

Press Release

For immediate publication

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Back-to-School Block Party Returns August 5

Free Event Celebrates National Health Center Week While Helping Families Gear Up for School

Community Health Center of Fort Dodge, in partnership with Upper Des Moines Opportunity (UDMO), is inviting local families to its annual Back-to-School Block Party on Tuesday, August 5, from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at 126 N 10th Street in Fort Dodge.

Held during National Health Center Week (August 4–10), this event highlights the Health Center's mission to provide accessible, affordable care—while helping local kids get ready for the school year with critical health services, supplies, and fun.

The Community Health Center will have well child checks, immunizations, sports physicals and dental exams inside of the building. The healthcare services will start early before the party and continue into the evening. Appointments are available from 10 AM – 4 PM and walk-ins are welcome from 5 PM – 8 PM. Appointments can be scheduled in advance by calling 515-576-6500 or simply walk in during the evening block party hours. To help make check-in quick and easy, complete your registration paperwork online in advance. Just look for the link at chcfd.com.

Block Party Festivities (5–8 PM)

Alongside healthcare services, families will enjoy a full evening of community fun and support in the parking lot behind the Health Center. Festivities include:

- Backpack & school supply giveaway for Webster County students (advance application required via UDMO)
- Free socks through the “Socks for the Sole” drive
- Free pork burger meal grilled by the Webster County Pork Producers and provided with support from Fareway, Hy-vee/FritoLay, Pelhams Blue Ribbon Water and Northern Lights Distributing.
- Games, inflatables, and booths hosted by local businesses & organizations


To apply for a backpack, visit Upper Des Moines Opportunity at 704 Central Ave, Suite 200, or call 515-576-7774.


“This is more than a celebration—it’s a one-stop shop for families,” said Suhrbier. “Whether you need school supplies, health services, or just want to enjoy a night out with the kids, this event is for everyone.”

This free event is part of National Health Center Week, a nationwide initiative to honor the work of community health centers in delivering care to underserved populations.

For updates and a list of participating organizations, visit the Back-to-School Block Party event page on Facebook.

For more information, contact:

 Community Health Center: 515-576-6500

 UDMO: 515-576-7774