



Special points of interest:

Celebrating 40 Years

Please join us in celebrating 40 years of service to the communities in Eastern Idaho. This issue is a time line of those 40 years and the services that have been offered as we continued to grow. If you are interested in any of the programs or services we offer please call us at 208-522-5391 or 1-800-632-4813.

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EICAP in *ACTION*

Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR....

Russell Spain, CCAP

In 1964, President Lyndon Johnson signed into law the Economic Opportunity Act that led to the creation of Community Action Agencies like Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership. In this our 40th Anniversary year, it is good to know that now there are over 1,000 Community Action Agencies across the country serving every county, "Helping People, Changing Lives."

Times have changed in the 40 years since 1968. In 1968, my wife and I were paying \$60 per month rent on a very nice partially furnished one-bedroom house with a yard. We were paying much less for the necessities of life than we are now, but the minimum wage has not changed proportionately with those increases in the cost of purchasing necessities. Because of that, there is even more need for Community Action.

Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership is a pillar in the nine counties that we serve. We continue to expand the programs that we have had over the years and are adding other services as the needs are identified. We are involved in a number of community partnerships with state, federal and area social service organizations to serve the needs of common clients in the nine counties of eastern Idaho.

As service oriented and as compassionate as the EICAP Staff is, their wish is that the causes of poverty will be eliminated and as a result, they will have worked themselves out of a job during the next 40 years.

In the meantime, the EICAP Staff has provided hope for low income individuals for 40 years, and for that I thank them, and collectively we thank the Board of Directors for their vision.

Do you remember when?

	1968	2008
New House	\$14,975	\$213,900
Annual Tuition to Harvard University	\$2,000	\$32,557
Gallon of Gasoline	\$.34	\$3.56
Average Annual Income	\$7,844	\$48,201
Postage Stamp	\$.06	\$.41

EICAP Housing History

1975

Lost River Senior Housing, Phase I, 16 units

1977

South Fremont Senior Housing, 14 units

1978

Riverside Senior Housing 42 units

1979

Lost River Senior Housing, Phase II, 12 units

1981

Teton View Senior Housing, 36 units

1994

Aspen Park Apartments 76 units

1996

Twin Pines Manor 56 units

2003

Camas Street Apartments 68 units

Housing and Property Management

Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership's Housing Department began in 1975 with the construction of Lost River Senior Housing Phase I. This sixteen unit, senior housing property in Arco was the beginning of EICAP's efforts to provide safe, secure, affordable housing to low- and very low-income residents in our service area.

EICAP now owns and manages eight properties with a total of 316 units.



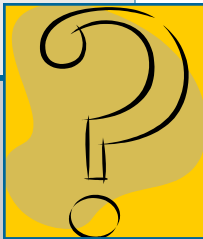
Three of the properties are family housing and the other five are senior housing. Senior Housing is designated for families or individuals whose head of household is 62 or over or disabled.



Over the years many changes have occurred in the Housing and Property Management Department. It has been, and will continue to be, our challenge to keep up with those changes and continue to offer attractive, affordable and suitable housing in an ever changing environment.

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program

The US Congress created the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) in 1972 following an outpouring of volunteerism in the 1960's. The Eastern Idaho RSVP opened its doors in 1973. Since then RSVP has helped hundreds of people over the age of 55 find productive and fun places to provide their selfless service. EICAP has provided loyal, steadfast sponsorship and support for RSVP since the beginning. John Parsons is the RSVP Director and Debby Dyslin is the RSVP Program Assistant. Jim Dennis serves as the VISTA volunteer for intergenerational mentoring. In 2007, about 300 Eastern Idaho RSVP active volunteers logged almost 49,000 service hours in scores of locations throughout the 21,000 square mile service area in nine counties. RSVP Staff works individually with people who are interested in volunteering their time and skills to help them find enjoyable, rewarding and satisfying places to serve. RSVP volunteers can receive up to \$21 in monthly gas reimbursement. Volunteers also receive supplement secondary liability and accident insurance. RSVP volunteers serve in libraries, museums, hospitals, schools, offices, food banks, thrift stores, senior centers and many other volunteer organizations and agencies. A citizen Advisory Council provides guidance and support for the RSVP. For more information about the Eastern Idaho RSVP, call 208-522-5391 or visit the website at <http://www.eicap.org/rsvp>.



