Volunteer UNITED

United Way of Johnson & Washington Counties Volunteer Portal

Presented by: HILLS BANK



November & December 2026



Shelter House Annual Soup Luncheon
Monday, November 16th 11am-1pm
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Shelter House is kicking off National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week this November by holding their annual Soup Luncheon. Shelter House is looking for help with set up and tear down, serving soup, and handing out drinks and desserts.

Volunteer for Soup Luncheon: https://bit.ly/soupnhhaw26
Contact: brett.mccartt@shelterhouseiowa.org

CommUnity Crisis Services

Community Crisis Services and Food Bank
CANstruction Destruction Sign-up
November 14th 9:00am-11:00am Coralridge Mall

Volunteers are needed to destruct the CANstruction masterpieces on display at the Coralridge Mall and load cans for transport.

Sign up here to help: CANstruction Destruction Sign Up

Iowa City Free Lunch Program

Iowa City Free Lunch Program
Kitchen Deep Clean
5-10 Volunteers – Flexible Scheduling and Group Size

Iowa City Free Lunch offers an open door, a full plate, no questions asked every Monday through Saturday to anyone who comes to our location at 1105 Gilbert Ct. An average of 120 meals are served each day, and teams from different community groups organize the cooking and serving of most of our meals.

To support this effort, a **Kitchen Deep Clean** is periodically needed to keep the space shipshape. A Kitchen Deep Clean can flex to accommodate more or fewer participants; a group of 5-10 volunteers is ideal. We typically schedule these for **Saturday** afternoons from **1:15-3:15 p.m.**, and **November 14 or December 19** are dates that would work well for the Free Lunch calendar.
Contact Diane Platte at icfreelunchkitchen@gmail.com for more information or to sign up.



The Optimist Club Chrismas Tree Sale
November 22nd – December 13th
Volunteer and Spread Holiday Cheer!!

The Optimist Club of Iowa City's Christmas Tree Sale has been a beloved holiday tradition for decades, raising funds that support local youth programs and organizations throughout our community.

They need your help to make this year's sale a success! Volunteer for a shift, enjoy the festive atmosphere, and be part of a tradition that brings joy to families while making a meaningful impact for local kids.

Available volunteer opportunities and sign up:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050E48A5AC23A0F58-66343568-2026#/

The Bird House – Hospice Home of Johnson County
Holiday Lights at the Lake
West Overlook Campground

Join in the fun at the sixth annual Holiday Lights at the Lake drive-thru light display!!

Nightly Volunteers 11/25-12/31
Volunteers are needed nightly to assist with a variety of duties such as counting cars, helping with campground traffic, scanning and selling tickets, handing out brochures and candy canes, monitoring the exit and assisting with the flow of traffic outside the campground. Great for individuals and group volunteers.

Nightly volunteer information and sign-up:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044BAAAB2BA7F58-65716474-holiday#/

Agape Café
Dishwashers needed Wednesdays from November-January
2-3 Hour Shifts
26 East Market Street at Old Brick Church, Iowa City

Agape Café is in need of dishwashers for 2 or 3 hours every Wednesday from November to January! Volunteer slots range from 7am to 11am.

Signup is available through signup genius 2026 Volunteers: Fall 2026 Volunteers or following the link on our website's volunteer tab at www.agapecafe.org
Contact: Ellee Murphey Agapebreakfast@gmail.com

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is a national IRS sponsored program that provides free tax preparation of federal and state tax returns for low income households

Volunteers are critical to the success of the VITA program. VITA volunteers help complete and file tax returns for those who have a limited income. On average, it costs a taxpayer nearly $300 to have taxes done. This money can instead be used for basic needs such as groceries and rent.

Volunteer opportunities include Greeters and Tax Preparers and shifts are flexible January through mid-April. No tax experience is required. Online training sessions are provided and required. Volunteer training for the tax season begins in November and December.

For more information or to register to volunteer, access this link: https://johnsoncountyiowa.gov/become-vita-volunteer.

