# HELPING HOMELESS PEOPLE SURVIVE, GET HOUSING AND THRIVE



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



## JOPPA STORIES

# Rising from Despair to Stability & Hope

Sitting in front of two open laptops in a comfortable apartment in Des Moines, Frank looks like a typical work-from-home IT guy in his purple T-shirt and jeans. His face clouds as he remembers a Facebook post he wrote just two years ago.

"That post talked about how desperate and depressed I was. When I read it now, I think, 'Wow, I was done. I wouldn't have made it much longer.' I've come a long way in two years. I really have."

When Frank first came to Joppa, he recalls, "I didn't know what to do or where to go." He was homeless, new in town and had stayed as long as allowed at the metro homeless shelters.

Friends told him about Joppa Outreach where he was given the basics for setting up a camp: a tent, food, candles and a heater: "If it wasn't for Joppa that winter, I probably would have frozen or starved to death," he says, shaking his head at the memory: "I had nothing."

CONTINUED...

### **OUR MISSION**

To create a community of unconditional love, support and hope for the homeless, as we work together to end homelessness.

HOMELESS MEMORIAL & RALLY

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### NATIONAL HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK

November 12-20, 2016

IOWA HOMELESS
MEMORIAL & RALLY

December 21, 2016

HOMELESS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

December 21, 2016

PJ DAY IOWA

January 27, 2017

JOPPA COMMUNITY CLEANUPS

April 1, 2017

medication and therapy.

# Rising from Despair, CONTINUED

"My mental issues (brought on by childhood trauma) went untreated until I was in my thirties," Frank says. He tried treatment, which propelled him on a cycle of taking his meds, feeling better, stopping the meds and crashing. He repeated that cycle again and again, ending up homeless each time.

As Joppa got to know Frank, he agreed he needed and wanted more than what life in a homeless camp was offering him. To start this transition, Joppa helped get him an appointment with Broadlawns Hospital where his chronic depression was treated with NOTHING I COUL

But this time was different. With renewed hope and determination, and the support of his Joppa friends, Frank fought hard and found his balance. NOTHING I COULD DO WOULD REPAY JOPPA. I'M SO GRATEFUL. REALLY, I AM. - FRANK

Doctors at Broadlawns told Frank that his mental health diagnosis qualified him for disability payments. "Now how was I going to do that?" I remember thinking, he says. "Being homeless, how do I afford a lawyer?" But Joppa provided a lawyer and with a steady income from the disability check, Frank qualified for low-income housing.

During the next year, Frank built his hobby of buying, restoring and reselling laptop computers into a viable business. He found a girlfriend – his best friend, and he's working toward his "white-picket-fence" dream: owning a store of his own, living in a house with a family and being happy.

He credits Joppa with pulling him out of the pit of depression and despair that had nearly engulfed him. "You can depend on Joppa to help in hard times. In hard times, that's a wonderful thing! You can't fight your way out of homelessness by yourself," he insists. "Without resources and people, you can't get out. You just give up because it's too hard. But Joppa is a blessing, placing hope in your life."

Leaning forward in his office chair, urgent to make his point, Frank tells the Joppa volunteers, "Nothing I could do would repay you. I'm so grateful to you guys. Really, I am."

Frank says: "I encourage people to help with Joppa because Joppa is a way of giving hope to people."

# I Serve at Joppa

**VOLUNTEER:** Melanie Guanci

**INVOLVEMENT:** Volunteer marketing and communications coordinator

**BACKGROUND:** Over the years, I have heard about the great work that Joppa does to help the homeless. Inspired by the organization, I felt called to serve.

**DRIVING PASSION:** To fulfill God's calling in my life.

**ON MY OWN:** I'm blessed to have a wonderful husband and two children. When we're together, we like to be outside, travel, go to the pool, be with friends and enjoy time together at home.

HELP JOPPA PROVIDE SERVICES
TO LIFT PEOPLE OUT OF A LIFE OF
HOMELESSNESS. GIVE AT:

Joppa.org

JOPPA EVERYDAY ANGELS



### BECOME AN "EVERYDAY ANGEL"

Everyday Angels are the loyal givers who support Joppa with monthly gifts to bring relief to those living on the streets by giving automatically from their credit cards or checking accounts to provide dependable support.

