

# ARISE

HELPING HOMELESS PEOPLE SURVIVE, FIND HOUSING AND REBUILD THEIR LIVES



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



## JOPPA STORIES

### Freezing to Death

As we head into the season of gratitude and giving, we often find ourselves reflecting on the reasons we're thankful. We appreciate family and friends who invite us to gather in warm homes for holiday festivities. We're grateful for dinner tables with filling food. At the end of the day, we count our blessings as we lay our heads down in comfortable beds, covered with heavy blankets to keep us warm as the Iowa temperatures drop.

In contrast, there is a population of Iowans heading into battle over the next four to five months—a battle against subzero temperatures with perhaps only a tent and blanket as their defense.

Every year, Iowans freeze to death from over-exposure to winter temperatures. This winter, people experiencing homelessness will sleep with food and water next to their bodies with the hope it won't freeze during the night—many times, it will. And others will suffer severe burns or carbon monoxide poisoning when they are so desperate to keep from freezing, they build fires in or near tents or inhale fumes from smoldering coals.

With limitations to the length of stay in shelters, it's just not possible to

*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.*

**DOWN&OUT**  
HOMELESS FUNDRAISER

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

##### VOLUNTOURS

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM at Joppa  
each second Tuesday

##### SECOND SATURDAY WORKDAYS

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM at Joppa  
each month

##### DOWN & OUT HOMELESS FUNDRAISER

November 17, 2022

##### IOWA HOMELESS MEMORIAL

December 21, 2022

##### HOMELESS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

December 21, 2022

##### PROJECT PJ

January 27, 2023



## Freezing to Death, *CONTINUED*

remain in a shelter all winter, much less year-round. Living in a tent can be a person's only option.

"Sometimes, people go into a 'give up' mode," says David, a past Joppa client. "You're so cold. You just lie down and give up."

**But there is hope, and that's what Joppa delivers to people experiencing homelessness.**

Every Saturday during winter, regardless of weather extremes, the Joppa Winter Heat Team delivers life-saving heaters and weekly fuel to homeless campers. The heaters warm tents enough to safely and significantly reduce the risk of frostbite, hypothermia and death while also keeping food and water from freezing.



## I Serve at Joppa

**VOLUNTEER:** Wrye Downs, 16 y/o

**INVOLVEMENT:** Sunday outreach support, volunteer trainer

**BACKGROUND:** I found out about Joppa from my mom. We had served another homeless organization, but once Covid hit, we wanted to get outside.

**DRIVING PASSION:** The relationships with the people we serve really drives my passion. I also think it is impactful for [people experiencing homelessness] to see young people serving since they may not see many in their current situation.

**ON MY OWN:** I am one of the youngest to serve at Joppa, but I do a lot more than just serve on camp routes – I help train people, assist other volunteers, and more.

**“PEOPLE DIE OUT THERE WITHOUT PROPER SHELTER, WITHOUT PROPER FOOD,”**  
— **MANNY, FORMER JOPPA CLIENT**

"Joppa volunteers help people experiencing homelessness survive until permanent housing or temporary shelter options are available to them," says Joe Stevens, Joppa CEO and Cofounder.

Manny, a former Joppa client who now owns a home and volunteers on

one of the Joppa Winter Heat Teams, says the heater he received when he was experiencing homelessness saved his life.

"I was very thankful because I didn't have to sleep in the cold," he says. "You know, sometimes just having a heater is the number one thing that you look forward to."

Now, as a husband and father, Manny remembers a time when simply having Joppa volunteers visit with food and heaters was what brought him the hope he needed to make it another day. "The reason for that was because when you're homeless, when you're poor and you have nothing, the only thing that kind of brings your spirits up will be a warm meal [and] the fact that someone brought you a heater."

Use this QR Code to watch Manny's story of overcoming meth and homelessness or visit: [jop.pa/Manny](https://jop.pa/Manny)



## BECOME AN EVERYDAY ANGEL MONTHLY SUPPORT PARTNER

Make a long-lasting impact by providing monthly support for Joppa programs and services!

**Everyday Angels contribute monthly to:**

- Help homeless people survive, find housing and rebuild their lives
- Educate and engage the community in homeless services and solutions
- Develop fundamental solutions to end homelessness

**Sign up at: [joppa.org/angels](https://joppa.org/angels)**



Matthew 25:35-40

## BECAUSE OF YOU

- OVER 500 FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS HAVE TRANSITIONED OUT OF HOMELESSNESS
- MORE THAN 80% OF THESE MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN REMAIN IN HOUSING TODAY
- JOPPA HELPED OVER 200 PEOPLE SURVIVE AND STAY WARM LAST WINTER

NOW OPEN

...  
VISIT OUR NEW  
**THRIFTMART STORE  
VOLUNTEER & DONATE**  
...

TUESDAY – SATURDAY  
10:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
2324 Euclid Ave | Des Moines



# Thriftmart

Quality finds. Every time!

**Thriftmart** offers a premium shopping experience with high-quality items at amazing thrift store prices. As a nonprofit store owned by Joppa, 100% of proceeds help support our mission to end homelessness. To ensure the quality standards we promise Thriftmart shoppers, **please bring new and gently used home goods, décor, clothing and accessories to the Joppa Donation Center Tuesday – Saturday between 10 AM and 6 PM.**

To volunteer in the store or coordinate a donation drive, contact Stacey Amensen at [Stacey.Amensen@joppa.org](mailto:Stacey.Amensen@joppa.org) or call (515) 288-5699 x704 to learn more.