The Salvation Army
Food Shelf & Dinner Service Volunteers
1116 Gilbert Ct. Iowa City, IA 52240

Food Shelf Volunteers:

- Help clients shop the food pantry
- Organize food items
- Track household sizes
- Manage capacity and entry flow

Days/Times: Mondays and Wednesdays 12:45-2:15pm

Dinner Service Volunteers:

- Assist with meal prep and serving
- Prepare to-go meals
- Support kitchen and dining room operations
- Handle light cleaning tasks.

Days/Times: Monday-Friday 4:30-6:30pm

Contact: Ashton Hollis at Ashton.Hollis@usc.salvationarmy.org

Salvation Army of Johnson County
Red Kettle Campaign Bell Ringers
Make a Difference with Every Ring

Volunteers are needed **November 13-December 24** to ring bells for the Salvation Army of Johnson County. There will be multiple locations and multiple time slots available.

Utilize the link below to review available locations, dates, and times. Search by local zipcode for Johnson County volunteer locations:

Register to Ring

Toys for Tots
December 7 to December 18
Johnson County Fairgrounds Building A

Volunteers are needed for a variety of roles including:

- Sorting and organizing toys
- Family check-in
- Assisting families with toy selection
- Interpreters
- Closing the Toy Shop

Review Volunteer shifts and Sign-up Here:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0848ACA72EA3FBC16-65459356-toys#/

Adopt-A-Family
United Way of Johnson & Washington Counties
More than Gifts – It's the Gift of Knowing Someone Cares!!

The United Way Adopt a Family Program connects local families with businesses, groups, and neighbors who want to make the holidays brighter. Sponsoring a family provides gifts and essentials, and it also frees up a family's budget for rent, food, and utilities. Every gift supports a neighbor, strengthens our local economy, and brings our community together.

Click here to learn more: https://www.unitedwayjwc.org/uwadoptfamily

Free Lunch Program – Treasurer Opening

The Free Lunch Program is seeking a Treasurer to join its Board of Directors. The Treasurer serves as the board's lead financial overseer, reviewing financial reports, assisting with budget development, overseeing tax filings and accounting processes, and helping manage the organization's financial accounts and expenditures.

The Treasurer is a voting board member and part of the Executive Committee. Board members are expected to attend quarterly meetings, serve on a committee, and make an annual contribution according to their means.

For more information, contact: Laura Hunter at icfreelunch@gmail.com or 319-337-6283.

Cycling Without Age
Volunteer Treasurer Position

Cycling Without Age - Johnson County is a growing, all-volunteer organization dedicated to bringing the joy of cycling to those who cannot ride a bike independently due to age or disability. In partnership with the Iowa City Bike Library, Inc., they are currently seeking a volunteer treasurer to join their steering committee. The ideal candidate is enthused about the mission, and has the necessary experience and slo;;. This is a strategic position as the Bike Library book keeper manages the day to day finances.

If you are interested, send a brief summary of your background and relevant experience to cyclingwithoutage.jc@gmail.com

For more information visit https://icbikelibrary.org/cycling-without-age

Ronald McDonald House
Weekly Scheduled Volunteers

Weekly scheduled volunteers assist with miscellaneous duties to keep the House a clean, welcoming environment. There are three different positions to choose from:

- Front Desk Volunteers
- Kitchen Volunteers
- In-House Volunteers

Online application: https://rmhc-eiwi.org/volunteer-application/

Mark Twain Lucas Farms Food Pantry at Faith UCC
1609 Deforest Ave., Iowa City

- **2nd & 4th Wednesday 2:00pm-6:00**
- **2nd & 4th Tuesday late morning to unload the food truck**

Volunteers are needed to assist in serving an increasing number of families. Interpreters are also needed.

Volunteers welcome and assist guests, help carry groceries for shoppers, and restock shelves with available items.

For questions or more information, contact Faith UCC by phone or e-mail:
Faith UCC: 319-338-5238 or faithucc2014@gmail.com or 57czahradnek@gmail.com

Houses into Homes
Individual Volunteer Opportunities

Houses into Homes provides gently used beds, furniture, and household items for families and individuals in Johnson County who are exiting homelessness, domestic violence, and other crisis situations.
This work is only possible with the support and service of community members!!
Volunteers are needed for furniture deliveries as well as a variety of tasks in the warehouse.
Volunteer Opportunities: https://www.housesintohomes.org/volunteer

Shelter House - Individual Volunteer Opportunities
Shifts are flexible to volunteer schedules
Volunteers are needed to help with the following:

- Receiving and sorting community donations
- Fulfilling client donation requests and assisting the front desk as needed
- Assisting in the Resource Center to help clients use computers to apply for jobs, create resumes, apply for housing, etc.

