

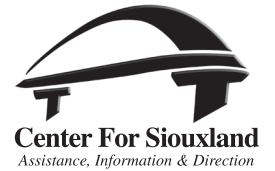


Center For Siouxland
 715 Douglas Street
 Sioux City, IA 51101
 Phone: 712-252-1861 Fax: 712-255-1352
 Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
 E-mail: cfs@centerforsiouxland.org
 24/7 Human Services Help Line Dial 2-1-1

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CENTER FOR SIOUXLAND

A newsletter for friends and associates of Center For Siouxland January 2008



Check our website
www.centerforsiouxland.org

TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL SEND
 YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO
kim.dewitt@centerforsiouxland.org



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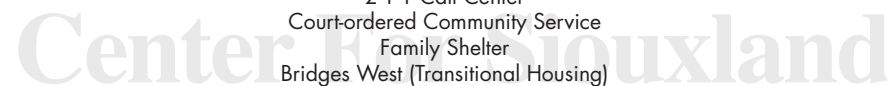
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 On the corner of 8th and Douglas
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Client Trust Department Programs:
 Center for Consumer Credit Counseling
 Conservatorship/Representative Payee

Senior Department Programs:
 Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
 Senior Companion Program

Community Assistance Programs:
 Community Assistance
 2-1-1 Call Center
 Court-ordered Community Service
 Family Shelter
 Bridges West (Transitional Housing)



Providing assistance, information, and direction by building bridges
 between people with needs and people with solutions.

Hunger Heroes Thanks Donors ...Needs Help for 2008

Center For Siouxland has a Hunger Heroes committee formed of community volunteers and staff that contact local churches, business and agencies to ask them to conduct a food drive to help stock Center For Siouxland's food pantry. These donations allow the agency to serve more individuals than would be possible if the agency had to purchase food items from the Food Bank. Hunger is a problem in Siouxland throughout the year. If you would be interested in serving on this committee or if your business, agency, church or organization would like to conduct a food drive please call 252-1861 ext. 41. Thank you to the following donors for helping fight hunger in Siouxland during 2007.

Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools
 Blessed Sacrament Church
 Angela Chacon-Bernhardt
 Becky Clark
 Pat Collins
 Crescent Park United Methodist Church
 East Middle School
 Michael Erpelding
 Fareway Store Inc.
 First Christian Church
 First Congregational United Church
 First Presbyterian Church
 First Unitarian Church
 Great West Casualty Company
 Mike Hanus
 Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA
 Interfaith Resources
 Knoepfler Chevrolet
 L & L Builders
 Mercy Medical Center
 Midtown Mercy Medical Clinic

Pat Mohr
 Morningside Lutheran Church
 Morningside Presbyterian Church
 Merville United Methodist Church
 NorthPark Senior Living Center
 Prairie Pediatrics
 Rick Patterson
 Riverside Lutheran Church
 Riverside United Methodist Church
 Sacred Heart School
 Eldon Schroeder
 Schroeder Engineering
 Social Security Administration
 St. James United Methodist Church
 St. Joseph's Catholic Church
 St. Michael's Catholic Church
 Sunnybrook Community Church
 Third Presbyterian Church
 Trimble United Methodist Church
 Wesley United Methodist Church
 Whitfield United Methodist Church

Happy New Year

The start of a new year is often a time of reflection. It is also a time to review your philanthropy goals and how you can help meet the needs of others. One of those goals may be to include your favorite charities in your estate planning. This can take many forms: a bequest through your will, a revocable trust, an annuity trust, etc. A person of any financial background can make a contribution.

Center For Siouxland is a member of Leave a Legacy which provides education and resource material on estate planning. Their website is leavealegacyiowa.org. They can help you weigh personal factors and make detailed calculations of income and tax benefits you will receive through a gift to your favorite charity. Center For Siouxland recommends that you consult your tax legal advisors prior to making a planned gift.

