



Volunteer UNITED

UNITED WAY OF JOHNSON & WASHINGTON COUNTIES
VOLUNTEER EXPRESS

Presented by:  **HILLS BANK**

December 2025 & January 2026



Community Crisis Services and Food Bank

Project Holiday Food Distribution Volunteer Opportunity

December 15 – December 20th

CommUnity Food Pantry 1045 Hwy 6 E, Iowa City

Help provide meals to our neighbors to celebrate the holidays. Food distributed includes entrees as well as side dishes.

Volunteers are needed to assist at the food distribution site, Interpreter are needed at the site, and Delivery Drivers are also needed to distribute meals within Johnson County.

To learn more or to sign-up access these links:

Onsite Distribution: [CommUnity Food Bank: 2025 Project Holiday Distribution](#)

Delivery Drivers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A044DADAD28A31-60710657-2025#/>



The Bird House – Hospice Home of Johnson County

Holiday Lights at the Lake

November 26 through December 31

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

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!!

Please use the link below for more detailed volunteer information and to sign-up:

Nightly Volunteers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044BAAAB2BA7F58-58794967-holiday#/>



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.

For more information or to register to volunteer, access this link:

[Become a VITA Volunteer! | Johnson County \(johnsoncountyiowa.gov\)](https://www.johnsoncountyiowa.gov/become-a-vita-volunteer)



Toys for Tots

December 8 to December 18

Johnson County Fairgrounds Building A

Volunteers are needed for a variety of roles including:

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

Review Volunteer shifts and Sign-up Here:

[Warehouse: Toys for Tots Volunteer Opportunities](#)



HACAP Food Pantry – Washington, Iowa

2176 Lexington Blvd

Volunteers are needed to assist in the HACAP Food Pantry in Washington.

- Sort and organize food donations during the week
- Assist with grocery store pick-ups of donated food
- Ensure food is distributed quickly and safely to those in need
- Volunteer shifts are flexible and can be tailored to volunteer availability

For more information or to volunteer contact:

Renella Crawford, Washington Operations Director

319-653-7275 or rcrawford@hacap.org



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.

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

****Interpreters are also needed.**

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



Crowded Closet Thrift Shop Individual and Group Volunteer Opportunities

Crowded Closet is ready to welcome new volunteers!

At the Closet you can find a variety of volunteer opportunities across our donation processing and retail teams. We can't wait to get connected with you!

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.

Find our volunteer application [HERE](#), or email us at crowdedcloset.volunteer@gmail.com with any questions!



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

Volunteers are needed in ringing 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:

[Register to Ring](#)



Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity

ReStore Volunteers Needed - Help ReStore Sort Cans!!

**Volunteer shifts available Tuesday-Saturday every week
9:30am-1:00pm & 1:00pm-5:00pm (No Wed. am shift)**

Iowa City ReStore is looking for additional ReStore volunteers throughout December and January 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 to volunteer here: [Volunteer Calendar](#)

For questions or more information please contact:

Sammi deNeui, Volunteer Coordinator, sammi@iowavalleyhabitat.org



Ronald McDonald House

Prepare A Meal for Families

Bring your group to prepare a meal for families.

We need your help! Summer is the hardest time of year to find groups to make meals for families.

Returning from the hospital to a hot and fresh dinner is definitely the most appreciated amenity offered to guests of the Ronald McDonald House.

Meal groups determine the menu and provide groceries for their meal. All the necessary equipment needed to prepare your meal is available in the kitchen. Dinner is served daily at 5:30pm, and groups are welcome to come anytime starting at 2pm to prepare.

If you are interested in signing up for a date, you can check availability and sign up on the online calendar here: [RMHC-EIWI Online Meal Calendar](#)



Agape Café

Meal Prep Tuesday Afternoons 1:00pm-3:00pm

Breakfast Service Wednesday Mornings 9:00am-11:00am

26 East Market Street at Old Brick Church, Iowa City

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

Volunteers are needed to assist with a Tuesday afternoon prep period and Wednesday service. The afternoon prep involves setting up the dining hall at Old Brick and assembling ingredients for the following morning's breakfast. Wednesday morning volunteer activities include washing dishes, putting away supplies, tables and chairs, etc.

Additional volunteer support is needed during the University of Iowa semester breaks and finals week as student volunteers are not available:

Dec 17th 2025 -- Signup Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DA5AD2CA5FACF8-57558647-2025#/>

Jan 7th & 14th 2026 -- Signup Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DA5AD2CA5FACF8-60021700-2026>

Flexibility with volunteer hours is available. Come early and enjoy a great breakfast.

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more, contact Jenny Britton at: 319-400-4879 or agapebreakfast@gmail.com



Community Crisis Services and Food Bank

Current volunteer needs include the Food Bank, Mobile Pantry, Grocery Delivery Driver, and Financial Services Support

Food Bank Volunteer Signup: [HERE](#)

Mobile Pantry Volunteer Signup (by location): [HERE](#)

Grocery Delivery Driver Volunteer Signup: [HERE](#)

Financial Support Services Volunteer Information: [HERE](#)



Houses into Homes

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.

