

ARISE

FROM HOMELESSNESS TO RECOVERY IN POLK COUNTY



"In Joppa, there was a disciple named Tabitha, who was always doing good and helping the poor."



Al sharing with a group

JOPPA STORIES

It's No Picnic

Al Luper tells Metro kids that life on the river is a dead-end choice. Although he's spent 20 winters there, and will choose to hunker down in his shanty through the snow and freezing temperatures again this year, living on the river is a consequence of his alcoholism, not a choice he'd suggest for anyone.

"Kids think living out here is camping. You know, a lot of fun around a campfire; a way to get away from what's bothering them at home; a way to just do what you want," Al says. "But I tell them it's no picnic."

Al regularly talks to youth groups, school groups and others hosted by Joppa. They tour his camp, which is deluxe compared to many, but then he sits them down to talk.

"I tell them the truth. Every day your whole focus is just to get by, survive until tomorrow. What will you eat? Where's the water coming from? How will you stay warm or dry? Who is out there who will try to steal from you or hurt you? Where will you get money for the things you need?" he asks them. "There's no future here **CONTINUED...**

OUR MISSION

To create a community of unconditional love, support and hope for the homeless and to help end homelessness in Polk County.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

HOMELESS CAMP CLEANUPS

April 6, 2013
April 13, 2013

DOWN & OUT FUNDRAISER

November 9, 2013

IOWA HOMELESS MEMORIAL

December 21, 2013

HOMELESS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

December 21, 2013

It's No Picnic, *CONTINUED*

and few ways out once you've given up your education, your family, your chances."

At fifty-four, Al has been an alcoholic for decades and says, after being in treatment several times over the years, he will always drink. He remembers drinking his first beer when he was three years old. An uncle would give him small glasses of beer when he visited. At home, Al would wait for his alcoholic father to pass out, then finish any open beer he could reach. He knows his drinking has cost him everything: his wife, regular contact with his six children, the five-plex he owned and various jobs over the years. Still, the best he can do now, he believes, is to live as responsibly as he can with his addiction.

"There are just three ways to be homeless down here," Al says. "Work some and just get by, beg and just get by, or do nothing but drink, drugs and die. That's it. Some future, huh?"

—Al

So, Al lives frugally on very little cash because he knows he'll drink whatever money he makes, even rent money. He fears being a burden or embarrassment to friends or family, so he turns down their help and lives a carefully isolated life.

"But I'm still a good person. I can help the kids see what this is really like and impact their lives. I can tell them, 'Look at me and don't take that first drink,'" he says. "I tell them if you're in trouble at home, find someone you trust and tell them. If you have to get out of the house, run to someone—some place—where you can get help. If you come down here, you'll be helpless, and you may never get out.

"There are just three ways to be homeless down here," Al says. "Work some and just get by, beg and just get by, or do nothing but drink, drugs and die. That's it. Some future, huh?"

Al does home repair and volunteers regularly. Joppa is helping him make a video of his camp talks with kids so his story can reach even more teens. 🎬



I Work at Joppa

Volunteer: Kellie Cory

Title: Meal Prep Coordinator

Duties: Coordinates a team of 35 volunteers that prepare around 100 hot meals each week for Joppa clients. She also helps design organization systems for the Joppa Center.

Background: Involved in church activities and homeschools her two children.

Driving passion: I never would have said my gift was administration or cooking—none of that was on my radar—but I saw my friend Jacki Stevens doing it all herself every week and I volunteered to help.

On my own: I'm a teacher and mentor to young women, and I love crafts.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AND MEETINGS

Do you know anyone interested in Event Planning, Homeless Outreach, Team Leadership or other opportunities to volunteer?

Meet other interesting people with servant hearts and plan to be rewarded with the smiles, tears and heartfelt appreciation of the clients we serve. Most Joppa volunteers report getting

more out of volunteering than they give—and they give their time generously.

Please help spread the word. Invite your friends and small group to join us for a volunteer opportunities meeting, to learn more about how you can make a difference in the lives of our local homeless people.



We meet the first Wednesday of each month from 7:00–9:00 PM at the Joppa Center, 118 SE 4th St., Suite 120 in East Village, Des Moines.

OUTREACH

UNSHeltered VISITS

TENTS DELIVERED

4Q 699

YTD 2,933

4Q 36

YTD 130

METRICS

JOPPA IS ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS, UNCONDITIONAL LOVE AND HELPING PEOPLE OFF THE STREETS. WITH GOD'S BLESSING AND THE GENEROSITY OF OUR DONORS, VOLUNTEERS, SUPPLIERS AND PARTNERS, JOPPA IS MAKING A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY.