Visit https://shelterhouseiowa.org/volunteer/ for more information and to fill out a volunteer application today!
Contact: brett.mccartt@shelterhouseiowa.org

Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity
ReStore Volunteers Needed - Help ReStore Sort Cans!
Volunteer shifts available Tuesday & Friday each week
9:30am-1:00pm & 1:00pm-5:00pm
Iowa City ReStore is looking for additional ReStore volunteers to help with sorting cans. When volunteers fill up a truckload of cans, IVHFH receives roughly $1,000 that helps fund our mission. Volunteers will help ReStore staff sort through cans and put them into the correct bundles before loading them into one of the ReStore trucks.

Age Restrictions: All volunteers must be at least 14 years old. All volunteers under 18 must have a liability waiver filled out and signed by a parent or legal guardian.

Sign up here: https://www.iowacityrestore.com/volunteer.html
For questions or more information please contact:
Sammi DeNeui, Volunteer Coordinator, sammi@iowavalleyhabitat.org

Iowa City Free Medical & Dental Clinic
Volunteers Needed
Variety of Volunteer Positions

The Iowa City Free Medical & Dental Clinic is looking for a variety of volunteers:

- Reception
- Clinic Assistant
- Patient Guides
- Interpreters
- Phlebotomist/Laboratory
- Pharmacy

Apply online at: http://freemedicalclinic.org/give-time/
For questions or further information e-mail: volunteer@freemedicalclinic.org

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Agape Café
Meal Prep Tuesday Afternoons 12:45pm-3:00pm
Breakfast Service Wednesday Mornings 7:00am-11:00am
26 East Market Street at Old Brick Church, Iowa City

Agape Café serves a free, hot breakfast each Wednesday for neighbors experiencing homelessness and food insecurity. Breakfast is available for dine-in or to-go service.

Volunteers are needed to assist with Tuesday afternoon meal preparation and dining room set-up, as well as Wednesday morning breakfast service. Volunteer opportunities include food preparation, serving guests, dishwashing, food service assistance, and clean-up/breakdown activities.
Flexibility with volunteer hours is available. Signup:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DA5AD2CA5FACF8-60021700-2026#/
Contact: Jenny Britton - 319-400-4879 or agapebreakfast@gmail.com

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Crowded Closet Thrift Shop

Crowded Closet is ready to welcome new volunteers! At the Closet you can find a variety of volunteer opportunities across donation processing and retail teams.

Crowded Closet Thrift Shop receives donated items and sells them locally to support relief, development, and peacebuilding around the world and in our local community!

Volunteer application: https://www.crowdedcloset.org/volunteer.html
or email crowdedcloset.volunteer@gmail.com with any questions!

Meals on Wheels of Johnson County
Meal Delivery Drivers Needed

The Johnson County Meals on Wheels program is looking for additional drivers to bring nutritious food and friendly check-ins to neighbors who need them most. Meal delivery takes places Monday-Friday with pick up around 10:30am. There are typically 4 routes that are open daily. Meal pickup is at Meals on Wheels Coralville office, 2000 James St., Ste 117a, Coralville, IA 52241. Volunteers will need to complete a short application, background check, and a couple of short videos before starting.

