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THANK YOU for being a part of Joppa and making all this possible we could not have this level of impact without you!"

Dear Friends.

Thank you for your continued support.

YOU are an integral part of Joppa and our work to serve "the least of these" every week of the year!

See the impact of your generosity inside this annual report: Read stories of love, support and hope as we celebrate 15 years of ministry to central lowa's homeless population.

Because of you and God's blessing, together we:

- Served 2,191 people experiencing homelessness in Des Moines last year, up from 870 people in 2021
- Lifted 65 people off the streets in 2023. That's more than 600 people lifted off the streets since Joppa began!
- Assisted more than 250 people in surviving winter last year
- Sustained weekly outreach for more than 800 consecutive weeks
- Served 20.000+ visitors in our Homeless Resource Center
- Purchased 21 acres of land for a tiny home village

With your partnership, we help an average of one family or individual get off the streets every week of the year.

THANKYOU for being a part of Joppa and making all this possible we could not have this level of impact without you!

May God bless you and your family this year.

CEO & Cofounder





JOPPA MISSION

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

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Served 2,191 homeless clients, up from 870 in 2021 (that's an explosive 2.5 times jump in people experiencing homelessness in Des Moines)
- Helped 250+ people survive winter with portable heater systems and weekly propane deliveries
- Hosted city and county officials for additional tours of Community First!
 Village in Austin, Texas
- Delivered 136,019 lbs of food and served 17,583 meals
- Organized the 15th Annual Iowa Homeless Memorial to honor those who died homeless in Iowa
- Helped lift 65 men, women and children off the streets in 2023
- More than 80% of the 600+ families and individuals whom Joppa has helped get off the streets over the past 15 years remain in housing today

WHAT WE DO

Joppa helps homeless people survive, find housing and rebuild their lives and works to end homelessness by:

- Mobilizing private donations from families, churches and organizations
- Engaging volunteers and community partners in service
- Helping homeless families and individuals access government-funded resources and other assistance
- Filling gaps in homeless services, housing and education

WHO WE ARE

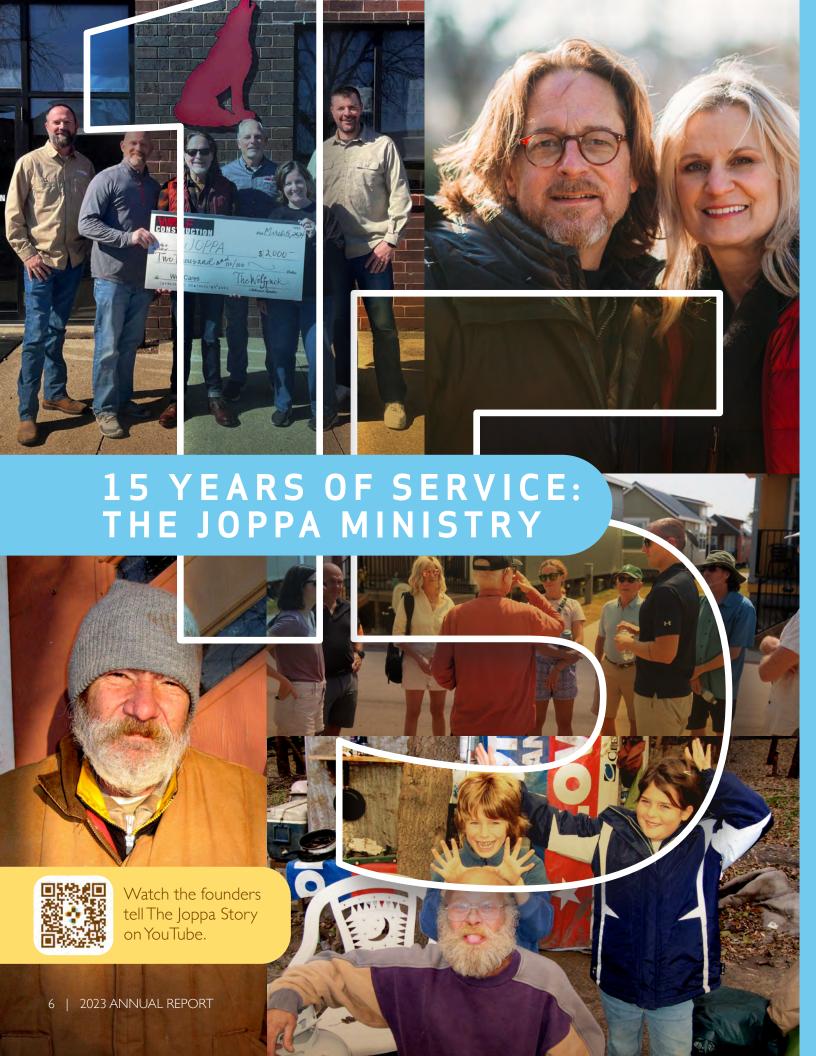
On the coldest winter mornings, central lowa's homeless community can be found sheltering inside tents, triple-layering their socks or searching for an open bed at a shelter. On the hottest summer days, they are conserving their last bottle of water, seeking refuge from the brutal sun or looking for the closest cooling center.

