

ARISE

HELPING HOMELESS PEOPLE SURVIVE, FIND HOUSING AND REBUILD THEIR LIVES



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



RHONDA ENJOYING A BRIEF MOMENT OF WARMTH INDOORS AT THE LIBRARY

JOPPA STORIES

Homeless, Helpful & Hopeful

According to Rhonda Alberts, all social networks are not created equal. While most associate the words social network with online communication platforms that is not necessarily the case for homeless populations. "For us, social networking basically means word of mouth," Rhonda explains. It was social networking in the form of word of mouth that led Rhonda to Joppa.

Rhonda became homeless due to a series of unfortunate events which ultimately led to a substance abuse situation. While traveling through Iowa her truck broke down. Due to a lack of resources to obtain needed repairs she sought temporary refuge at a local shelter. Later, as a result of networking with others temporarily residing at the shelter – she found refuge under a bridge with a community of homeless persons. "I relied on these folks," Rhonda explains, "through word of mouth I learned where to obtain food, water and other supplies I needed to survive."

Shortly after relocating, she contracted a severe case of bronchitis and through her newly established social network learned about the services of Joppa. After Rhonda was treated at a local hospital, Joppa volunteers assisted

CONTINUED...

OUR MISSION

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



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PROJECT PJ

February 21, 2020

JOPPA COMMUNITY CLEANUPS

April 4, 2020

DOWN & OUT HOMELESS FUNDRAISER

November 14, 2020

IOWA HOMELESS MEMORIAL

December 21, 2020

HOMELESS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

December 21, 2020



WINTER SURVIVAL SUPPORT

Can You Imagine Sleeping Outside this Winter!?

For many of us, winter represents a magical season filled with bountiful blessings and warm hearts. For homeless people living in Polk County, however, winter signifies something entirely different. For this demographic the start of winter symbolizes the beginning of a four to five month struggle for survival each and every day.

You can help. You can share your blessings in the form of winter survival by giving temporary shelters, heaters, fuel and winter boots. Your contribution will warm both the bodies and hearts of those trying to survive Iowa's freezing cold temperatures. Thank you for considering the options below. Please mail a check or give online at: joppa.org/WinterSurvival

WINTER SURVIVAL SHELTERS

- Temporary Winter Shelter Packages for those with no immediate options for housing or other shelter
- Includes tent, rain fly, tarp, sleeping bag, blankets & pillow
 - a) Ten Shelter Packages.....\$1,500
 - b) Five Shelter Packages.....\$750
 - c) One Shelter Package.....\$150

HEATER SYSTEMS

- Heat for those without immediate housing options
- Safe for indoor-use in tents, cabins & wooden structures
- Includes heater, three 20-lb propane tanks and a hose
 - a) Ten Heater Systems.....\$1,250
 - b) Five Heater Systems.....\$625
 - c) One Heater System.....\$125

HEATER FUEL

- Weekly delivery of propane fuel for heater systems
- A 20-lb tank provides one week of heat average per dwelling
- Each person receives an extra tank of fuel as a backup
 - a) Ten people for one month.....\$600
 - b) Five people for one month.....\$300
 - c) One person for one month.....\$60

WINTER BOOTS

- Waterproof boots to help prevent frostbite and trench foot
- To survive, homeless people often walk 10-20 miles per day to sources of food, work and other resources.
 - a) Ten pairs of boots.....\$900
 - b) Five pairs of boots.....\$450
 - c) One pair of boots.....\$90

Homeless, Helpful & Hopeful, CONTINUED

her in getting established with a tent and provided much-needed heat and other supplies throughout and beyond her recovery.

"I have traveled all over the United States," explains Rhonda, "What I know is that the world needs more Joppas. When I most needed assistance, they gave me a hand up, you won't find that in too many other places. I'll never forget that." Rhonda, also known as "Mom" by her peers, continues to pay that kindness forward by giving a hand up to those with urgent and immediate

needs. She runs a quasi-shelter at her campsite, offering a guest tent to those who have an emergency need for immediate shelter.