HOUSED IN POLK COUNTY



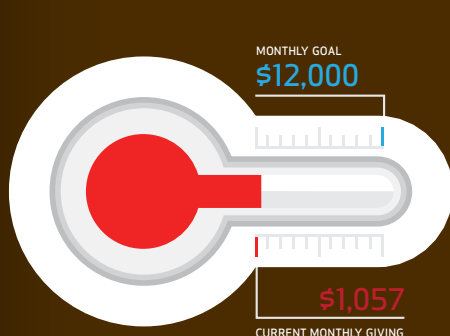
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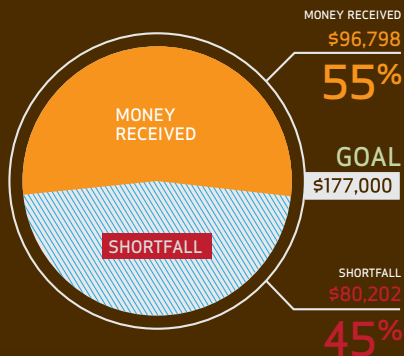
TOTAL HELPED OFF STREETS

92 % REMAIN OFF STREETS

DONATIONS



2013 GIVING CAMPAIGN



2012 YEAR END
(THROUGH DECEMBER 31)

	3 RD QTR	YTD
VOLUNTEERS		
PEOPLE	351	1,312
HOURS	7,021	25,305
DELIVERIES		
MEALS	1,063	3,980
GROCERIES	325	1,116
SUPPLIES	953	3,136
HEALTHCARE		
ASSESSMENTS	215	942
REFERRALS	68	370

THANK YOU TO THE INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO OFFER THEIR SERVICES AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO MAKE THIS WORK POSSIBLE!

HOW YOU CAN HELP

DONATE:

BECOME A JOPPA SUPPORT PARTNER!

Join us and make a difference with your donations and ongoing support.

We are a volunteer-based organization with no paid staff. Your contributions directly help people who are unsheltered or recently housed in Polk County.

Joppa is a 501(c)3 organization and all donations are tax deductible.

DONATE AT JOPPAOUTREACH.ORG OR TO:

Joppa Outreach, Inc.
c/o Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines
1915 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309

VOLUNTEER:

- Homeless Outreach & Aftercare
- Event Planning & Coordination
- Meal Preparation
- Food Pick Up & Organization
- Winter Heat Fuel Deliveries
- Fundraising & Presentations
- Volunteer Coordination
- Transportation Assistance
- Social Media & Story Writing

VOLUNTEER AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

We have many volunteer opportunities available. Visit joppaoutreach.org or call (515) 288-5699 today to learn more.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

SUPPLY:

- Tents & Tarps
- Sleeping Bags & Blankets
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Batteries & Head Lamps
- Fully Working Bikes
- Canned Goods & Nonperishables
- Laundry Detergent & Dish Soap
- Cleaning Supplies

BRING SUPPLIES TO THE JOPPA CENTER:

Thursdays between 11 AM & 1 PM
at 118 SE 4th Street in East Village.
Or call (515) 288-5699.

AFTERCARE

APARTMENT VISITS

4Q 264

YTD 1,111

Iowa Homeless Memorial participants at state capitol.



EVENTS

“In the holiday season, when it’s cold and easy to feel depressed and adrift, this party was an anchor of love, friendship and hope.”

—Dr. Greta Degen, R.N.
JOPPA PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Mayor Cownie reads proclamation.



Van and volunteer, Dr. Margaret Richey, at celebration



Memorial: A Chilling Reminder Spreading Cheer & Hope

Even a major snowstorm didn't keep 118 people from gathering outside the Capitol, December 21, on the first day of winter and longest night of the year, to remember the unsheltered men and women known to have died in Iowa the previous year.

It was bitter cold when Mayor Frank Cownie, City Councilman Chris Coleman and others spoke to city officials, residents, shelter and outreach workers, and the homeless themselves, all standing together to remember and honor those who died homeless.

A time of music, poetry and prayer; reading their names and remembering something about each of their lives honored these 118 fellow human beings. The fourth annual Iowa Homeless Memorial was a sobering reminder of how far we have come to raise the issue of homelessness in Iowa, and how far we still have to go. ■

Following the Iowa Homeless Memorial, more than 200 Joppa clients, volunteers, friends and supporters attended a Christmas celebration at the Joppa Center. A variety of favorite chili recipes were prepared and served by area church groups, small groups and individuals. The Heath Alan Band provided Christmas music and then performed some of their incredible jamming sets, and many of our clients cut loose and boogied; some really enjoying themselves for the first time in years.

Each homeless or recently homeless person received wrapped Christmas gifts with a mix of first-quality winter gear: blankets, gloves, scarves, hats, headlights, candles, loaves of homemade banana bread and gift cards to McDonald's, Burger King or Starbucks.

“In the holiday season, when it's cold and easy to feel depressed and adrift, this party was an anchor of love, friendship and hope,” said Joppa Program Director, Dr. Greta Degen, R.N. ■

ADVOCACY + EDUCATION

STUDENTS EDUCATED

4Q 128

YTD 538

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

4Q 14

YTD 62

FIRST HOMELESS EDUCATION EXPERIENCES

4Q 151

YTD 660

Help The Homeless This Winter



GIVING CAMPAIGN

Can you give a dollar a day?

