# **RESOURCE DIRECTORY FOR IOWA**

Programs, Services, and Contacts for Rural Residents and Others in Need of Assistance

# STATE OUTREACH COUNCIL (SOC) September 2007

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The State Outreach Council (SOC) was formed in September of 1998. The SOC includes Federal and State Agencies and other partners of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The purpose of the SOC is to work together on initiatives to identify and meet the needs of under-served populations in Iowa.

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The Resource Directory for Iowa was published and distributed through the sponsorship and generosity of member agencies and organizations.

### Services and Assistance

#### Agricultural Education

Academic training that leads to a degree in agricultural science

ISU College of Agriculture 7 ISU Extension 7

#### Agricultural Outreach

Continuing education aimed to provide knowledge about agriculture and agriculture programs to adult learners

USDA Farm Service Agency	5
USDA Natural Resources	
Conservation Service	7
USDA Risk Management Agency	7
USDA Rural Development	7
ISU College of Agriculture	8
ISU Extension	8
Center for Rural Development	8

#### Agricultural Research

Generate new knowledge through experimentation and application of the scientific method

USDA Agricultural Research	
Service	5
USDA Rural Development	7
ISU College of Agriculture	8
ISU Extension	8
ISU Agricultural Marketing	
Resource Center	8
ISU Office of Social & Econom	ic
Trends Analysis	8
Iowa Alliance for Cooperative	
Business Development	8

#### Agricultural Statistics

Gather, analyze and disseminate numerical data relative to agriculture

USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service 6 USDA Rural Development 7 ISU Extension 8 ISU Office of Social & Economic Trends Analysis 8

#### Business Planning/Finance

Provide education, information, business management skills and tools to help farm operators more effectively operate the financial aspects of farming or agri-business

USDA Farm Service Agency 5 USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service 7 USDA Rural Development 7 ISU College of Agriculture 8 ISU Extension 8 Center for Rural Development 8

#### Community & Economic Development

Provide education, services or resources to help regions or cities generate jobs, retain existing jobs, or stimulate industrial and commercial growth. Enhance civic understanding and leadership skills of minorities and newly arrived immigrants to Iowa.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service 7 USDA Rural Development 7 ISU College of Agriculture 8 ISU Extension 8 Iowa Alliance for Cooperative Business Development 8 National Catholic Rural Life 9 Conference Iowa Dept of Econ Development 11 Center for Rural Development 8

#### Cooperative Development

Provide information, education or resources to develop cooperative arrangements for economic development

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service 7 USDA Rural Development 7 ISU Agricultural Marketing Resource Center 8 Iowa Alliance for Cooperative Business Development 8

#### Crop Insurance

Provide or subsidize insurance protection for farmers from crop losses due to natural hazards such as hail, fire, wind, flood, drought, etc.

USDA Farm Service Agency 5 USDA Risk Management Agency 7

#### Disability Assistance

Provide information, contacts and resources to farmers and others with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities

USDA Farm Service Agency	5
USDA Natural Resources	
Conservation Service	7
ISU Extension	8
Easter Seals Iowa	9
Iowa Department of Human Righ	nts
	9
Iowa Division of Vocational	
Rehabilitation Services	12

#### Emergency Response/Relief

Provide assistance in the form of food, shelter, grants or loans to individuals at the time of a catastrophe; providing education and information on how individual can prepare for catastrophe

USDA Farm Service Agency	5
USDA Food and Nutrition Servi	ce
	6
USDA Rural Development	7
Iowa Concern Hotline	8
Iowa Homeland Security &	
Emergency Management	8
National Catholic Rural Life	
Conference	9
American National Red Cross	9
Iowa Domestic Abuse Hotline	12

#### Environmental Protection

See NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION

#### Farm Programs/Payments

Provide direct payments or grants to farmers for participation in government policy programs

USDA Farm Service Agency 5 USDA Forest Service 6

#### Farm & Youth Loans

Provide money on a temporary basis to farmers and youths for operating an agricultural enterprise

USDA Farm Service Agency 5 USDA Forest Service 6

#### Food Assistance and Safety

Provide grants, vouchers, and other forms of assistance to citizens facing critical shortages of food

USDA Food and Nutrition Service 6 ISU Extension 8 Iowa Concern Hotline 8 Iowa Department of Human Rights 9

#### Housing

Provide grants, vouchers, and other forms of assistance to citizens facing critical needs in housing

