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Rachel Nunnikhoven Albrecht

Planning Director

Community Action of Southeast Iowa

Rachel loves southeast Iowa. She was born outside of Oakville, went to Kindergarten in Mediapolis, first through 11th grade in Wapello, and then did her senior year in Keosauqua. Two days after high school graduation she took off to work at Yellowstone National Park and to have some adventures. Family brought her back to southeast Iowa where she ended up living in Mt Pleasant and getting her AA at SCC in 2008. She had grown up in a blended family who did foster care and adopted two children. Her parent's strong commitment to helping others grew a desire in Rachel to also want to assist those in need.



After taking some time off from school, she decided to further her education and pursued her bachelor's degree in social work with a minor in sociology at the University of Iowa. Upon getting her degree in 2011 she moved to Burlington and worked for Young House, then Family Resources, and Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) in the Family Safety Risk and Permanency (FSRP) program through the Department of Human Services (DHS). She worked to strengthen families who had experienced abuse throughout southeast Iowa. During this time she learned about local resources and systems that could help support struggling families. Rachel then came to be a Family Development Specialist at Community Action of Southeast Iowa in 2017. She worked in the Burlington downtown office for a year then became the Planning Director in 2018.

Rachel is a Certified Community Action Professional (CCAP), Family Development Specialist, Nationally Certified ROMA Trainer, and is a trained Poverty Simulation Facilitator.

Rachel is married to Aaron, lives in Burlington, is one of 10 siblings, has 17 nieces and nephews, loves to spend time with her family, go thrifting, learn, and be outdoors with others. She teaches a women's Bible study and is involved with City Hope. She is passionate about homelessness, was on the board for the Burlington Area Homeless Shelter for nine years, was involved in youth ministry through her church for 15 years, was the Youth Director for 5 years, and was involved at Camp Appanoose for 15 years.