Overnight temperatures in Des Moines during the winter can drop to zero or below, and wind chills magnify the misery. How would you keep warm if you slept outside every night? How would you stay dry when frost covers your clothes and blankets? How would you stay clean when every drop of water is frozen?

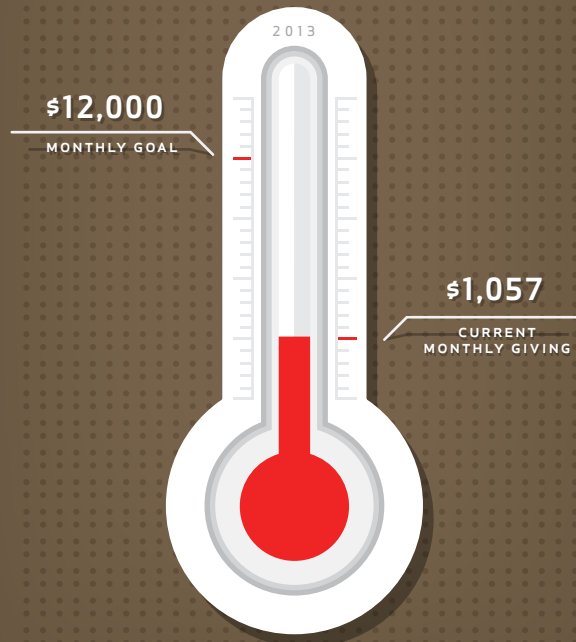
Each winter, hundreds of people in Polk County fight those battles—and Joppa has been there for four winters to help. Thanks to our generous donors, hundreds of dedicated Joppa volunteers are able to provide survival essentials, including winter heat, boots and temporary shelter to people who are down on their luck. Catastrophic medical expenses, loss of a job or the breakdown of a family can quickly put people like you in life-threatening situations.

The number of our clients is increasing and their housing and medical needs are becoming more severe. Please help us to continue our mission to treat people with dignity and keep them safe until they can transition from homelessness back into a home. Just a dollar a day can make a world of difference by providing critical food, shelter and medical care, not just this winter, but all year long.

For less than the price of a latte every day, you can save a neighbor's life.


GOALS

Joppa monthly support partners make a special commitment by providing the reliable core funding that is so vital to achieve our mission. And, special gifts enable projects not possible within our general budget.



“Reach for your pen and checkbook right now. This may be the most important thing you’ll do today.”

Please fill out the enclosed response card and let us know if you can support us with a special gift or join us as a monthly support partner. No matter the size or type of gift, your kindness and compassion will provide the warm hug of a blanket, the contentment of a full stomach, the healing touch of someone who cares.

Reach for your pen and checkbook right now. This may be the most important thing you’ll do today. 

HOW WE DO IT

EXPRESS CHRIST'S UNCONDITIONAL LOVE + BUILD RELATIONSHIPS & VISIT OFTEN + HELP PEOPLE STAY WARM, DRY & HEALTHY
+ PROVIDE FOOD, SUPPLIES & CARE + RESPOND TO NEEDS & EMERGENCIES + BE A VOICE, ADVOCATE & LINK TO RESOURCES +
ENCOURAGE POSITIVE STEPS FORWARD + HELP OFF STREETS & PROVIDE AFTERCARE UNTIL FULLY RECOVERED



UPDATE: HOMELESS EVICTIONS

This winter some Des Moines officials have been involved in an effort to evict homeless people from under bridges and wooded areas where many have lived for years.

"People don't understand that you can't just go into a shelter anytime you want, and many people won't ever qualify," said Joppa Program Director, Dr. Greta Degen, R.N. "Joppa helps people find more permanent housing but recommends shelters when no housing options are immediately available."

Unfortunately, the beautiful new CISS shelter is full and overflowing. If there is space, each

stay is limited with few exceptions to just 90 days (less for other shelters).

After a stay, clients must wait 90 days before being allowed to live at the shelter again.


Even if there is shelter space, many are not eligible because of health issues, pets, spouses, too many possessions or past mistakes.

Eviction just increases health and security risks for people as they struggle to find new places to live.

Joppa helped its clients acquire proper legal representation and worked behind the scenes.

EVICTIION NOTICES: "Please note you may not relocate to any other City of Des Moines property." Below is a map designating one of the sites associated with these actions.



The initial hearing ruled that the city was unjustified in evicting the homeless camps, stating, "Obviously, taking the tents away from the homeless people... would leave them without protection from the elements, exposing them to extreme cold and threatening their lives." 

NEWSLETTER DESIGN: **PUSH**
BRANDING * DESIGN



118 S.E. 4th Street, Suite 120
Des Moines, IA 50309

Non-Profit Org.
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Des Moines IA
Permit No. 4271

CAN YOU HELP?

VISIT JOPPAOUTREACH.ORG OR CALL (515) 288-5699 TO DONATE, VOLUNTEER OR PROVIDE SUPPLIES.
PEOPLE LIKE YOU MAKE JOPPA POSSIBLE—WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US. THANK YOU!