- Sign up to become an "Everyday Angel" by going to bit.ly/EverydayAngel
- Support Joppa with a monthly gift
- Help homeless people survive, get housing and rebuild their lives

Return the enclosed reply card or go to joppa.org/donate to sign up.

### MANY WAYS TO GIVE

What started out as a private family endeavor late in the summer of 2008 has quickly grown to involve hundreds of volunteers, dozens of partners and an array of programs that care for and meet the unmet needs of the homeless.

### United Way Campaigns in Your Workplace

The fall United Way campaigns are coming to your workplace; in all circumstances, you can designate any gift to "Joppa" (EIN 27-0216625); ask your personnel office how to complete your donation.

### 2 Ask Your Company to Match Your Gifts

Does your workplace have a matching gift program? If so, you could substantially increase each donation through employer matching. Contact your personnel office for more information. Help Joppa get signed up and then spread the word to your coworkers!

### ORGANIZATIONS THAT ALREADY MATCH EMPLOYEE DONATIONS:

- Athene
- MidAmerican Energy Berkshire Hathaway
- Danfoss
- Morgan Stanley
- GuideOne/ARG Insurance
- Pella Rolscreen
- Home Depot
- Pioneer/DuPoint
- John Deere
- Wellmark
- Microsoft
- Wells Fargo

### 3 Use AmazonSmile for Your Amazon Purchases

Joppa is a registered charity with AmazonSmile, which means Amazon will donate 0.5% of all your purchases to Joppa at no cost to you! Say what!? Yes, you can contribute to Joppa just by placing your orders via smile.amazon.com and selecting Joppa Outreach.

### HOW TO USE AMAZONSMILE:

- Just go to smile.amazon.com and start shopping. No need to create a separate account – just sign in using your normal username and password.
- On your first visit, you will be asked to select a charity. Simply choose Joppa Outreach, Inc. and Amazon will save your choice for future purchases.

### Consider Hosting a Fundraiser for Joppa

Ideas can include, but are not limited to, home parties, proceeds nights, live & silent auctions, sporting events, sponsorships, supply drives, etc.

### **Solution** Raise Money through Your eBay Sales

### EBAY SELLERS CAN NOW DONATE PART OR ALL OF THEIR SALES:

- List items on eBay to sell, choose a percentage to donate, and select Joppa as the beneficiary.
- Your listing appears on eBay with special eBay Giving Works features that have proven to increase interest and selling prices.
- eBay credits back a portion of the seller fees when the listing sells, and PayPal Giving Fund collects the donation from the seller and distributes 100% of the proceeds to Joppa.

### 6 Rent a Property for Vacation or Donate a Spare Week

Calling all avid travelers, occasional travelers and vacation homeowners. TravelPledge makes it easy to support Joppa while doing a little something for yourself.

- Rent a property for your next vacation through **Joppa.TravelPledge.com**.
- If you own a vacation home, list your property and donate a spare week.
  - VACATION HOMES SIT VACANT ON AVERAGE 85% OF THE YEAR.
    TRAVELPLEDGE CONVERTS SPARE WEEKS INTO BIG DONATIONS!

     JOPPA.TRAVELPLEDGE.COM

### Oconsider Joppa in Your Estate Plan

Making a plan for your estate comes down to leaving an impact on the people and the causes you care about. Consider adding Joppa to your estate plan. Contact **Scott Beattie** at **scott.beattie@peddicord-law.com** for details.

### 6 Giving Tuesday – November 29, 2016

An event to celebrate the giving hearts in all of us.

### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

### VOLUNTEER:

Volunteer opportunities are

available for groups, families

Nutrition Team and make a

people and our community.

and individuals. Join the Homeless

difference in the lives of homeless

Lead a Team or Chair an EventCoordinate a Supply Drive

• Hold a Fundraiser for Joppa

• Contribute to the Joppa ITTeam

Provide Client Transportation

 $\bullet$  Work on the Tiny Home BIGTOUR

• Join the Homeless Nutrition Team

Help Expand Joppa Kids

### SUPPLY:

### BRING SUPPLIES TO JOPPA:

Monday-Friday 10 AM & 5:30 PM 118 SE 4th Street, #120 East Village, Des Moines Or call (515) 288-5699

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

- Tents & Tarps (Green or Brown)
- Zero Degree Sleeping Bags & Blankets
- Headlamps & Batteries
- Toilet Paper & Paper Towels
- Cleaning Supplies
- Laundry Detergent & Dish Soap
- Canned Goods & Nonperishables
- DART Bus Tokens

# WANT TO LEARN MORE? Call Jacki at (515) 306-3246.



# To Help Kids Help the Homeless

This has always been a goal of Jacki, Joe and son Caleb Stevens and one of the reasons Joppa was started in 2008.

