



About the Multicultural Family Center

Location and Contact Information:

1340 White Street
Dubuque, Iowa 52001

Phone: (563) 582-3681
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Hours of Operation:

Tuesday to Friday: 1:00 PM-8:00 PM
Saturday: 11:00 AM-4:00 PM

Mission of the Multicultural Family Center:

The Multicultural Family Center empowers all families and community members of Dubuque to reach their potential and build unity out of diversity.

Vision of the Multicultural Family Center:

The Multicultural Family Center envisions a welcoming Dubuque built on a foundation of understanding and collaboration across racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups committed to producing engaged families and community members.

The Center serves as an inviting and safe place for community members, stimulates connections, and provides programs to foster civic engagement and social and economic success.

The Multicultural Family Center builds unity out of diversity

Why the Multicultural Family Center?

Members of the Dubuque community are productive and engaged when they feel valued and their lives are stable. The MFC endeavors to create the necessary conditions for success by fostering an inclusive environment of trust and relationship building, where the need for intercultural skills and mutual adaptation is openly acknowledged. The Center strives to serve families holistically, uniting

community networks in a central location, helping the community offer services in culturally responsive ways, and empowering families to make informed choices.

How the Multicultural Family Center Started:

In 2004, the Dubuque County Extension secured an AmeriCorps*VISTA (volunteer in service to America) position to provide capacity building in the area of diversity. The outreach efforts of VISTA member Tara Nelson led to the creation of over one hundred and seventy personal contacts. Activities completed by Nelson included door knocking in the Washington Neighborhood, an African American needs assessment, and Dialogue Circles funded by the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque. The results of these activities led to the creation of a core planning group of the target population interested in creating a multicultural center. This group, with access to the expertise of neighborhood leaders, active community non-profits, and Extension resources, developed a proposal for the establishment of the Multicultural Family Center. The proposed Multicultural Family Center was to provide educational services, non-profit services and outreach, community building, and personal and economic development. The Multicultural Family Center officially opened its doors on July 9, 2005.