Community Advocacy and Services Division, Department of Human Rights

Overview

The Division of Community Advocacy and Services (CAS) is a Division within the Department of Human Rights (DHR). The CAS promotes diversity and links underserved and underrepresented persons with government support and/or services. For example, the CAS staff offer individualized services that help non-English-speaking persons access interpreting services so they can receive health care, educate private sector employers about the value of hiring persons with disabilities, and promote laws and policies to eliminate discrimination and create equity. The Division also offers youth programming promoting gender equality and leadership skills.

The CAS oversees eight offices that work together to study issues affecting groups that have a history of being marginalized. Each office administers programs and advocates for policies that support greater success for its service populations. In addition, each office is responsible for collecting and analyzing data regarding these populations. The data assists in determining programming and helps to expand culturally affirmative services throughout state government. The groups served by these offices are:

- Asian and Pacific Islanders
- Deaf and Hearing Impaired
- Latinos
- Persons with Disabilities
- African Americans
- Women
- Iowa Youth Congress

Funding

For FY 2017, the CAS received an allocation of the General Fund appropriation to the DHR through the Administration and Regulation Appropriations Subcommittee of approximately $1.0 million and a staff of approximately 7.90 appropriated full-time equivalent (FTE) positions.

Related Statutes
Iowa Code chapter 216A
421, 427, 428, 429, 431, 433, 434, 435 and 436 Iowa Administrative Code

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