Did you know?

EICAP RSVP Volunteers Reported almost 49,000 service hours in 2007

Mutual Self-Help Housing

In rural America, many still wait for the opportunity to own a home. Mutual Self-Help Housing has provided that opportunity for more than 25,000 rural low-income and very low-income people. Putting a roof over the heads of those who need shelter, building financial equity for individuals and families, and creating homes and communities that are bound together by their common effort is what this program is all about.



Mutual Self-Help Housing is a homeownership construction program that gives people without resources for a down payment an opportunity to become a homeowner. *(continued on page 7)*

Weatherization

The Weatherization Program is in its fourth decade of providing services to low-income people. Weatherization helps low-income families conserve energy, save money, and improve their living conditions. Weatherization measures even save lives.

1976—The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) was created in 1976 to assist low-income families who lacked resources to invest in energy efficiency.

1985—This year the state of Idaho developed a computerized audit which will enable us, for the first time to see actual figures of fuel savings our Weatherization measures are accomplishing. Auditors presently are required to do a total heat loss calculation on each structure.

1989 The Housing Preservation Grant funded by USDA Rural Development allowed the Weatherization program to make improvements to homes belonging to low-income people in rural areas we serve. The Rental Rehabilitation program was also added to allow upgrades to the rental housing available in Idaho Falls. This program assisted landlords in financing repairs to their rental property so that the rental unit would become eligible for Section 8 Rental Subsidy program.

1990— EICAP’s Weatherization Program was recognized as the “Best Program in the State.” This award signified that the program was a model for others in the state and region. The award was made by the State Economic Opportunity Office.

1996— Utility companies started to help fund the Weatherization program. The utility companies include Bonneville Power Administration, Rocky Mountain Power, and Idaho Power Company.

2000— The Mobile Home Safety Program funded by Idaho Community Investment Corporation and Idaho Housing and Finance allowed the Weatherization program to make improvements on mobile homes that were built prior to 1976.

2006—The Community Development Program funded by the City of Idaho Falls allowed the Weatherization program to make improvements to homes within the City of Idaho Falls city limits.



Location of Completed Self-Help Housing Homes

Housing Homes

- 21 homes in Rigby
- 9 homes in Sugar City
- 14 homes in Rexburg
- 8 homes in Roberts
- 24 in Shelley
- 6 in Teton City
- 20 in Bonneville County
- 14 in Blackfoot
- 8 in Jefferson County

Under Construction

- 8 in Blackfoot
- 10 in Jefferson County



Did you know?

In 2007, EICAP Weatherization worked on and completed 223 homes with an average cost \$2,002 per home. This amounts to 520 individuals who received assistance.

EICAP HEAD START

2000

New funding from State of Idaho provides services for 17 additional children.

2001

Expansion in Salmon provides services to 17 more children a year.

2002

Federal expansion funds were granted to serve additional children in Idaho Falls. 224 children served through all funding sources.

2004

Able to serve more children in Madison County. Began process of building a new center in Rexburg.

Lease of building in Blackfoot to be used as a Head Start Center.

2005

Served 24 additional children bringing total enrollment to 248 children.

2006

Begin purchase of Blackfoot building and construction of Rexburg building.

2007

New playground equipment in our Blackfoot, Driggs, Rexburg, and Idaho Falls East centers. Kitchen remodels in the Blackfoot and Idaho Falls East centers.

2008

Because of nearly flawless federal review, State funding is safe for another year.

Head Start

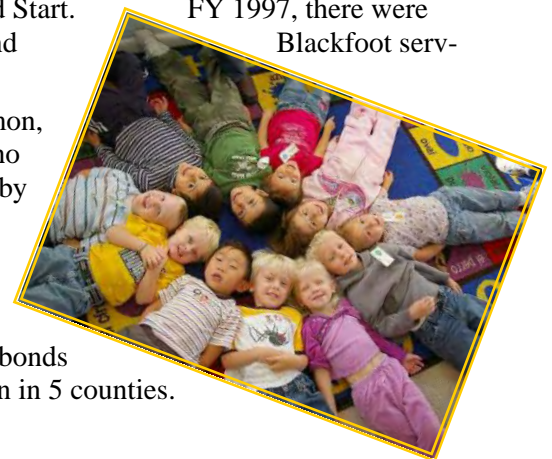
Head Start is a nation-wide program for pre-school children from families with low-income. Children who attend Head Start participate in a variety of educational activities with other children both indoors and outdoors. Head Start offers children activities to help them grow mentally, socially, emotionally and physically. In addition, children are offered two meals a day in their Head Start classroom. Parents are encouraged to take their Head Start child to their doctor and dentist to make sure that they are up-to-date on age appropriate examinations. Parents have the opportunity to volunteer in the program, participate in home visits with teachers and advocates and provide input about the Head Start program through parent committees and Policy Council. These opportunities build leadership skills in those parents who participate.

