



# NEWS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

## **Seasons Receives Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Grant**

**Spencer, Iowa** – Seasons Center for Behavioral Health was awarded four million dollars in federal grant funding over two years to become a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic. A Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) is designed to provide comprehensive services to adults and children, including mental health and substance use disorder services. Seasons was one of two agencies awarded this grant in the state of Iowa.

“We are so excited to be the recipients of this funding,” said Kim Scorza, CEO/President of Seasons Center. “There were only 52 agencies across the country to be awarded these highly competitive funds so we feel very privileged and fortunate. We can’t wait to get started caring for our patients and clients in this new way.”

The purpose of this grant is to improve the quality of community behavioral health services through a comprehensive approach by creating access, stabilizing people in crisis, and providing the necessary treatment for those with the most serious, complex mental illnesses and substance use disorders. This system of care emphasizes recovery, wellness, trauma-informed care, and physical-behavioral health integration.

This funding covers 9 rural northwest Iowa counties, including: Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Lyon, O’Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, and Sioux.

“We feel fortunate about this opportunity to expand services and enhance the quality of care that we are able to provide for our clients and communities,” said Christina Eggink-Postma, VP of Coordination & Compliance at Seasons. “CCBHC has the potential to radically change and improve our ability to provide comprehensive, integrated care where people live, work, and play.”

As a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic, Seasons is in the process of hiring additional staff to fulfill grant requirements. New and current staff involved with CCBHC will receive additional training and resources to ensure care is trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and evidence based.

"I would like to encourage anyone who enjoys caring for others and who has a passion for working on a team to apply for these newly open positions," added Scorza. "Currently, we are in the process of hiring 20 new employees to deliver services throughout our nine county area. While that might seem daunting in some respects, we are thrilled to be able to tackle this challenge to ensure people with mental health or substance abuse concerns in our communities get the best behavioral health services in the region."

For more information on this project and Seasons' services, please visit our website at: [www.seasonscenter.org](http://www.seasonscenter.org) and Facebook page [www.facebook.com/SeasonsCenterForBehavioral.Health](https://www.facebook.com/SeasonsCenterForBehavioral.Health)

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Founded in 1959, Seasons Center for Behavioral Health continues to be a leading, comprehensive behavioral health center in the northwest region of Iowa. Offering a broad range of behavioral health Services, Seasons recognizes that investing in behavioral health is investing in a community's economic, education, health and human services systems. Seasons strives to empower individuals so they might become active, contributing members of their communities. For more information on Seasons' services, please visit [www.seasonscenter.org](http://www.seasonscenter.org) or call 1-800-242-5101.

Avera is a regional partnership of health professionals who share support services to provide excellent care at 300 locations in 100 communities in eastern South Dakota and surrounding states. Our ministry, our people and our superior values distinguish Avera. We carry on the health care legacy of the Benedictine and Presentation Sisters, delivering care in an environment guided by our values of compassion hospitality and stewardship. Avera employs more than 13,500. Inpatient, outpatient and clinic visits totaled nearly 2.5 million in the last year, a number equal to more than twice the population of the Avera service area. For more information please visit [www.avera.org](http://www.avera.org).