In their most desperate time of need – they rely on Joppa for survival.

Nearly 1,000 central lowans have no place to call home on any given night. And that number is growing. Many of our neighbors spend nights in their cars, under bridges and even in the woods as they try to muster up enough hope to carry them through the night.

At Joppa, we provide life-saving supplies and services and offer friendship and hope. Our volunteers have delivered that hope for over 800 consecutive weeks through meals, water, supplies, transportation assistance, agency referrals and more.

Since 2008, we have helped more than 600 families and individuals get back into housing. The Joppa Aftercare and Circle-of-Friends programs are critical layers of this process – ensuring that relationships built on the streets are maintained. These tailored programs act as a safety net, resulting in over 80% of those who have attained housing with the help of Joppa remaining in housing today.





Fifteen years ago, one family embarked on a weekly day of service that would quickly evolve into what is now affectionately referred to as a ministry. Filling their vehicle with survival supplies, warm meals and blankets, they spent the day showing kindness and unconditional love to people experiencing homelessness in Des Moines.

"One special thing about Joppa is that we are faith-based," says Jacki. "We have relied on God as our ultimate source, and He has always supplied everything we need. He has brought so many wonderful donors, partners and volunteers around us to propel us to where He wants us to go."

"This was all taking place in 2008 following the recession, and I had recently exited a technology company I had co-founded, so we didn't have a source of income at the time," recalls Joe. "We just asked God to provide the way, and we would do the work."

Launching the Winter Survival Heat
Program and providing housing assistance
proved to be important milestones that
grew Joppa in both size and impact.
The organization has since expanded to
include thousands of volunteers who play
critical roles in weekly outreach, winter
heat deliveries, organizing and delivering
supplies and meals, and making personal contributions
to ensure Joppa continues to meet the needs of those
experiencing homelessness.

As the Joppa volunteer base grew over the past decade, so did the needs of the community they served. Last year, Joppa served 2,191 clients, up from 870 clients in 2021. That's an explosive 2.5 times jump in the number of people experiencing homelessness in Des Moines, signaling the lingering effects of an affordable housing crisis, ongoing challenges from COVID-19 and impacts from inflation.

In 2021, Joppa opened its doors to the Homeless Resource Center, which acts as a central hub for people seeking supplies, assistance and referrals, as well as for the staff, volunteers and service providers. The following year, they celebrated the grand opening of Thriftmart, their nonprofit store that supports the Joppa mission while providing a high-quality thrifting experience.

Each volunteer and supporter has a different story

about how they got connected to Joppa. Lori Drafahl learned about Joppa during a film production class where Joe and Caleb were also students. She heard them discussing Joppa and its mission and was compelled to join their volunteer video team.

"I had never heard of Joppa and felt God was nudging me to get involved," Lori says. "Seeing and hearing homeless people tell their heartbreaking stories firsthand had a profound impact on me — it was very different from other jobs that I could just move on from."

Being on this
journey for the
past 15 years has
been humbling.
We're excited to
see where God
takes Joppa next!"

- Ioe Stevens

While 15 years is an incredible milestone, Joe, Jacki, Caleb and the entire Joppa family know it's only the beginning. There is more work to be done and more progress to be made toward ending homelessness in our communities.

"You can feel there's a partnership with God at the center of Joppa," says Lori. "It's a huge blessing to see Him working in so many different ways in the lives of staff, volunteers and the people being served."

"Being on this journey for the past 15 years has been humbling," says Joe. "We're excited to see where God takes Joppa next!"



IT ALL STARTS BY **BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS**

For the Schramm's, volunteering with Joppa is more than delivering essentials. It's about building relationships.