Use QR Code for  
Donation Details

**We're excited to offer this new opportunity to help Joppa deliver hope to those who need it most!**

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### GIVE:

Your generous contributions provide critical funds for outreach and survival programs, housing and aftercare services, and the Homeless Resource Center:

- Rated 100% on Charity Navigator
- 2022 Candid Platinum Seal
- Not federally or state funded
- Joppa is a 501(c)3 nonprofit
- All gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law

#### GIVE ONLINE OR MAIL TO:

Joppa  
2326 Euclid Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50310

[joppa.org/giving](http://joppa.org/giving)

### VOLUNTEER:

Volunteer opportunities are available for groups, families and individuals. Immediate openings include:

- Thriftmart store, sorting & staging
- Winter Heat Team
- Homeless Resource Center
- Homeless Outreach & Aftercare
- Sunday afternoon outreach support
- Event planning for signature events
- Second Saturday Workdays monthly

#### BECOME A VOLUNTEER:

We depend on volunteers like you! Sign up to attend a VolunTOUR on our website or email us to learn more.

Email: [volunteer@joppa.org](mailto:volunteer@joppa.org)

### DONATE:

Provide survival items & Thriftmart goods:

- Blankets, pillows & sleeping bags
- Gloves, hand & foot warmers
- Backpacks, headlamps & AAA Batts
- Bottled water (24 oz)
- Pop-top canned goods & meats
- TP, paper towels & antibiotic cream
- Hygiene items & body wipes
- Cleaners, laundry & dish soap
- Clothing, home goods & décor

#### BRING SUPPLIES TO JOPPA:

Tuesday – Saturday, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM  
2326 Euclid Avenue, Des Moines  
or call (515) 288-5699 Ext 3

**Thank you for your generosity!**

FROM THE HEART

"You know, sometimes just having a heater is the number one thing that you look forward to."

— **Manny** (see cover story)



## FORWARD-FOCUSED

### Preparing Joppa for Continued Growth

In February 2022, Joppa welcomed new Board Member and Treasurer Tom Hromatka, also chairman of WCF Bancorp and WCF Financial Bank and long-time Joppa volunteer and supporter:

"I've been a Joppa volunteer for about 12 years," Tom says. "I've done Sunday outreach and, once I retired from banking, I took over the Circle-of-Friends Program, where we place a support team around each person Joppa helps get back into housing while they're still in the Aftercare Program."

As a career banker, Tom spent more than 40 years in executive roles, including president and CEO. As the Joppa treasurer, he focuses on oversight and guidance of the organization's fiscal activities.

"Joppa is growing and it's important we continue to be transparent in our financial reporting around how funds are used," Tom says. He also ensures internal controls and proper guidance around all fiscal affairs. When asked how his background lends to this role, Tom doesn't hesitate. "There's no more over-regulated industry than banking – even more so than nonprofit and insurance."

Tom's passion for helping people experiencing homelessness began as a youth volunteering with his older brother in South America. As an impressionable pre-teen, Tom's heart was first broken upon



TOM HROMATKA, JOPPA TREASURER

**“JOPPA IS GROWING AND IT’S IMPORTANT WE CONTINUE TO BE TRANSPARENT IN OUR FINANCIAL REPORTING AROUND HOW FUNDS ARE USED.” — TOM HROMATKA**

witnessing homeless families living in cardboard boxes in the shadows of a Colombian ornate Catholic cathedral.

"The first time I saw some of our homeless camps here in Des Moines, that memory is what came to mind," he says.

Tom and his wife have been married for 44 years and share two kids and four grandchildren.

## HOW WE DO IT

JOPPA COLLABORATES WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS, HELPS PEOPLE ACCESS EXISTING RESOURCES AND MOBILIZES PRIVATE DONATIONS FROM FAMILIES, CHURCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO FILL GAPS IN HOMELESS SERVICES, HOUSING AND EDUCATION.





## WINTER SURVIVAL SUPPORT



### Can You Imagine Sleeping Outside this Winter!?

Hopefully, this will never be your reality. While most of us are blessed with roofs over our heads and heated homes, there are individuals who have timed out of shelters and will merely be trying to find hope for another day. Surviving the season for some of our Polk County neighbors ultimately becomes a matter of life and death.

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](http://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, two 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, people experiencing homelessness often walk 10-20 miles per day to access food, work and other resources
  - a) Ten pairs of boots.....\$900
  - b) Five pairs of boots.....\$450
  - c) One pair of boots.....\$90





2326 Euclid Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50310

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Des Moines IA  
Permit No. 1025

## INSIDE

### Freezing to Death: Help Homeless Neighbors Survive

New Thriftmart store offers another way to save lives



JOPPA.ORG

(515) 288-5699

**DOWN&OUT**  
HOMELESS FUNDRAISER

**THURSDAY**  
**NOVEMBER 17**

5:30 PM *Appetizers & Silent Auction*

7:00 PM *Dinner, Program & Live Auction*

**THE LOFT DSM**  
100 INDIANA AVE  
DES MOINES, IA 50314