Staff members are highly qualified and continue to improve their skills as they take advantage of educational and training opportunities. Each staff member is encouraged to participate in a professional development plan and to build and share their own professional goals.

Head Start became a member of the EICAP family in the fall of 1996 for FY 1997 when we were awarded the Head Start grant from the Administration for Children and Families which the Human Services Center had decided to give up. At that time we were known as Eastern Idaho Head Start.

Head Start centers in Idaho Falls, Driggs and

We have centers in Blackfoot, Driggs, Salmon, and Rexburg with 2 separate centers in Idaho Falls. Sixty different people are employed by Head Start, nearly one third are current or former Head Start parents. We continually work to improve services and increase the number of children participating as we work to empower our families to break the bonds of poverty. We currently serve 241 children in 5 counties.



Area VI Agency on Aging

The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) came to Eastern Idaho Special Services Agency, now known as Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership, in 1968. Starting with a \$25,000 grant to provide meals to seniors out of the basement of a church in Idaho Falls. This was the first program of many that would directly impact the lives of the people in the Idaho Falls and surrounding counties of Eastern Idaho. Since that time EICAP has helped 16 senior centers in our nine county service area provide congregate and home delivered meals to thousands of seniors. We started with Transportation



services partnering with CART as the provider. The RSVP program came on board in 1968 as well. Home-maker services were added in 1981. These services allowed senior's help within the home that they needed to remain independent.

The AAA also included legal assistance for seniors at the same time as homemaker services. The Ombudsman Program was included in the AAA in 1982. This program assisted seniors in assisted living and skilled nursing centers. Employment services for seniors was added in 1983. An Outreach Program was begun in 1989. There was a



caregivers. In 1995 the Adult Protection program came on board to investigate adults over the age of 18 who may be neglected, abused, vulnerable, or being exploited. Case Management (CM) services began in 1998 at the AAA.

CM coordinates in home services while ensuring safety and physical needs are met. VISTA volunteers have been a part of the AAA since 1998 also. We began with a Prescription Assistance Program, which was taken over by another agency. EICAP currently has VISTA volunteers coordinating the America Reads Program, the Assistant Ombudsman and Intergenerational Mentoring programs.

In 2002 there was a need for services to grandparents who were now in the position to raise their own grandchildren. This is the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program. It is designed for persons who are 60+ who instead of retiring, are back to raising grandchildren in their home. There are services and a support group specifically for this population.

The Area VI Agency on Aging (AAA) serves the seniors of Eastern Idaho. The AAA provides a wide variety of services to meet the needs of seniors and their families to maintain their right to remain independent within their communities.



need to have information and services that the AAA was able to deliver in the community.

The Information and Assistance Program was started in 1993. The mission of this office is to assist and inform the elderly and the caregivers in this area about all of the resources available to them. Respite care was part of the AAA in 1993 as well. This offered the care giver in the home the gift of time. The care giver could take the needed time away from the home to complete necessary tasks that can't be completed while in the home. In 1994 the Caregiver Support Group was started. This is a networking opportunity for caregivers in the community. This group allows for information gathering and networking among other



- EICAP Area VI Agency on Aging**
- 1968**
Congregate & Home Delivered Meals
Transportation
RSVP Program
- 1981**
Homemaker Services
- 1982**
Ombudsman Program
- 1983**
Employment Services
- 1989**
Outreach Program
- 1993**
Information & Assistance Program
Respite Care
- 1994**
Caregiver Support Group
- 1995**
Adult Protection
- 1998**
Care Management Services
VISTA volunteers
- 2002**
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group

EICAP's Mission

Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership is an agency helping to empower all people in our communities to achieve maximum self-sufficiency and independence.