USDA Natural Resources	
Conservation Service	7
USDA Rural Development	7
Iowa Division of Vocational	
Rehabilitation Services	12
Iowa Domestic Abuse Hotline	12
Department of Veterans Affair	S
	12
US Department of Housing and	
Urban Development	12

#### Livestock

Provide education, information or resources to promote livestock production, maintain livestock health, and improve marketing and utilization

USDA Animal & Plant Health	
Inspection Service,	
Veterinary Services	5
USDA Farm Service Agency	5
USDA Grain Inspection Packers	5
and Stockyards Administrat	cion
	6
ISU College of Agriculture	8
ISU Extension	8
ISU Agricultural Marketing	
Resource Center	8

#### Minority/Diversity Resources

Provide education, services and information of particular interest to women and minority groups, such as African Americans and Latino Americans

Iowa Department of Human Rights 9 Commission on the Status of Iowans of Asian and Pacific Island Heritage 10 Iowa Commission on Status of African Americans 10 Towa Division of Latino Affairs 10 Iowa Commission of the Status of Women 10 Bureau of Refuqee Services 11

Natural Resource Conservation

Provide education, skills, and financial resources/incentives to assist farmers in preserving natural resources (land, water quality, etc.) and environmental quality

USDA Farm Service Agency	5
USDA Natural Resources	
Conservation Service	7
ISU College of Agriculture	8
ISU Extension	8
Iowa Dept of Agriculture & La	nd
Stewardship	9
National Catholic Rural Life	
Conference	9

#### Health & Well Being

Provide education, information or resources to citizens needing help in matters of health and spiritual faith

Iowa Concern Hotline 8 National Catholic Rural Life Conference 9

#### Utility Assistance

Provide grants, vouchers, and other forms of assistance to citizens facing critical needs in covering utility bills

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service 7 USDA Rural Development 7 Iowa Department of Human Rights 9

#### Value Added Agriculture

Provide education, information or resources aimed at helping farmers use changes in production or processing to increase the economic value of an agricultural commodity

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service 7 USDA Rural Development 7 ISU College of Agriculture 8 ISU Extension 8 ISU Agricultural Marketing Resource Center 8

### AGENCY DESCRIPTIONS & CONTACT INFORMATION

• USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS)

The Agricultural Research Service is the principal research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and includes the following units in Iowa:

- National Animal Disease Center
- National Soil Tilth Laboratory
- Plant Introduction Research
- Corn Insects and Crop Genetics Research

USDA Agricultural Research Service

102 Genetics Laboratory, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-3222. Phone 515-294-8614 Fax 515-294-2265 http://ars.usda.gov/

• USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services (APHIS)

APHIS protects America's agricultural resources by keeping foreign pests and diseases out of the country, minimizing damage caused by wildlife, and protecting certain animals from inhumane treatment. APHIS-Veterinary Services provides education to producers and veterinarians regarding animal disease control and eradication programs.

USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services 210 Walnut St. 891 Federal Building Des Moines, IA 50309. Phone 515-284-4140 Fax 515-284-4156 www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/

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• USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA)

The Farm Service Agency mission is to equitably serve all farmers, ranchers, and agricultural partners through the delivery of effective, efficient agricultural programs for all Americans. The core duties of FSA are to implement national agricultural policy, administer credit and loan programs, and manage conservation, commodity, disaster and farm marketing programs through a network of local offices.

The following program areas are administered by the Farm Service Agency.

- Beginning Farmer Loan Programs
- Youth Loans
- Other Farm Loan Programs
- Disaster Assistance
- Commodity Loans
- Direct and Counter-cyclical Payment Program (DCP)
- Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP)
- Loan Deficiency Payments
- Conservation Reserve Program
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- Other Conservation Programs
- Livestock, Dairy, Wool, and Honey Programs
- Farm Storage Facility Loans
- Administer National Farm Bill Programs
- Provide Outreach opportunities to all potential customers
- Promote Farm Safety Issues and Programs

USDA Farm Service Agency 10500 Buena Vista Court, Des Moines, Iowa 50333. Phone 515-254-1540 Fax 515-254-1573 www.fsa.usda.gov/ia • USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

The Food and Nutrition Service increases food security and reduces hunger in partnership with cooperating organizations by providing children and low-income people access to food, a healthful diet, and nutrition education.

USDA Food and Nutrition Service 210 Walnut St. 641 Federal Building Des Moines, IA 50309. Phone 515-284-4035 Fax 515-284-4038 www.fns.usda.gov/fns/

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• USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service

The Food Safety and Inspection Service is responsible for ensuring that the commercial supply of meat, poultry, and egg products moving in interstate commerce or exported to other countries is safe, wholesome, and correctly labeled and packaged.

USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service Room 985, Federal Building, 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309. Phone (515) 727-8960 Fax (515) 727-8991 http://www.fsis.usda.gov/

• USDA Forest Service

The Forest Service is a Federal agency that manages public lands in national forests and grasslands, conducts forestry research and provides technical and financial assistance to state and private forestry agencies.

USDA Forest Service Eastern Region - R9, 626 East Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202. Phone (414) 297-3600. Fax (414) 297-3808 www.fs.fed.us/r9/

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• USDA Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Administration

The Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Administration works to maintain fair trade practices in the marketing of livestock.

- Monitors scales
- Assures open, fair competitive marketing conditions

USDA Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Administration 210 Walnut St. 317 Federal Building Des Moines, IA 50309. Phone 515-323-2579 Fax 515-323-2590

www.usda.gov/gipsa

• USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

The National Agricultural Statistics Service provides timely, accurate, and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

Scheduled reports of data are published on:

- Crop production
- Livestock numbers
- Prices received and paid by farmers and ranchers
- Farm chemical usage
- Cost of production
- Farm financial conditions
- Conducts the Census of Agriculture every five years, for years ending in 2 or 7.
- Provides consulting and survey services to other governmental and educational entities.

USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service 210 Walnut St. 833 Federal Building Des Moines, IA 50309-2195. Phone 515-284-4340 Fax 515-284-4342 www.nass.usda.gov/ia • USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership and administers programs that enable people to conserve, improve, and sustain natural resources and the environment. Services include technical and financial assistance, outreach, and education. Assistance is also provided through the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) program. RC&Ds' provide conservation, community development, economic development, and small business assistance.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service 210 Walnut Street, 693 Federal Building, Des Moines, IA 50309. Phone 515-284-4769 Fax 515-284-4394 www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov

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• USDA Risk Management Agency

The Risk Management Agency administers the crop insurance programs that help farmers survive a major crop loss, works to find improved risk management strategies, develops educational curricula and materials, and trains producers in effective use of risk management tools.

#### USDA Risk Management Agency

St. Paul Regional Office, 910 Minnesota World Trade Center, 30 Seventh Street E, St. Paul, MN 55101-4943. Phone 651-290-3304 Fax 651-290-4139 www.rma.usda.gov

The St. Paul Regional Office covers Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

• USDA Rural Development

Rural Development provides loans, loan guarantees and grants for essential public facilities and services such as water and sewer systems, housing (single and multi-family dwellings), health clinics, emergency service equipment and facilities, child care facilities, libraries, assisted living facilities and electric and telephone service. We promote economic development by supporting loans to businesses through banks and community-managed lending pools. Renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements to agricultural producers and rural small businesses can also be financed. We offer technical assistance and information to help agricultural and other cooperatives get started and improve the effectiveness of their member services.

USDA Rural Development 210 Walnut St. 873 Federal Building, Des Moines, IA 50309. Phone 515-284-4663 Fax 515-284-4859 www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia

• Iowa State University

ISU, through the College of Agriculture and Extension Service, discovers and shares science-based knowledge about agriculture and natural resources.

College of Agriculture 138 Curtiss Hall, ISU, Ames, Iowa 50011-1050 Phone: 515-294-2518 Fax: 515-294-6800 Web Site: www.ag.iastate.edu

ISU Extension 2150 Beardshear Hall, ISU, Ames, IA 50011-2046 Phone: 515-294-4576 Fax: 515-294-4715 Web Site: www.extension.iastate.edu/

Agricultural Marketing Resource Center 1111 NSRIC, ISU, Ames, IA 50011-3310 Phone: 515-294-0648 Fax: 515-294-9496 Web Site: www.agmrc.org

Office of Social & Economic Trends Analysis 303 East Hall, ISU, Ames, IA 50010 Phone: 515-294-9903 Fax: 515-294-0592 Web Site: www.seta.iastate.edu/

Iowa Alliance for Cooperative Business Development 1041 Food Sciences Bldg, ISU, Ames, IA 50011 Phone: 515-294-2342 Fax: 515-294-6261 Web Site: www.extension.iastate.edu/coops/

Iowa Concern Hotline (available 24 hours a day 7 days
per week at no charge)
 1-800-447-1985
 www.extension.iastate.edu/iowaconcern/

• North Central Regional Center for Rural Development

The North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (NCRCD) located at Iowa State University, is one of four regional centers coordinating rural development research, education, and outreach throughout the United States. It is supported by land-grant universities of the North Central region, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and grants and contracts from private foundations.

