



# FRIENDS of the FAMILY™

Take Back Tomorrow. Today.

## VISION: EVERYONE HAS A HOME!

Take a moment, close your eyes, and imagine that we are in the year 2030 and what life might look like. As you come back, **start to picture what it would look like if people's experiences with homelessness were brief and solved quickly.** That we no longer have people waiting for services, and that EVERYONE is quickly moved into stable housing that helps lay the foundation for so many life successes.

Everyday we work to create new permanent housing opportunities through grant applications, donations, and quality case management. Last year, we provided 201 permanent housing options and in 2021, the goal is 217 options. More permanent housing options means less people experiencing homelessness.

We also talk about decreasing the length of stay in shelter, so that people can move quickly into permanent housing and not experience long shelter stays. This means on day one, we work with clients to create shelter exit plans and look at permanent housing options. We provide top-notch housing counseling services that helps make the average stay in shelter 11.39 days. We want that shortened to 10.98 days by the end of 2021.

We believe that this is attainable, and we strive for the vision every single day. We talk about it as an organization with every person we hire, existing staff, board members, and the communities we serve. We have a big audacious goal, and we will not back down from it. We will put our reputation on the line. And we will be successful in meeting our vision.

-Ben Brustkern, Executive Director

## SPRING NEWSLETTER

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO THOSE OF YOU WHO SPONSORED, PARTICIPATED IN, AND DONATED TOWARDS CHEFS TAKE A STAND THIS YEAR!

While it was definitely different due to covid, we had a lot of fun partnering with Lark Brewing and cooking alongside Chef Clint! We look forward to bringing back the event we're all used to next year - fingers crossed!!

**With YOUR help, we were able to bring in just shy of \$14,000!!** That money will go directly towards our services which ensures your dollars ARE making an IMPACT right here in your community. Thank you so much to each and every one of you, we couldn't do what we do without your support.

Special thank you to our sponsors this year:

**PREMIERE:** VGM Group Inc,  
CUNA Mutual Group

**PLATINUM:** Green State Credit Union

**GOLD:** Scheel's, Jim Denholm,  
Lincoln Savings Bank

**SILVER:** Bergan KDV, Jerry Roling Motors,  
Veridian Credit Union, First Bank

**BRONZE:** B&B Builders and Supply,  
Tenenbaum's Jewelry, Facets by Susong,  
ABD Property Management





## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK, APRIL 18-24

Since the beginning of the pandemic, things have changed so much with our volunteer program. March of last year, we halted all in-person donations and volunteer opportunities. Now, we are in the process of ramping back up and learning how to welcome volunteers into our buildings safely.

We so greatly appreciate the immense support from our communities and look forward to working side-by-side to deliver the best possible services to our friends and neighbors in crisis due to homelessness, domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

**If you would like to hear more about volunteering and how you can support FOF, email Michelle at [Michelle@fofia.org](mailto:Michelle@fofia.org) or 319-576-2237.**

*Thank you!*

## LOCAL PARTNER FUNDING

Friends of the Family relies on funding from local partners to meet the needs of people affected by violence and homelessness. Thank you to **Guernsey Charitable Foundation** for supporting our mission!



## SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. We have highlighted ways you can learn and be active all month long on our social media platforms, but it is something we need to work on every day. And it starts with understanding that **we must be proactive, not reactive.**

Sexual violence can be prevented. Even though harmful and inequitable histories and systems exist that normalize and condone sexual violence, things are changing. Many of us are working to erase the silence and shame that keep sexual violence hidden and are working in our communities to create positive social norms and policies that promote equity and safety. You don't have to work in the field of sexual assault prevention to make a difference. We can all help prevent sexual violence by modeling and promoting healthy and positive relationships that are based on respect, safety, and equality.

