**Community Action** 

Founded in 1966, Blue Valley Community Action Partnership (BVCA) operates over 30 programs that are dedicated to improving the lives of low-income families and individuals. Our programs are as diverse as the communities and families we serve. Our service area includes Butler, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Polk, Saline, Seward, Thayer and York Counties in Nebraska.

BVCA's Mission We overcome poverty by meeting basic needs, helping people grow, and collaborating in our communities.

**The Promise of Community Action** Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.



# **Friends of Blue Valley**

Become a "Friend of Blue Valley" by donating your time, talent or treasure! YOU can make a DIFFFRENCE!!

Become a "Friend of Blue Valley" by becoming a volunteer!

Friends of Blue Valley offers a variety of volunteer opportunities within BVCA Partnership's offices.

#### Why Volunteer?

- ...give back to the community
- ...make a difference in someone's life
- ...develop new friendships
- ...develop job skills
- ...stay active and involved
- ...build your resume
- ...earn academic credit ...network with professionals
- ...explore possible career options
- ...gain leadership skills
- ...impact change
- ...satisfaction from accomplishment
- ...complete required community service
- ...discover & utilize personal skills and talents
- ...we can't do it alone

**Become a "Friend of Blue Valley" by making a donation!**BVCA Partnership touches the lives of thousands of people each year. Your monetary support will enable us to make an even bigger difference in our communities in the coming year. As a private 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, BVCA relies on the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations, churches, community and government partners to achieve our mission. Your tax-deductible donation can be made via our website or by mailing it to BVCA Partnership, P.O. Box 273, Fairbury NE 68352.

#### More Information

For more information about "Friends of Blue Valley" please visit our website at www.bvca.net; call (402) 729-2278 or your local BVCA Center: or email volunteer@bvca.net.

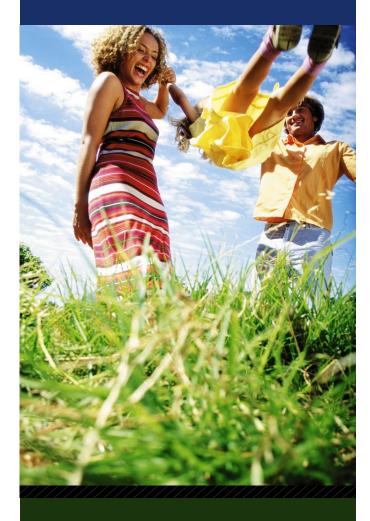


# **Blue Valley** Community Action

#### Please contact our local offices for assistance.

BVCA Partnership Administrative Office
CSFP (Commodity Supplemental Food Program)       .1 (402) 587-0529         Rental Housing (Toll Free Number)       .1 (888) 688-7921         WIC (Women, Infants & Children)       .1 (402) 587-0706         Immunizations       .1 (402) 826-2141         Immunizations/Español       .1 (402) 641-1799
Butler County: BVCA Partnership Center
Fillmore County:         BVCA Partnership Center
Gage County:         BVCA Partnership Center       1 (402) 223-6034         Foster Grandparents Program       1 (402) 223-6036         Head Start, Beatrice       1 (402) 223-6035         Head Start, Wymore       1 (402) 645-3441         Early Head Start       1 (402) 223-6035
Jefferson County:           BVCA Partnership Center
Polk County: BVCA Partnership Center
Saline County:           BVCA Partnership Center
Seward County:           BVCA Partnership Center
Thayer County:         BVCA Partnership Center
York County:           BVCA Partnership Center
"BVCA is an Equal Opportunity Program" Revised 9/9/25

# Blue Valley Community Action Partnership



# **Helping People • Changing Lives**



Providing opportunities to individuals and families in Southeastern Nebraska to improve and sustain their economic security.

## **BVCA's Programs and Services**



## **Helping People • Changing Lives**

AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Program: Provides opportunities for low-income persons, 55 years and older, to give supportive person-to-person service to help alleviate the physical, mental, or emotional problems of children having exceptional or special needs. Available: Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee. Richardson. Saline. Seward. Thaver and York Counties

Blue River Early Learning Academy: High quality, early childhood education and care program for children six weeks through twelve years of age. Provides developmentally age appropriate educational activities in all care settings and nutritionally approved meals to all children in a licensed facility. Available: Saline County

<u>Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)</u>: Government purchased food commodities are distributed to income eligible individuals age 60 and older to foster good health and nutrition. Available: All BVCA Counties

<u>Compassionate Projects</u>: Volunteers, community groups and local businesses donate time, materials, food, toys, skills and love which are used in a variety of seasonal holiday projects, especially at Christmas, benefiting low-income individuals and families. Available: All BVCA Counties

Early Head Start Home Based: A home-based program that provides pregnant women and children, birth to three, with family centered services and activities. Available: Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Saline, Thaver and York Counties

Early Head Start Center Based: A federally funded, free childcare program providing comprehensive services to income-eligible pregnant women, infants, and toddlers up to age three. The program offers intensive education, child development activities, and family support to prepare young children for school and promote family self-sufficiency through resources like health screenings and parenting education. Available: Jefferson and Saline Counties