Kory and Penny Schramm were first introduced to Joppa 14 years ago by Gloria Dei Lutheran Church's then-pastor and his wife.

"We valued them, so when they were interested in Joppa, we knew it was something we needed to understand better," Penny says. "When we went on outreach for the first time and had the opportunity to see homeless people where they lived, hear their stories and build relationships – that's when I knew this was something we needed to be part of."

Over the years, the Schramm family—Kory, Penny and their five children—have volunteered countless hours with Joppa. Their aftercare route helps people move from homelessness to permanent housing, and Kory and Penny have served as fundraising leaders on Joppa Annual Community Campaigns for the past couple of years.

"loppa wants to end homelessness in Des Moines, and the only way that starts is with relationships because relationships allow you to uncover the root causes of things," Kory says.

And those relationships can't happen without volunteers.

"We do not have the time, financial resources or knowledge to change everything in the world – but we have a part to play," Penny says. "What we do is a drop in the bucket, but we need to be that drop in the bucket."

Too often, people experiencing homelessness are seen as data points or are dismissed as "lesser-than." For the Schramms, it's about acknowledging the humanity and dignity of another person.



"We aren't just serving people; we're serving friends," Kory says. "We know people on our routes, and they know us and our kids. We have a deep love for each other, which leads us to conversations and prayer. It has been a blessing for us to be guided by these friendships."

They recall one friendship with a man named Al, whom they met on their aftercare route several years ago. With a relationship based on trust and care, Al knew he could reach out whenever. He had nicknames for the Schramm kids. They would babysit his cat. Penny would take him to doctor appointments. He would sometimes attend church with the family or come to their house for Easter. All eventually left the area, but the Schramms recently reconnected to wish him a happy birthday.

"Sometimes, God brings us to people just for that season or moment that person needs us in their life," Kory says. "Often, I find that the Lord brings us into that moment so we can serve to get them through that significant bump they're going through."

As the Schramm kids started going stir-crazy last winter, Penny took them to walk the skywalks in downtown Des Moines. There, they encountered people who were clearly struggling.

"I remember watching our kids interact with these people who were down on their luck, finding shelter from the bad weather or who may have had a mental illness — and the kids were okay with that," Penny says. "Through Joppa, we're so used to interacting with people who have struggles on the outside. We all have struggles, but some people are in a place where their struggles are easier to see.

We do not have
the time, financial
resources or
knowledge to change
everything in the
world - but we have
a part to play."

- Penny Schramm

"For us, it's so much more about saying, I see you, and I'm always going to see you. You will always matter to me, and more importantly, to God."

FROM TRAPPED AND TRAFFICKED TO FINDING HOPE

A woman without shelter is vulnerable to so much more than the lowa weather elements. This fact became a terrifying reality for Kelli when, after losing her apartment and then her car, she found herself trapped in the bondage of human trafficking.

Kelli, 39, began struggling financially years ago following an unhealthy 15-year relationship during which she was the sole provider for her two children and their father. Kelli's ongoing alcohol and drug abuse had strained relationships with her parents, and her

l am amazed at God's power. I'm amazed at the resources he's made available to me and how he's moved so much around for me."

- Kelli

grandmother was her primary source of encouragement and support. When her grandmother died in 2019, Kelli was plunged into a depression further fueled by her addictions. Eventually, she was evicted from her apartment and became homeless.

Kelli was traumatized by the physical and sexual assault she experienced while living on the streets. To cope, she would disassociate herself from reality, which is a common protection mechanism for abuse victims. But she continually came back to the

realization that she desperately needed to free herself and find her best life again.

With a strong faith in God and the desire to heal from her addictions, Kelli escaped trafficking predators and worked hard to regain employment. She is serious about rebuilding her emotional and financial health, but she still doesn't have a home. Her two children are currently in the Department of Human Services custody, and she has a restraining order against her ex-partner.

Her focus is now on establishing a safe home for her children. "I want to provide for [my children.] And I don't want to be a weight on the system that's already overcrowded," Kelli says.

Kelli works two jobs and has set up a payment plan for her outstanding debts. She was able to purchase another car for transportation to work and for shelter while she sleeps. She's applied for housing and is waiting to hear back.

Kelli believed God spared her life during these last two years of homelessness so that she can tell her story to help others. She hopes her story of determination and hope will encourage more people to get involved with Joppa and help people out of homelessness.