Rhonda uses her networking skills by taking her knowledge of available homeless resources to the streets, communicating those lifelines to those in situations similar to hers. Rhonda

believes that helping others is one of the best ways to cope with overcoming her own obstacles and addictive behaviors. "When I am helping others, I am not thinking about my own demons," Rhonda explains. "You don't need a lot of possessions to lend a hand. The only possession you need is the ability to talk, and I definitely have that," Rhonda quips.

Rhonda explains that by providing a hand up in the form of shelter and much-needed heat during the sometimes brutal Iowa winters, Joppa isn't enabling, they are empowering. "I have goals now," Rhonda explains, "I'm working on getting an apartment." Ultimately, Rhonda would like to use her excellent communication skills to write a book concerning the plight of the homeless in America. "I've lived in a lot of places and the homeless are not treated the same in different parts of the United States. I'd like to tell that story," Rhonda explains. "I'll tell you one thing," Rhonda offers, "Iowa Nice is a real thing and the help Joppa offers is proof."



I Serve at Joppa

VOLUNTEER: Orv Otten

INVOLVEMENT: I serve on the Heat Team and work with Joppa Community Clean Ups.

BACKGROUND: Kirk Neustrom invited me on a heat team route in 2015, and I kept going back. Whenever I feel cold, I think of the homeless and helping people stay alive through the winter.

DRIVING PASSION: I enjoy time with my family and look forward to visits with my son in Oregon.

ON MY OWN: I currently work with Wolfe Construction, and I worked for 36 years as a coach or on staff with high school and college level football teams, including Upper Iowa U, Northwestern in Orange City and ISU.

Becoming an Everyday Angel monthly supporter is an easy way to make a powerful and long-lasting impact in our community, by providing consistent support for all of our programs and services.

Everyday Angels contribute monthly to:

- Help homeless people survive, find housing and rebuild their lives
- Engage students and schools in service learning to help prevent homelessness in future generations
- Develop transitional tiny home villages and uniquely affordable cottage homes to help end homelessness

Sign-up at joppa.org/angels



Matthew 25:35-40

BECAUSE OF YOU

- OVER 400 HOMELESS PEOPLE HAVE BEEN HELPED OFF THE STREETS
- MORE THAN 80% OF THESE MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN REMAIN OFF THE STREETS
- JOPPA KEPT OVER 200 UNSHELTERED HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS FROM FREEZING TO DEATH LAST WINTER

2019 IMPACT METRICS



VOLUNTEERS

2,328



VOLUNTEER HOURS

34,093



HEATER SYSTEMS

162



POUNDS OF PROPANE DELIVERED

22,313



OUTREACH VISITS

6,188



AFTERCARE VISITS

4,505



TOTAL HELPED OFF STREETS

402



REMAIN OFF STREETS

84%

HOW YOU CAN HELP

GIVE:

BECOME A JOPPA SUPPORT PARTNER!

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

Joppa collaborates with other service providers, helps homeless people access existing resources, and develops unique programs that fill gaps and meet unmet needs in supportive services, housing development and education advocacy.

Joppa is a 501(c)3 nonprofit. All gifts are tax-deductible.

GIVE ONLINE OR MAIL TO:

Joppa
118 SE 4th Street, #120
Des Moines, IA 50309

joppa.org

VOLUNTEER:

Volunteer opportunities are available for groups, families and individuals. When you volunteer at Joppa you...

- Learn about homelessness
- Engage with diverse individuals
- Lead or join a team of volunteers
- Develop meaningful relationships
- Participate where you're passionate
- See your impact in multiple ways

VOLUNTEER AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

We depend on volunteers like you! Join us and make a difference in the lives of homeless people and our community.