At that time, there were no organizations that would allow Caleb, then seven, to volunteer to help the homeless. True to Joppa nature, it sought out a way to fulfill this unmet need and it embraced kids' participation. Seven years later, at just 14 years old, Caleb Stevens founded Joppa Kids – a set of programs that encourages kids to get involved in homeless education and volunteering.

Joppa Kids has a long history despite its recent formation, and Caleb shares the details here:

### When was Joppa Kids started?

"I was seven years old when I started to work with the homeless, so we launched Joppa Kids on the 7th anniversary of Joppa, September 3, 2015."

### Where did the idea originate?

"The idea originated from my experiences with the homeless and I wanted other kids to get involved and share those same experiences."

### What was your initial goal or plan for the program?

"Joppa Kids is designed to help K-I2 students learn about homelessness through education, awareness and volunteering."

### What have you achieved through the program so far?

"In 2015, Joppa Kids educated 881 students, spoke to 76 audiences and facilitated first-time homeless camp experiences for 506 students. Additionally, several schools have done supply drives, made greeting cards and the Norwalk High School STEM class framed and built the exterior of the first-ever Joppa tiny home, which we lovingly named 'Tabitha's House' in celebration of our volunteers."

# Is there anything else you think is important for people to know about the history of this program?

"Joppa has always embraced kids. Joppa Kids is just an extension of our organization."



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT JOPPA.ORG

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### Iowa Homeless Memorial & Rally FREE

Wednesday, December 21, 2016, 5:30pm West Capitol Terrace at State Capitol

- Held each year on the first day of winter and longest night of the year
- We honor and remember those that we've lost and work to prevent future homeless deaths
- Speakers have included governors, mayors, state, county and local representatives

A candlelight vigil to remember those who have died homeless in lowa.



### Joppa Community Cleanups FREE

Saturday, April I, 2017, All Day Across Metro Des Moines

- Opportunities for families and groups to work together to keep our city beautiful
- Helping widows, single moms, the elderly and others in need beautify their properties
- More than 400,000 lbs. of trash cleaned up over the last eight years of events

Working together with homeless people to beautify the city.



### Homeless Christmas Celebration FREE

Wednesday, December 21, 2016, 7:00pm Walnut Creek Downtown Church

- Christmas Party for Central Iowa's homeless and formerly homeless
- Fun evening of food, music, entertainment, baked goods, photos with Santa, Christmas gifts and laughter!
- Donation opportunities (baked goods, gifts, etc.)

A heartfelt celebration of food, entertainment and wrapped gifts.



### PJ Day Iowa

COST: \$1 per student (schools), \$5 per adult (workplaces)

Friday, January 27, 2017, All Day Schools and Workplaces in Iowa

- Awareness Education and Presentations
- PJ Day Event
- Supply Drives

Help put homelessness to bed by wearing flannel pajamas, robes and slippers.

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US TODAY
AND SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT
AND MEANINGFUL WORK!

- Help homeless people survive, get housing and rebuild their lives
- 95% of each dollar Joppa receives goes toward our mission to help people
- Joppa has helped over 250 individuals and families get off the streets since 2008
- More than 90% of these men, women and children remain in housing
- Help make Joppa Tiny Home Villages a reality

WHAT WE DO IS LIMITED ONLY BY THE
AMOUNT OF TIME, TALENTS AND TREASURES
PEOPLE CONTRIBUTE. GET INVOLVED AT:

Joppa.org



118 SE 4th Street, Suite 120 Des Moines, IA 50309 Non-Profit Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Des Moines IA Permit No. 1025



Joppa.org

(515) 288-5699 **LOCAL** (866) 288-5699 **TOLL FREE** 



WHEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2016 5:00 p.m.

WHERE

OLMSTED CENTER
DRAKE UNIVERSITY

HOW

\$125 /PERSON

OR

\$1,000 / TABLE OF EIGHT