[Click here to view all Houses into Homes volunteer opportunities.](#)



Shelter House - Individual Volunteer Opportunities

Shifts are flexible to volunteer schedules

Volunteers are needed to help with the following:

- Sorting donations
- Fulfilling client donation requests
- Assisting in the Job Lab to help clients use computers to apply for jobs, create resumes, and apply for housing.

Visit <https://shelterhouseiowa.org/volunteer/> for more information and to fill out a volunteer application today!

Contact: volunteer@shelterhouseiowa.org



Meals on Wheels of Johnson County Flex Meal Delivery Drivers Needed

The Johnson County Meals on Wheels program is looking for additional Flex Drivers. Flex Drivers are substitute drivers who are available to fill in for last-minute volunteer cancellations to deliver meals.

Meal delivery takes place Monday-Friday with pick up time between 10:15am and 10:30am. Routes typically take between one to two hours. Meal pickup location is at the Meals on Wheels Coralville office, 2210 9th St. Coralville, IA 52241.

New volunteers will fill out a volunteer application for Johnson County on our [website](#) or with this direct link: <https://www.volgistics.com/appform/196250922> Once approved, volunteers can sign up for this position through the volunteer portal or through Cara directly. Flex volunteers are typically notified the day before the delivery shift.

For additional information or questions, please contact:
Cara Brady, Johnson County Volunteer Coordinator 319-375-3160



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/>

Use this link to review detailed volunteer role descriptions:

[Volunteer Descriptions – Free Medical and Dental Clinic \(freemedicalclinic.org\)](http://freemedicalclinic.org/volunteer-descriptions)

For questions or further information e-mail: volunteer@freemedicalclinic.org



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 throughout December and January to help with the progress of the current build 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 to volunteer here: [Volunteer Calendar](#)

For questions or more information please contact:

Sammi deNeui, Volunteer Coordinator, sammi@iowavalleyhabitat.org



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

If you are interested in learning more complete the online application here:
<https://rmhc-eiwi.org/volunteer-application/>



NEIGHBORHOOD
CENTERS

Neighborhood Centers of Johnson County Onsite Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are needed to assist with the following:

- **Front Desk Volunteer Assistant:** The front desk volunteer assistant is a vital part of creating a safe, kind, and helpful environment in our lobby areas, as well as being a key bridge of communication between parents, teachers, and staff. (7:30am - 9am, 12pm-1pm, or 3:30pm-5:30pm)
- **English or Citizenship Class Volunteer:** Support adult learners in our English or Citizenship classes! As a volunteer, you will assist the lead instructor by guiding participants through activities, holding conversations to build confidence, and providing one-on-one support. This role helps create a positive, engaging learning environment for all participants. (Citizenship classes are held Mondays, and Fridays from 6–8 PM and English classes are held Tuesdays from 6–8 PM - both at our Pheasant Ridge Neighborhood Center.)
- **Social Media Volunteer:** Use your creativity to support Neighborhood Centers by managing posts, capturing photos/videos, creating graphics, and helping keep us on schedule. Your work will boost our outreach and community engagement. (Hours are flexible based on volunteer availability.)
- **Sewing Class Assistant** – Assist with supporting participants during weekly sewing classes (Mondays 12:00-1:00) Iowa City Family Resource Center

For more information or to sign up contact: Bella Williams 319 354 2886 ext. 104
Bella-Arredondo@ncjc.org



Ronald McDonald House Casserole Club Volunteers

Volunteers are welcome to come in during the day and prepare casseroles for us to freeze and later provide to families when we do not have an evening volunteer meal group.

Groups of 8 can be accommodated. You bring in the ingredients to prepare your casseroles on-site. Our fully stocked kitchen will have everything else you need! We ask that Casserole Club groups wrap up by noon, so if we have a meal group coming in that evening, the kitchen will be available. If you are interested in signing up for a date, you can check availability and sign up on the online calendar here:

[RMHC-EIWI Online Meal Calendar](#)



UnityPoint Health
AbbeHealth Services

Aging Services, Inc. - Pathways Adult Day Health Center Day Program for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities Volunteers Needed - Variety of Activities Available

Pathways can create a custom volunteer experience for individuals or groups and offer one-time or short-term volunteer options. Volunteers can assist with anything from 1:1 time with participants (playing a game, talking, or assisting them during a big group program), helping out with main group activities during crafts or games, coming to help with a holiday party, or administrative tasks such as filing or mailing letters.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can make a difference at Pathways in Iowa City, reach out to Hannah Lenth by e-mail or phone:

Hannah.lenth@unitypoint.org 319-339-6162



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.

For more information or to schedule a volunteer time, contact Richard Tyler at:

rich-tyler@uiowa.edu



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

Volunteer and Community Engagement Manager

United Way of Johnson & Washington Counties

(319) 338-7823

www.unitedwayjwc.org

