

# Outline of ICAA 2018 Legislative Agenda

## Family Development and Self Sufficiency (FaDSS)

- Support a 10% provider rate increase (\$620,000). The last increase was approximately 2% (\$150,000) in FY2015.



### Taxes

- Protect the Earned Income Tax Credit from any reductions.

### Child Care

- Increase the income eligibility level for families to receive child care assistance to 175% of the federal poverty level.
- Create a tiered reduction in child care assistance allowing for a gradual phase-out of benefits.
- Increase the child care provider reimbursement rates.
- Maintain Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) funding.



### Infrastructure

- Appropriate \$1.8 M from RIF to be used for technology and infrastructure improvements for local Community Action Agencies.



### Funding for Programs Serving Children



- Maintain level funding for Early Childhood Iowa, State Funded Early Head Start, Wrap-Around Funds and Shared Visions. Most Community Action Agencies access a variety of funding sources to provide a safe and effective learning environment for young children currently living in poverty. Blending and braiding these four funding sources with federal Head Start and Early Head Start funding enables parents to work and/or attend school while their children are preparing to become lifelong learners.

### Energy Issues

- Regarding energy policy changes, protect the needs of individuals and families with a low income, preserving utility company investments that support the federally funded Weatherization Assistance Program.



- **Continue solar energy growth and invest in a low income community solar project.** One way for lowans with a low income to benefit from solar power is through Community Solar projects (sometimes called Solar Gardens). These are solar power plants (a large number of solar panels) that are shared by more than one household. So if you don't own your own home, have too much shade, or can't afford the installation of your own solar panels, a community solar project may offer another way for you receive the benefit of reduced energy costs.

### Health

- Address the issues that individuals and families with a low income are facing due to the functions of the Managed Care Organizations.