She knows she can use the Joppa Homeless Resource Center for assistance with checking on her housing application and other needs like food, clothing, a mailing address and support services. "I get to be a part of the Joppa family. I get to experience something that's actually really amazing." Kelli credits Joppa and the supplies she's received for helping her survive and take steps to start rebuilding her life.

"I am amazed at God's power. I'm amazed at the resources he's made available to me and how he's moved so much around for me."





In Des Moines lies a wooded area with falling leaves, a chilly autumn and a frosted pond where two little girls emerge from a tattered tent. A dented metal lunch pail dangles from the hands of the three-year-old. As she bends down to add to her leaf collection kept inside, her parents watch, dreaming of the day they can escape the perils of homelessness and give their daughters more.

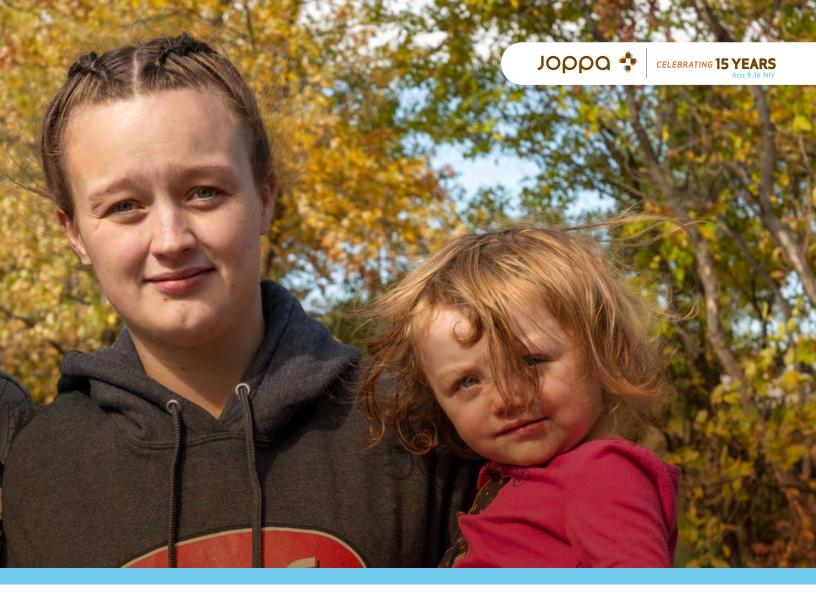
Johnny, 25, and Alexis, "Lexi," 23, met through mutual friends a couple of years ago. Johnny immediately fell in love with Lexi and guickly bonded with Maisee, Lexi's three-year-old daughter. "Maisee is not biologically mine, but she's my daughter," he says. He worked to provide for them while Lexi was pregnant with their other daughter, Kennadi, who is now two years old. It was exciting to be expecting another child, but financial struggles engulfed them when Johnny lost his job as a subcontractor.

Johnny and Lexi found jobs at Pizza Hut, but their financial troubles kept mounting when Johnny's mother started her third battle with cancer. They both lost their jobs while caring for her.

They moved into an apartment owned by a slumlord with broken stairs and a barely working shower. Johnny and Lexi repeatedly asked for repairs, but the slumlord instead threatened them with eviction and eventually coerced them into taking \$350 to leave on their own as an alternative.

Johnny, Lexi and their two young girls were now homeless. "My biggest worry since losing permanent housing is losing my kids... DHS coming down here... taking my kids away from me. That's what I live with every day. It eats at me," Lexi said.

Johnny and Lexi list several complex barriers to being able to work consistently and escape the binds of



homelessness: They need their driving licenses reinstated, reliable transportation and safe childcare—none of which they've been able to secure without adequate finances. It's the same dilemma for most people experiencing homelessness: You need to have money to make money.

Johnny also battles depression, guilt and anger. Losing his dad suddenly when Johnny was seven caused a downward spiral. Even though he received professional help during his school years, his mental health struggles continue today as he grieves not only the loss of his father but now also his mother. The love he has for his daughters is what keeps him motivated to work on his mental health. "I've got these kids, and I'm trying to do whatever I can to pull myself up outta that hole," he says.

Joppa collaborated with Primary Healthcare to move Johnny, Lexi and their daughters into a family shelter. Joppa continued to help the family overcome their barriers, including getting social security cards and jobs for both of them. Watch the rest of the story on the Joppa YouTube channel (YouTube.com/@JoppaOutreach).