To volunteer, call Cara Brady, Volunteer Coordinator for Meals on Wheels at 319-375-3160. Or you can signup online at horizonsfamily.org

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Community Crisis Services and Food Bank
Individual Volunteer Opportunities

CommUnity is in need of volunteers for delivery services, pantry preparation, and mobile food preparation

Grocery Delivery:

- Monday-Friday 1:00-3:00pm
- Pick up prepared deliveries at CommUnity and deliver food to local households using your personal vehicle

Staple Bag & Delivery Preparation:

- Monday-Friday, 11:00am-2:00pm
- Help prepared grocery deliveries and staple bags for distribution

Mobile Pantry Helper:

- Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
- Most shifts are 4:00pm-5:30pm (varies by location)
- Assist with food distribution at mobile pantry sites throughout Iowa City

Sign Up: **https://volunteer.bloomerang.co/volunteer/#/join-party?k=20gtucd6didsim**

Contact: Krystal Kabela: krystal.kabela@builtbycommunity.org

Ronald McDonald House
Volunteer Opportunities

Stock the Freezer with Love:
Stock the Freezer with Love helps ensure families staying at the Ronald McDonald House always have a warm, comforting meal waiting for them. Volunteers use our commercial kitchen to cook freezer-friendly favorites—from hearty entrées and sides to sweet treats—that our kitchen team can serve on evenings when a volunteer meal group isn't scheduled.
If you are interested, please use the following link:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4BABA72AA2F4C70-64638769-casserole#/

Prepare a Meal at Ronald McDonald House of Iowa City:
Gather your group and make a difference for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City! Volunteers prepare and serve dinner for approximately 50 guests, providing a warm, home-cooked meal after a long day at the hospital. Groups of up to 8 volunteers are welcome, and all food is prepared on-site in our kitchen.
If you are interested, please use the following link:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4BABA72AA2F4C70-64636381-make#/

4C's of Johnson County
Individual Volunteer Opportunity
1500 Sycamore St, Iowa City, IA 52240
Shifts available M-F 9am-4:30pm

4C's is looking for volunteers to help remove old office furniture, scan items into folders, and separate documents into shred/no shred sections.

To sign up: Call 319-338-7684 or email Terrie at terrie@iowa4cs.com

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Historical Secrest 1883 Octagonal Barn
Barn Restoration Volunteers
Johnson County, 5750 Osage St SE, West Liberty, IA 52776

Volunteer dates and times are flexible. Individual and Group Volunteers are needed to assist with cleaning, repairing, and painting the Historic Secrest 1883 Octagonal Barn.

Contact Richard Tyler at: rich-tyler@uiowa.edu

Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity
Construction Volunteers Needed – Iowa City
Volunteer shifts available Thursday-Saturday every week
8:00am-12:00pm & 1:00pm-5:00pm

Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity is looking for additional construction volunteers to help with three current home builds in the Iowa City area.

Volunteers will help construction staff through the entire home building process. No prior experience or knowledge is required! Volunteers are trained and provided with all the tools needed to accomplish the tasks at hand.
Age Restrictions: All volunteers must be at least 16 years old. All volunteers under 18 must have a liability waiver filled out and signed by a parent or legal guardian. Minor volunteers also have slight restrictions regarding the jobs they can help with. If a volunteer is under 18, it is best to contact the Volunteer Coordinator in advance.

Sign up here: https://build.iowavalleyhabitat.org/volunteer_calendar

Contact: Sammi DeNeui sammi@iowavalleyhabitat.org

Ecumenical Towers
Bingo Caller Volunteers
320 E Washington St. Iowa City

Ecumenical Towers is looking for volunteers to help call Bingo numbers for their monthly Bingo activity for their residents. It would be once a month for an hour. The date and time of day can be flexible.

If you are intereted, contact: Stacey Clennon at 319-887-2796

United Way of Johnson & Washington Counties
Office Volunteers

The United Way of Johnson & Washington Counties is looking for office volunteers to assist with office needs and various projects. Tasks such as reception, donation counting and sorting, mailing projects, inventory of community impact items, organizing, etc.

Volunteer time would typically be during business hours Monday-Friday. Flexible scheduling based upon project needs and volunteer availability. If you are interested in learning more about volunteering at the United Way office, please contact Wendy Nolan: wendy.nolan@unitedwayjwc.org or 319-338-7823

For information on other volunteer opportunities:
United Way Volunteer Center
https://www.unitedwayjwc.org/volunteer-center
319-337-8657 or email: vols@unitedwayjwc.org

Wendy Nolan
Director of Volunteer & Community Engagement
United Way of Johnson & Washington Counties
(319) 338-7823 wendy.nolan@unitedwayjwc.org

