

PROGRAMS IN CASS COUNTY 2022

AEOA does not operate Employment and Training, Head Start, Housing, Senior, or Transit programming in Cass County at this time.



PROGRAMS IN CHISAGO COUNTY 2022

AEOA does not operate Employment and Training, Head Start, Housing, or Senior programming in Chisago County at this time.

TRANSIT

Dial-a-Ride - (800) 862-0175 Scheduled Services - Visit www.arrowheadtransit.com or dial 800-862-0175 Volunteer Driver Program - Scott Olson at (218) 735-6886 or Kristin Deutsch at (218) 735-6873

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

TRANSIT

Dial-a-Ride

Arrowhead Transit's Dial-a-Ride is an on-demand system that provides transportation to individuals in our service areas. Passengers only need to call our dispatch at 800-862-0175 and select the number for their county or city. All transit buses are ADA accessible, and drivers are trained to assist passengers on and off the buses.

Scheduled Services

Arrowhead Transit has scheduled stops and provides a Dial-A-Ride Service in many areas.

Volunteer Driver Program

The Volunteer Driver Program assists individuals on Medical Assistance to get to and from medical appointments. Arrowhead Transit has contracts with four major insurance companies and with various counties in the area. The Volunteer Program encourages the individual to contact their insurance provider to see if they qualify for the program. The Volunteer Driver Program operates in ten counties including Aitkin, Carlton, Chisago, Cook, Isanti, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Pine, and St. Louis, and can perform medical rides in other counties in Greater Minnesota as requested by the insurance companies.



PROGRAMS IN CROW WING COUNTY 2022

AEOA does not operate Employment and Training, Head Start, Senior and Nutrition, or Transit programming in Crow Wing County at this time.

HOUSING SERVICES

Business Energy Retrofit Program (BER) - Office at (218) 735-6828 Downtown Building Rehab (DBR) – Office at (218) 735-6828

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

HOUSING SERVICES

Business Energy Retrofit Program (BER)

The Business Energy Retrofit (BER) Program is designed to educate and help assist businesses within the Taconite Assistance Area with energy-efficient decisions and aid in financing the energy retrofit project. The BER program will support and provide the business up to \$20,000 in eligible retrofit expenses or one-third of the total project up to \$60,000. Applicants are required to obtain bids from local contractors and submit with AEOA's application.

Downtown Building Rehab (DBR)

The Downtown Building Rehabilitation (DBR) Program is designed to help aid in financing code compliant construction and remodeling projects on main streets in downtowns. The DBR Program will support and provide 1/3 project cost up to \$50,000 in eligible expenses. Up to 10% of awarded grant funding may be utilized for professional services such as an architect or engineer. Applicants are required to obtain prevailing wage compliant bids from local contractors and submit with AEOA's application.



PROGRAMS IN ISANTI COUNTY 2022

AEOA does not operate Employment and Training, Head Start, Housing, or Senior and Nutrition programming in Isanti County at this time.

TRANSIT

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

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PROGRAMS IN PINE COUNTY 2022

AEOA does not operate Employment and Training, Head Start, Housing, or Senior and Nutrition programming in Pine County.

TRANSIT

Dial-a-Ride - (800) 862-0175 Scheduled Services - Visit www.arrowheadtransit.com or call (800) 862-0175 Volunteer Driver Program - Scott Olson at (218) 735-6886 or Kristin Deutsch at (218) 735-6873

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

TRANSIT

Dial-a-Ride

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Cass, Chisago, Crow Wing, Isanti, and Pine County Services

Mission:

AEOA's mission is to strengthen communities by providing opportunities for people experiencing social and economic challenges. AEOA provides services to community members through five major departments including Employment and Training, Head Start, Housing, Senior and Nutrition Services, and Arrowhead Transit. Not all departments operate programs in every county within AEOA's service area.

Key staff and board members:

Executive Director: Scott Zahorik

Department Directors: Jan Francisco (Employment & Training); Emily Celley (Fiscal

Services); Skip Ferris (Head Start); Cathy Pazzelli (Human Resources and Assistant Executive Director); Dave Johnson (Housing Services); Ryan O'Connell (Information Systems); Emily Bombich (Planning); Marilyn Ocepek (Senior and Nutrition Services); Jack Larson (Arrowhead Transit).

<u>AEOA Board</u>: The Agency is governed by a 27-member tripartite board, representing low-income individuals, public officials, and private sector parties. Currently, there are no representatives of Cass, Chisago Crow Wing, Isanti, or Pine County on the Board.

<u>Board Officers</u>: Jeff Kletscher (Chair), Kevin Adee (Vice-Chair); Laura Perry (Second Vice-Chair); Dana Waldron (Secretary); Tom Cvar (Treasurer)

Number of staff members: Thirty-seven (37) employees work in Cass, Chisago, Crow Wing, Isanti, and Pine Counties

Contact information: 204 Eagle Drive, Sandstone, MN 55072 800-862-0175 option 3; <u>www.aeoa.org</u>

In Cass, Chisago, Crow Wing, Isanti, and Pine County, AEOA served...

- The Business Energy Retrofit program assisted 2 Crow Wing County community business owners in achieving energy-related updates.
- The Downtown Building Rehabilitation program assisted 2 community business owners in achieving code & accessibility-related improvements.
- Arrowhead Transit provided 55,910 rides to Pine County passengers, totaling 399,684 miles.
- Arrowhead Transit provided 14,700 rides to Chisago County passengers, totaling 210,618 miles from March 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021, as Transit did not take over Chisago until March 2021.
- The Volunteer Driver Program had 1 volunteer and provided 492 rides in Chisago County.
- Arrowhead Transit provided 33,277 rides to Isanti County passengers, totaling 294,586 miles from March 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021, as Transit did not take over Chisago until March 2021.
- The Volunteer Driver Program had 0 volunteers and provided 930 rides in Isanti County.
- The Volunteer Driver Program had 9 volunteers and provided 3,054 rides in Pine County. The program also served other counties in Greater Minnesota and had 14 volunteers that provided 4,964 rides in those counties.

AEOA is committed to continuing our strong partnerships within Cass, Chisago, Crow Wing, Isanti, and Pine County. We are proud of the work we do to help struggling households meet their basic needs met; to help people find work and have the transportation to get there. We currently have thirty-seven (37) people working in Cass, Chisago, Crow Wing, Isanti, and Pine Counties who contribute to the local economy and are very dedicated to the services they provide.