My biggest worry since losing permanent housing is losing my kids... DHS coming down here... taking my kids away from me. That's what I live with every day. It eats at me."

- Lexi



See Johnny and Lexi's full story on the Joppa

HOMELESS SERVICES

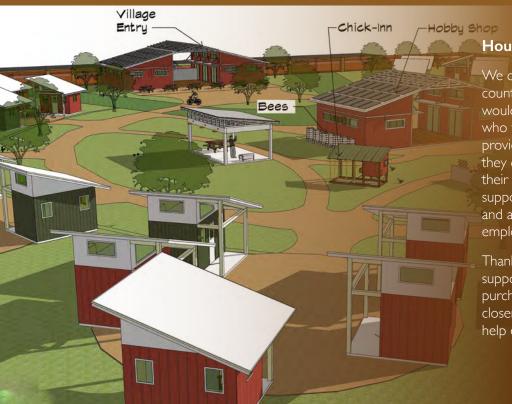
Joppa completed its 800th consecutive week of outreach at the end of 2023.

Our services include weekly Outreach, Aftercare, Circle-of-Friends and heat deliveries during winter, as well as temporary shelter packages; USPS mail deliveries; job, housing, and transportation assistance and survival supplies.

The Joppa Homeless Resource Center continues to be a staple for our community. Since 2021, the center has provided support, supplies, housing resources and referrals for the immediate needs of more than 20,000 visitors experiencing homelessness.

The Homeless Resource Center provides:

- P.O. mailbox and mail pickup
- Referrals to local service providers
- Vital records storage for IDs, legal, medical docs
- Assistance to get a job or find housing
- Permanent relocation to be with family members or secure work
- Weekly Bible Study
- Telephone booth & cell phone charging stations
- Wi-Fi, computers & printer/ copier
- Water bottle filling station & coffee
- Private restroom
- Pet food
- Clothing closet
- Food & snacks