Community Services

The EICAP Community Services Division helps families with limited resources in a number of different ways. From heating assistance to help with dental and medical to housing assistance; the Community Services staff have been dedicated for almost 30 years of helping families learn to help themselves.

1979 – Community Services was originally titled Special Projects division. In 1979 there were four major programs operated: Energy Crisis Assistance Program now Energy Assistance, Community Food and Nutrition Program, Summer Youth Recreation program and VISTA programs.

1980 – Received its designation nationally as a Community Action Agency.

1989—Became the Upper Valley Food Bank Clearinghouse. None of the food banks or soup kitchens in the area had the capacity to store all of the food they would need for families over a year's time. EICAP was the recipient of the USDA commodities and was able to provide storage and delivery services to those food banks. We currently provide food either weekly or monthly to 13 different food banks and soup kitchens in our nine county service area.

1990 – Community Services Division was established. Under that program operated, Energy Assistance, Family Development, FEMA and Gleaning and USDA Commodities.

1992 – The Salmon Outreach office is opened. It was difficult to provide services to people in need over 150 miles from the main office. The need that existed for a satellite office to serve the Lemhi-Custer County areas was obvious. Most of the program available at the main office in Idaho Falls were also available on a local level within the first

year. The Salmon offices were relocated to a new beautiful building in 2002. The space is occupied by Head Start, Aging and Community Services. EICAP has become a great addition to the Lemhi-Custer county communities.

1993 – The Haven Temporary Shelter opened on April 1, 1993, while still undergoing remodeling. Made possible by a generous zero interest loan by the J. Robb Brady family, the Haven has become a welcome resource for people without that most basic of necessities – a roof over their heads.

2002 – The Homeless to Homeowners Program, funded through Idaho Housing has allowed families that successfully exit the Haven Shelter program to transition into a home leased by EICAP for up to two additional years. This program has been especially successful in helping women that want to attend college.

Over the years, local utility companies have approached EICAP about assistance for their customers with limited resources. EICAP and some of those utility companies have established funds that allow us to help those households in need. Most of the funds come from the utility's customers. Those utilities include: Rocky Mountain Power, Idaho

Falls Power, Intermountain Gas and Salmon River Electric Coop.



The Salmon offices were relocated to a new beautiful building in 2002. The space is occupied by Head Start, Aging and Community Services. EICAP has become a great addition to the Lemhi-Custer County communities.



A complete list of Haven needs can be found on our website.

Household Items

Clothes - All sizes and types for infants, children, women and men of all ages

Children's, infants and toddlers needs

Household Cleaning & Maintenance

*Household Supplies
Furniture*



Volunteer Extravaganza!

Date: May 14, 2008
Time: 9—11 am and 1—3 pm
Place: Madison County Senior Center
36 S. 2nd W, Rexburg

A wide variety of non-profit organizations will be available to talk to you about where YOU might like to share YOUR talents through volunteer work.

The following will have representatives available for you to talk with:

- Intergenerational Mentoring
- Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)
- Ombudsman Program
- Head Start Program
- Community Literacy Program
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
- Hospice and Care-giving Organizations
- Foster Grandparents Program

This VOLUNTEER EXTRAVAGANZA is open to everyone.

*Join us and become a volunteer,
make a difference in someone's life.*



Volunteer!

Experience a healthier, happier you. When you make a difference in someone's life it will make a difference in yours.

Mutual Self-Help Housing (con't)

EICAP became a grantee for USDA Rural Development's Mutual Self-Help Housing Program in 1998. EICAP's Self-Help Housing has helped homeowners complete a total of 140 homes with an additional 24 under construction. Homes have been constructed in Bonneville, Jefferson, Madison, Bingham, and Fremont Counties. When homes are complete participants receive a mortgage through USDA Rural Development's direct loan program.

For more information on either multi-family housing or Mutual Self-Help Housing visit our web site at www.eicap.org or call 208-522-5391 and ask for the Housing Department.



**Eastern Idaho Community
Action Partnership**

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We're on the Web!
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EICAP

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EICAP does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, ability to speak English, disability, sex, age, or marital status in admission, treatment, or participation in its programs, services and activities, or employment. Note: Specific programs may have designated guidelines. For further information about this policy, Contact: Executive Director, EICAP (208)522-5391 or 1-800-632-4813.

If you'd like to receive our newsletter electronically, please e-mail:

sbailey@eicap.org

And we will add you to our e-mail list.

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