**Emergency Assistance:** Individuals and families are assisted with rent, utilities, and various other small emergencies on a very minimal scale, depending on resources available at local level. Available: All BVCA Counties

Emergency Solutions Program: Assists individuals and families who are literally homeless or imminently at risk of homelessness by providing housing relocation and stabilization services to help quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis. Available: All BVCA Counties

Focused Youth on Rehousing, Empowerment & Stability (FYRES): Works with youth who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Works together with youth to identify and obtain housing, work on retaining that housing, connect to supports and resources, and to address the issues which led them to the homeless situation. Available: All BVCA Counties

<u>Food Security Programs</u>: Individuals and families who are facing a shortage of food are assisted through the generosity of donations by individuals, communities, organizations and businesses. There are various options for securing food. Available: All BVCA Counties

<u>Head Start Preschool</u>: A nationally renowned child development program for preschool children ages 3 to 5, which stresses parent involvement, education, social services, and health. Available: Fillmore, Gage. Jefferson. Saline. Seward. Thaver and York Counties

Housing Development: Construction of affordable rental housing units and/or lease-to-own units. Available: All BVCA Counties

Housing Counseling: Provides workshops, homebuyer education and one-on-one counseling to help customers correct issues that prevent affordable mortgage financing, stable rental housing and foreclosure. BVCA's counselor will also provide assistance in debt-load management with the preparation of a monthly and manageable budget plan. Individuals enrolled in the program will agree to make a 6-24 month commitment to get them "mortgage ready". Available: All BVCA Counties

<u>Housing Rentals</u>: Affordable rental housing and lease-to-own properties are available to income eligible families. Available: Butler, Fillmore, Gage, Jefferson, Polk, Saline, Thayer and York

<u>Infant/Toddler Quality Early Childhood Initiative Program</u>: Provides professional development and support to home-based, center-based, and child care staff to improve quality care. Available: Gage, Jefferson and Saline Counties

<u>Information</u> <u>and</u> <u>Referral</u> <u>Services</u>: Local staff provide needed information regarding services, make appropriate referrals to community organizations, agencies and other resources, and complete follow-up services. Available: All BVCA Counties

Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation: Low income and moderate income homeowners are offered low-interest loans &/or forgivable loans to rehabilitate homes to meet health and safety needs, limited by type or extent of work needed. Available: All BVCA Counties

One-Time Needs Revolving Loan Program: Offers a low-interest, revolving loan for households that need financial assistance for unexpected large expenses such as emergency home repair, vehicle repairs, and/or employment-related expenses. Typical financial assistance is under \$2,000. Applicants receiving revolving loan assistance will be required to participate in financial literacy courses in addition to repayment of the loan within an agreed designated timeframe.



<u>Project FIRST (Families in Residence with Support in Transition)</u>: Homeless families with children engage in family development process to achieve economic and housing stability through placement in scattered site housing in the community of their choice. Available: All BVCA Counties

<u>Rural Transportation</u>: County-wide transportation services within and out of the county are available for a small fee for general public. Available: Fillmore County

Scholarship Opportunities: As part of a competitive application process, scholarships are available to income-eligible individuals planning to attend college. Scholarships can be used for tuition, books and fees associated with enrollment. Available: All BVCA Counties

SNAP Outreach: BVCA staff can assist applicants with the online Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) application. Available: All BVCA Counties

<u>Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)</u>: The goal of SSVF is to promote housing stability among very low-income Veteran families who reside in or are transitioning to permanent housing. Through provision of outreach and case management, assistance is given to obtain VA benefits and other public benefits. Available: All BVCA Counties as well as Cass, Otoe, Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee. Richardson. Douglas. Sarpy in NE: and Pottawattamie. IA

Telehealth: Individuals can utilize BVCA Partnership's equipment and internet services to access their virtual medical and mental health appointments. If needed, BVCA's friendly staff can help set them up and get them connected, while still providing privacy for their appointments. Available: All BVCA Counties

<u>Thrift Stores</u>: Community donations of clothing and household items are recycled and made available for a small handling fee. Used furniture is available in York. Available: Butler, Fillmore, Polk, Seward, Thayer and York Counties

<u>Vaccines for Children & Private Vaccines (VFC)</u>: Vaccines are provided free by the Nebraska DHHS through BVCA's Immunization Program to uninsured infants 2 months or older, and children. Insured or private pay vaccine is also available. Available: Fillmore, Jefferson, Saline and Seward Counties

<u>Weatherization</u>: Provides no cost weatherization of homes to income eligible families. This may include: weather-stripping; patching damaged areas of homes: heating and cooling systems tuned and cleaned or replacement; insulation of attics, walls and foundations; and windows and doors repaired or replaced. Available: All BVCA Counties

Women, Infants & Children (WIC): A health and nutrition program for at-risk breastfeeding, pregnant and postpartum women, infants and children to age 5. After medical and nutritional screening, eWIC cards are given to certified individuals for food from local stores. Available: Butler, Fillmore, Polk, Saline, Seward and York Counties

<u>WIC Peer Counseling Program</u>: Provides education and support for pregnant and post-partum women to ensure a successful breast-feeding experience. Available: Butler, Fillmore, Polk, Saline, Seward, and York Counties