We all have the ability to positively influence others. You can help the people you care about by questioning their harmful beliefs, by speaking up if a friend makes jokes or comments about sexual assault, or modeling consent with friends and family. Taking action in some way, shape, or form helps to change the thoughts and behaviors in our community. ([nsvrc.org](http://nsvrc.org))

## CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

As we wrap up 2020 and our first two quarters of our Circle of Friends Annual Campaign we are so THANKFUL for all of these donors (and those who choose to remain anonymous) for making your donations. YOU are the ones making an IMPACT in your communities. Our Circle of Friends Annual Campaign will continue to run all year long and we will start again during our fiscal year beginning in July! For more information please visit: [fofia.org/donate/circle-of-friends](https://fofia.org/donate/circle-of-friends)

### LEGACY CIRCLE

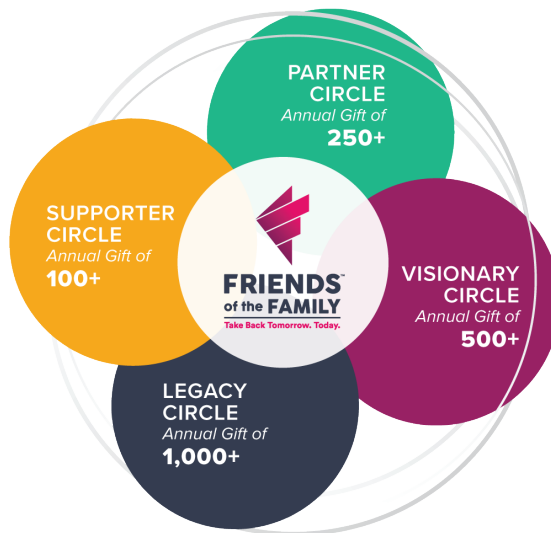
Michelle Jungers & Glen Keith  
Jim Denholm  
Mike Isaacson

### VISIONARY CIRCLE

Heather Solomon  
Ted & Deborah Waitman

### PARTNER CIRCLE

Nicole Fens  
Annemarie Woods  
Waverly Lyons Club  
Kristopher & Cheryl Einsweiler  
Richard & Cheryl Jensen



## DONATE

### Our top needs:



POTS & PANS



SILVERWARE



TOWELS & WASHCLOTHS



TWIN XL SHEETS



DIAPERS, SIZES 4 & 5



BABY WIPES



PILLOWS

## SUPPORTER CIRCLE

Nichole Cooper  
Erin Hinton  
Michelle Hall  
Melinda Wilmer  
Kim Maclin  
Melissa Haberstich  
Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home  
Gerald Schmitz  
Duaine & Charlotte Westpfahl  
William & Janet Streipe  
Elly Folkers  
Cyndia & Lyman Campbell  
Larry & Lois Trachte  
First Security State Bank  
Helen Melichar  
Bruce & Diane Holmes  
Sara Junaid-VanArsdale  
Mary Ellinger  
Robert & Jolene Wyatt  
Jerry & Audrey Elsamiller  
Trinity United Methodist Church  
Jamie Fens  
Roger Peppel  
Marsha Koenig  
George & Mary Warren  
Carol Morgan  
Micaela Lorenz  
Rick & Pat Deike  
Doug Drape  
Richard & Cheryl Jensen  
Kathy Folkers  
Daniel & Sarah Cooper  
Janet & Kevin Sanders  
Joseph & Sandra Dunn  
Delores Coonradt  
Trinity Lutheran Church (WELCA)  
Donna Andreessen  
Nettie Treloar



# Save the Date Cedar Valley!



Friends of the Family is getting ready for our FIRST ANNUAL 'Putt an End to Homelessness' golf tournament presented by Green State Credit Union. There are several sponsorship opportunities available and of course room for YOUR foursome for a fun afternoon of golf on **Friday, August 27**. We will have lunch and registration from 11-12 with a 12pm shotgun start! This will take place at Sunnyside Golf and Country Club in Waterloo. Make sure to contact [erin@fofia.org](mailto:erin@fofia.org) today for details on getting your team signed up or securing one of those great sponsorship opportunities! Be prepared for some fun with multiple hole games, putting contests, and of course mulligans... fofoooooooooooooore!!!



**FRIENDS  
of the FAMILY**

**Take Back Tomorrow. Today.**

PO Box 784  
Waverly, IA 50677

Presorted  
Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Waverly, IA  
Permit No. 78