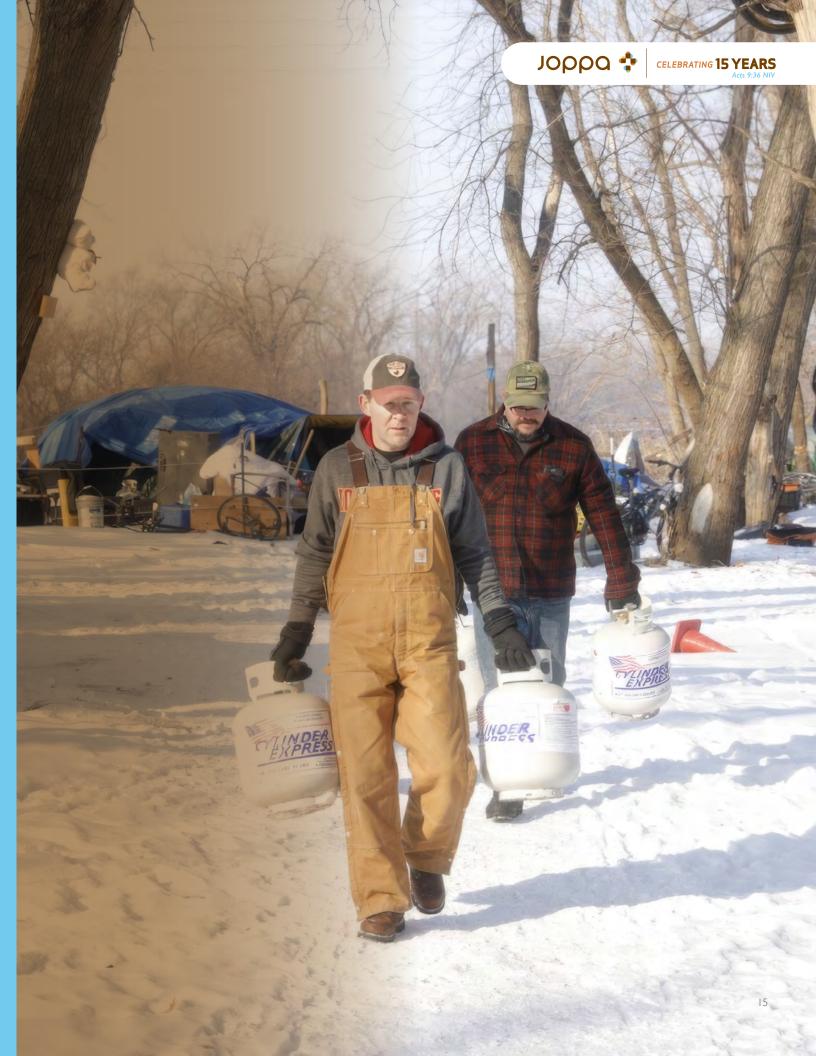
Housing Development

We continue to grow support from city and county leaders for the Joppa Village. This effort would immediately house 50 men and women who would otherwise be chronically homeless – providing them with permanent housing where they can safely live, work, recover and rediscover their value and purpose. The village would offer supportive services, opportunities for work and access to public transportation for off-site employment opportunities.

Thanks to generous contributions from our supporters and community, Joppa recently purchased 21 acres in Des Moines and is one step closer to achieving our long-time vision that will help end chronic homelessness in central lowa.



Learn more about



EDUCATION ADVOCACY

Homelessness would end if everyone understood these three things:



WHY ARE PEOPLE HOMELESS?



WHY SHOULD I CARE?



WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

Until you hear people's stories and see their barriers firsthand, it's hard to understand why they are homeless. Through our education advocacy efforts, we help turn a community's concern for its homeless into action that can lead to solutions. Lending your time, treasures or talents—whether prayer, volunteer time, financial support or pro-bono professional services—everything makes a difference!

Joppa brings awareness to homelessness through stories, documentaries, videos and photography.



We know that educating communities on issues around central lowa homelessness effectively engages volunteers, donors, professionals, churches, corporations and foundations. To do this, we participate in dozens of presentations, publish quarterly newsletters and release digital stories each year.

Get Involved & Help

- Attend a VolunTOUR: Learn about | oppa, tour our facilities and find your place to serve. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month.
- Volunteer at a Second Saturday Workday: Come out to help organize and clean our facilities, sort donations, complete projects and more.
- Invite Joppa to present to your group: loppa gives presentations to raise awareness of homelessness in central lowa and discuss how churches, local businesses and other organizations can engage and help.
- Host a "Meet & Greet" for prospective donors: Invite friends and family to join you to learn about our work, mission and plans. Guests will tour Joppa and hear about future engagement opportunities.

- Share Joppa with the people you know: Please help us by sharing your Joppa experiences with family, friends and colleagues, inviting them to learn more, and join you in supporting our work.
- Sign up for quarterly newsletters: loppa.org/Newsletter
- Subscribe to our YouTube channel: YouTube.com/@|oppaOutreach
- Follow us on Facebook & Instagram: @loppaOutreach
- Follow us on LinkedIn: LinkedIn.com/company/Joppa-Outreach

Connect with Joppa Events in 2024

Joppa hosts three events yearly to serve, recognize and support central lowa's homeless community.

lowa Homeless Memorial: On December 21, the first day of winter and the longest night of the year, Joppa holds a candlelight vigil of music, poetry and prayer at the State Capitol to remember those who died homeless in lowa. We also facilitate state and city proclamations declaring December 21 National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day in lowa and Des Moines.

Homeless Christmas Celebration: This celebration brings hope and cheer to people experiencing and recovering from homelessness in our community. Joppa volunteers who serve on outreach, aftercare and at the resource center are invited to come visit with their homeless friends. This celebration features a Christmas dinner, live entertainment, a photo booth, a hot chocolate station and Christmas gifts.

Down & Out Homeless Fundraiser: This annual invitation-only event allows our donors to host tables and invite friends to learn about and support Joppa.

This special event helps us broaden our donor base and bring awareness to homelessness through keynote speakers and significant stories of impact from the year.



15TH ANNUAL DOWN & OUT HOMELESS FUNDRAISER

Joppa was honored to welcome over 300 guests for the 15th Annual Down & Out Homeless Fundraiser on Nov. 16, 2023. This sold-out, invitation-only fundraiser included keynote speakers sharing their experiences serving Des Moines' homeless population and an update on advocacy efforts for the Joppa Village. Rich and Kim Willis, Joppa donors and volunteers, emceed the event. It was an insightful and memorable evening that raised awareness and funds to support the Joppa mission.







