strive to help children and families in addition to the community as a whole. They give equal opportunities to all applicants and they make it a point to be clear about who is eligible in the summary provided for each proposal request and grant. Because the requirements for each grant can be very specific I would not recommend this group to applicants looking for general research grants.

## The Vision of Iowa DHS

The Iowa Department of Human Services makes a positive difference in the lives of Iowans they serve through effective and efficient leadership, excellence, and teamwork.