To learn more email volunteer@joppa.org

SUPPLY:

- Tents & tarps (green or brown)
- Zero-degree sleeping bags
- Gloves & wool socks
- Bottled drinking water (24oz)
- Headlamps & batteries
- Toilet paper & paper towels
- Cleaning supplies
- Laundry detergent & dish soap
- Canned goods & nonperishables
- DART bus tokens

BRING SUPPLIES TO JOPPA:

Monday–Friday between 10 & 3:30 PM
at 118 SE 4th Street, #120, Des Moines.
Or call (515) 288-5699.

Thank you for your generosity!

FROM THE HEART

"What I know is that the world needs more Joppas. When I most needed assistance, they gave me a hand up, you won't find that in too many other places."

– Rhonda Albert



CONCERNED FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATE IN THE 2019 IOWA HOMELESS MEMORIAL AT THE STATE CAPITOL

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO DIED HOMELESS IN 2019

"Dying homeless, typically means dying alone and forgotten," explains Joe Stevens, Joppa Cofounder & Chairman. "Too often, people experiencing homelessness lose touch with family and friends, who don't even know they've died, and for the vast majority there is no memorial service."

Joppa organizes the Iowa Homeless Memorial at the capitol each year on the first day of winter and longest night of the year, to remember those who've died homeless, to honor them as fellow human beings, and to help prevent future homeless deaths by expanding awareness.

Although unseasonably warm, the chill dipped near freezing as the names of over 40 individuals were read by

Angie Arthur of the Polk County Continuum of Care and Matt McNeese of Lutheran Church of Hope.

The deceased were honored by over 250 attendees, proclamation readings by Governor Kim Reynolds and Mayor Frank Cownie, music by Joe Figueroa, harmonica, and The Chamber Choir from Heartland Youth Choir; Poetry by Claudine Cheatom, and Pastoral Prayer and Reflection by Rev. Rechab Gray of Cottage Grove Church.



WE WILL REMEMBER...

- Michael Artwein, 37
- John Ballentine, 48
- David Blodgett, 48
- Gabriel Boettger, 38
- James Bradley, 61
- Kvols Brockman, 34
- Charles Childs, 69
- Michael Cockerham
- Oliver "Randy" Coffin, 54
- Michael Wesley Collins
- Jason Cronin, 39
- Robert Davis
- Arthur Lee English
- Douglas Jason Followill, 58
- Geoffrey French, 42
- Robert Garner, 59
- Anthony Gilkey, 44
- Jeff Goldstein, 60
- William Grail, 58
- Michael Grant
- Jody Hildebrand, 40
- Dezawn Jackson, 30
- Marshal Aaron Terrell Johnson, 23
- JD Jordan, 54
- Roger Kirby, 58
- Blama Kollie
- Robert "Randy" McLain
- Tracy Moore, 58
- Jayson Parker, 41
- Andrea Portillo, 34
- Brandon Reimers, 22
- Jeremy Seddon, 37
- Don Seifried, 49
- Danny Shafer, 60
- Michael Sloan
- David Franklin Smith, 36
- Jordan Spain, 27
- Thomas "Scott" Stevens
- Jeffrey Tedder, 57
- Eric Way
- Rodney Wells
- Marshall Wilkerson
- Timothy Williams
- Harold Wilson
- Woody Woodman, 70



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Des Moines, IA 50309

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INSIDE

See the results from your support in metrics!

Governor speaks at the Iowa Homeless Memorial



JOPPA.ORG

(515) 288-5699



HELP PUT **HOMELESSNESS** TO BED
BECAUSE EVERYONE NEEDS A SAFE PLACE TO SLEEP AT NIGHT

★ Wear PJs to Work or School ★
Friday, February 21, 2020

SCHOOLS AND WORKPLACES
PLAN YOUR ORGANIZATION'S PROJECT

Register Here:
ProjectPJ.org

Questions?
ProjectPJ@joppa.org

Hashtag
#ProjectPJ

GET YOUR ORGANIZATION INVOLVED!