8,178OUTREACH VISITS



136,019 LBS OF FOOD DELIVERED



3,407
AFTERCARE VISITS



11,711
USPS MAIL DELIVERIES



8,288RESOURCE CENTER VISITS



14,581
REFERRALS TO PARTNERS



382
AVERAGE SERVED WEEKLY



1,902
VOLUNTEERS



17,583 MEALS SERVED



40,699
VOLUNTEER HOURS

65

PEOPLE LIFTED OFF THE STREETS IN 2023

593

PEOPLE LIFTED OFF THE STREETS SINCE 2008

2,191

TOTAL HOMELESS PEOPLE SERVED (A 2.5 TIMES INCREASE FROM 2021)

I knocked on the door [to Joppa] and there was Pat. He helped me with dry socks, shoes, sleeping gear, bath and body care, and they had a wardrobe available. Joppa connected me to women's recovery groups and a place to get my resume made, and that made me feel confident. It made me feel like I could get back to work."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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TOM HROMATKA TREASURER Chairman, WCF Bancorp & WCF Financial Bank



JIM HAGBERG SECRETARY CEO Blackstone Industrial



VERNON DELPESCE DIRECTOR Retired CEO YMCA of Greater Des Moines



SHAYNE HUSTON DIRECTOR CEO Mail Services, LLC



JACKI STEVENS VICE PRESIDENT Thriftmart CEO & Cofounder Joppa



JOE STEVENS PRESIDENT CEO & Cofounder Joppa



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Author of "Maximizing Board Effectiveness" and President, Galvin & Associates

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Retired Senior Vice President & Financial Advisor CAPTRUST

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The Sherry Group

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President & Owner Simonson & Associates Architects

MICHAEL SMITH

Vice President, Marketing CBRE Hubbell

TIM URBAN

President Urban Development Corp.

VICKI WALLACE

Community Volunteer

The Joppa Village Coalition

LEADERS

- Frank Cownie (Chair) Des Moines Mayor
- Carl Voss (Co-Chair) Des Moines City Councilmember
- Linda Westergaard Des Moines City Councilmember
- Matt Anderson Des Moines Deputy City Manager
- Angela Connolly Polk County Supervisor
- Christine Hensley Community Organizer
- Joe Stevens Joppa CEO

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Amber Lewis Des Moines Homelessness Policy Administrator
- **Curt Carlson** Joppa Housing Program Manager
- Vernon Delpesce Joppa Board Member
- Noah Jensen Tabor Joppa Community Relations Manager
- **Stephen Moore** Retired Senior Partner & Director BSB Design (Residential Architects)
- Mike Simonson, President Simonson & Associates (Commercial Architects)
- Tim West, Landscape Architect Snyder Engineering (Civil Engineers)
- Ward Phifer, Partner Edge Commercial (Construction Advisor)
- Michael Smith, Vice President CBRE/Hubbell Commercial (Realtor)
- Lance Henning, Executive Director Habitat for Humanity (Partner)
- Scott Packard, Retired President & COO Wright Tree Services (Landscaping & Garden)
- **Dr. Yogi Shah** Broadlawns Medical Center and Free Clinics of Iowa (Village Medical Clinic)

Joppa Staff (paid & volunteer)

- Brenda Applegate Volunteer & Community Engagement Manager
- Blair Avitt Food Rescue
 & Field Coordinator
- Curt Carlson Housing Development Manager
- James Caudill Food Pantry Coordinator
- David Cox Facilities
 Management & Security

- Deb Crowley Medical Supplies Manager
- Tom Fischer IT Director
- Darren Holmes CFO
- Pat McPherren Client Care Field Coordinator
- Carrie Spain Client Care Supervisor & Volunteer Coordinator
- Caleb Stevens Video Producer & Cofounder

- Jacki Stevens Cofounder & Thriftmart CEO
- Joe Stevens CEO & Cofounder
- Megan Taylor Client Care Supervisor
- P Gilbert Williamson Resource Center Pickup Window
- **Tim Wilson** Joppa Mobile App Team Leader

Thriftmart Staff

- Panine Cope Assistant Store Manager
- Christi Cox Pricing Specialist
- Nicole Jameson Store Manager
- Pam Lee Pricing Specialist
- Julie Van Brocklin Lead Cashier





YEARS OF UNCONDITIONAL LOVE



Support Joppa in Ending Homelessness

Joppa does not receive ongoing state or federal funding. Your generous contributions provide the critical funds that fill gaps and meet unmet needs in homeless outreach, survival, housing and aftercare services. See how your donation can make a difference.