Our mission is to strengthen the ability of the landgrant system and its partners to help build rural community capacity, create vibrant and sustainable economies, and cultivate inclusive approaches to governance to enhance regional well-being. The NCRCRD also provides leadership in rural development regionally and nationally by identifying, developing and supporting programs on the vanguard of emerging issues.

North Central Regional Center for Rural Development 107 Curtiss Hall Ames, Iowa 50011 www.ncrcrd.iastate.edu Phone: 515-294-8321 Fax: 515-294-3180 • Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation

Responsible for state leadership in the protection and management of soil, water, and mineral resources.

Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship-Division of Soil Conservation Wallace State Office Building Des Moines, IA 50319. Phone 515-281-5851 Fax 515-281-6170 www.agriculture.state.ia.us

\*There are local Soil and Water Conservation District offices in each county, co-located in USDA Service Centers.

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• Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division helps to coordinate activities before, during and after emergencies through partnerships with local, state, federal and private agencies.

Before disasters, the Division coordinates planning, training and exercises for public and private responders at the county and state level.

During disasters, the Division coordinates requests from communities for personnel, equipment and technical assistance. It also conducts damage assessments and, when appropriate, requests federal assistance.

After the emergency is stabilized, the Division coordinates state and federal programs to assist recovery for communities and individuals

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management 7105 N.W. 70th Avenue, Camp Dodge, Building W-4, Johnston, IA 50131. Phone 515-725-3231 http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/

#### Other Agencies and Organizations

• National Catholic Rural Life Conference

The National Catholic Rural Life Conference (NCRLC) is an organization grounded in a tradition that brings together the church, care of community, and care of creation. NCRLC provides information and processes to assist rural people with:

a. Community and economic development: NCRLC provides asset based, participatory parish and community resources to enhance local systems; help rural people make connections and develop new local enterprises; and support building local leadership in small places.

b. Health and well being: NCRLC addresses health concerns by supporting systems that prevent illness, optimize access to health care, and increase agricultural safety and welfare.

c. Natural resource conservation/environmental concerns: NCRLC brings together voices of science and religion to address care of creation issues through Catholic and interfaith religious principles.

National Catholic Rural Life Conference 4625 Beaver Avenue Des Moines, IA 50310-2199. Phone 515-270-2634 Fax: 515-270-9447 www.ncrlc.com

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• Easter Seals Iowa

The Easter Seals FaRM Program assists disabled farmers and families across the state of Iowa. The program provides technical assistance, support, and advocacy. The program also assists in finding funding for equipment modifications.

Easter Seals of Iowa P O Box 4002 Des Moines, IA 50333. Phone 515-289-1933 Ext. 214. Fax 515-289-1281

• The American National Red Cross

The Red Cross is an international humanitarian movement whose stated mission is to protect human life and health, to ensure respect for the human being, and to prevent and alleviate human suffering through disaster and health and safety services and other activities. To find you local Red Cross chapter call 800-733-2767 or visit http://www.redcross.org/where/chapts.asp#IA

• Iowa Department of Human Rights

Exists to promote equal access to work, services and opportunities to enhance the well being of diverse populations in Iowa. The Department of Human Rights includes the following divisions: Community Action Agencies, Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning, Deaf Services, Latino Affairs, Persons with Disabilities, Status of African-Americans, and Status of Women.

Describes how and where to apply for the low income energy assistance program. Lists offices individuals would contact for food assistance, excluding Food Stamp Program and WIC.

Iowa Department of Human Rights Lucas State Office Bldg, Des Moines, IA 50319. Phone: 515-281-7300 http://www.state.ia.us/government/dhr/ • Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans

The Commission on the Status of African-Americans exists to address the needs and concerns of Iowa's African-American citizens, serving as an advocate for African-Americans in Iowa. Sponsors the annual African-American Women's Conference, organizes the State Observance of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, hosts a series of public hearings across the state each fall to gather information from African-American citizens that will later be incorporated into a legislative action plan, and publishes a quarterly newsletter and annual status report.

Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans Department of Human Rights, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319. Phone 515-281-7283 or 1-800-351-4659 http://www.state.ia.us/government/dhr/saa

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• Iowa Division of Latino Affairs

Participates in the development of Iowa Immigration Centers. Provides interpreter and translator certification. Hosts public hearings throughout the state each fall to gather information from Latino citizens that will later be incorporated into a legislative plan of action. Publishes a quarterly newsletter and makes an annual status report that keeps Iowans abreast of events in the Latino community. Provides diversity training. Acts as a referral center. Supports Latino events and activities. Advocates for positive changes in policies.

Iowa Division of Latino Affairs Department of Human Rights Lucas State Office Building, 2nd Floor, Des Moines, IA 50319. Phone 515-281-4070 or 1-877-330-3516 Fax 515-242-6119 www.state.ia.us/dhr/la • Iowa Commission on the Status of Women (ICSW)

The Iowa Commission on the Status of Women promotes equality for Iowa women through study and recommendations for legislative and administrative action, public information and education, and development of programs and services. The (ICSW) envisions full participation by women in the economic, political and social life of the state.

Iowa Commission on the Status of Women Department of Human Rights, 321 E. 12<sup>th</sup>, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319. Phone 515/281-4461 or 800/558-4427 Fax 515/242-6119 http://www.state.ia.us/dhr/sw/

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• The Commission on the Status of Iowans of Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage

The Commission on the Status of Iowans of Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage (CAPI) and the Division of the Status of Iowans of Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage (Iowa Department of Human Rights) advises the governor and the general assembly in order to empower Asians and Pacific Islanders, improve their well-being and celebrate a diverse Iowa.

The Commission on the Status of Iowans of Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage

Lucas State Office Building, 2nd floor, 321 E. 12th Street. Des Moines, IA 50319. Phone 515-281-4223 www.iowacapi.org

• Bureau of Refugee Services

Iowa's Bureau of Refugee Services provides for the effective settlement of refugees by offering a home and a future for those who have been persecuted. Assists refugees in becoming self-sufficient as quickly as possible, thereby enabling them to enrich our state through the sharing of their talents, skills, gifts, and culture. Places refugees into jobs that promote economic independence, generate tax dollars and help local economies. Public assistance is used to address an emergency situation or as a short term assistance to independence.

The Bureau of Refugee Services works with the U.S. Department of State to assist refugees from other countries with Resettlement, Employment and Interpreter Services, and Links and Resources.

Bureau of Refugee Services 1200 University Avenue Suite D, Des Moines, IA 50314. Phone 515-283-7999 or 1-800-362-2780 Fax 515-283-9160 http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/refugee/

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• Iowa Department of Economic Development

The mission is to improve the economic well-being of the state of Iowa, by working with businesses and communities to strengthen their foundations for growth.

Iowa Department of Economic Development 200 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA. 50309. Phone (515) 242-4700 Fax (515) 242-4809 http://www.iowalifechanging.com/

• Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services

The mission of the Division is to work for and with individuals with disabilities to achieve their employment, independence, and economic goals. The Division includes the following bureaus: Disability Determination Services, Rehabilitation Services, and Administrative Services.

Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services 510 East 12th Street, Des Moines, I A 50319-0240. Phone 515-281-4211 V/TTY Fax 515-281-7645 http://www.ivrs.iowa.gov/maincontact.html

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• Iowa Domestic Abuse Hotline

1-800-942-0333

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• US Department of Veterans Affairs

The goal is to provide excellence in patient care, veterans' benefits, and customer satisfaction. Staff is dedicated and committed to help veterans get the services they have earned. These include: Burial and Memorial Benefits, Health Benefits and Services, Compensation and Pension Benefits, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Services, Home Loan Guaranty Services, Life Insurance Program, Appeals, and Education Benefits.

US Department of Veterans Affairs 210 Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50309. Phone: (800) 827-1000 Fax: (515)323-7407 http://www.va.gov/

• US Department of Housing and Urban Development

Responsible for ensuring a decent, safe, and sanitary home and suitable living environment for every American. Creates opportunities for home ownership, provides housing assistance for low income persons, works to create and maintain the Nation's affordable housing, and enforces fair housing laws.

US Department of Housing and Urban Development Federal Office Building, Room 239, 210 Walnut Street Des Moines, IA 50309. Phone (515) 284-4512 or (800) 735-2943 Fax (515) 284-4743 TTY: (800) 735-2942 http://www.hud.gov/

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#### General Sources

• State of Iowa Resources

http://www.state.ia.us/

Lists all State Government Agencies Resources A-Z. Or call 515-281-5011 to request a directory.

• Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance

http://www.cfda.gov

Access to database of all Federal programs available to State and local governments, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, Territories of the US, private profit and non-profit organizations and institutions, specialized groups, and individuals.

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