211 Working to Help Taxpayers

CFS's 2-1-1 will be assisting taxpayers in determining if they are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit when filing their taxes. This initiative came out of the United Way's community impact goal of assisting families in achieving self-sufficiency. Each year thousands of taxpayers do not claim their qualifying earned income credit for numerous reasons. Ensuring those who qualify receive this credit will bring added dollars for the person/family to use toward

their basic needs and bring more money into the local community. People calling 2-1-1 will be referred to free, local tax prep sites including CFS's AARP site. The caller will also be routed to a special line at CFS which will outline the very basics in determining if they qualify for the tax credit. With this information, the caller will have the information needed to ensure that their tax preparer can determine if they qualify for this credit.

Senior Companions Celebrate Christmas

Senior Companions dressed in their finest for the Christmas Luncheon on Dec 14th. The 8-member "Senior Companion Carolers" serenaded the group with soloist Shirley Green and accompanist Sister Arnold, a Briar Cliff music professor. Judy Liles presented a Christmas blessing and grace. Lunch featured Christmas ham fresh from the bone. A choral reading of "Santa Decorates the Christmas Tree" was performed by everyone. After a caroling sing-a-long, each Senior Companion received a Christmas gift that included a personalized calendar in a decorative bag, fresh fruits and holiday treats, personalized business cards crafted by Senior Companion Glen Wilhelms, and a pay check.



Pictured from left to right are Mildred Lawrence, Helen Garvin, Elsie Jester and Bonnie Achord.

RSVP Thanks Lots of Socks Donors

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) collected socks that were donated to Goodwill Industries and distributed at their shoe and mitten party for local children. Thank you to the following people, agencies and businesses for your support in collecting 1,704 pairs of socks.

Calvary Lutheran Church
Center For Siouxland
Dollar Etc.
First Covenant Church
Great West Casualty
Kevin and Kristie McManamy
Morningside Presbyterian Church

Moville Evangelical Church
Moville's United Methodist Church
Rhonda's Speak Easy
Sioux City Police Department
Siouxland Chamber of Commerce
Third Presbyterian Church
Vantus Bank

Become a BRIDGE Club Member

To become a member of the BRIDGE Club you must donate \$100.00 or more during the calendar year. BRIDGE Club members giving at least \$500 are recognized at Center For Siouxland's Annual Meeting each year.

Levels of donations are as follows:

Frame \$100+ Girder \$250+ Cable \$500+ Truss \$1,000+ Suspension \$2,500+ Arch \$5,000+

Center For Siouxland's Consumer Credit Counseling First Time Homebuyer's Education Course

Buying a home is one of the most important decisions that you will ever make. This course will ensure that you, the homebuyer, will be more educated about the process, thereby making you a better homeowner! Classes are taught by a Certified Financial and Housing Counselor. There is a \$50 material fee for the course. Please call 712-252-1861, ext. 29 to reserve your spot.

After January 18th the classes will be held at Western Iowa Tech. The first scheduled classes are March 4, 6, 11 & 13 and are held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Attendance at all four classes is required. You may contact our office or Western Iowa Tech for more details.

Topics covered include:

Budgeting
Debt management
Credit reports and credit history
Negotiating offers
Types of homes
Home appraisers vs. home inspectors
Homeowners insurance
Closing process and paperwork
Advantages and disadvantages of homeownership

Predatory Lending
Fair Housing Laws
Selecting a real estate agent
Shopping for your loan
Prequalifying/Preapproval
Shopping for your home
Down payments
Aftercare of home

Center For Siouxland's RSVP and Gospel Mission Join Efforts

Effective January 1, 2008, RSVP will partner with the Sioux City Gospel Mission to provide volunteers for two different programs.

The first will be called Lunch Buddies. A Lunch Buddy volunteer will visit with residents over lunch. It is both RSVP and the Gospel Mission's hope that once a positive friendship is formed, residents and mentors will be able to share life stories and eventually rebuild resident's self-esteem and confidence.

The second program will have volunteers mentoring residents as they perform job related tasks. Approximately 10 residents work at the

Sioux City Gospel Mission in various positions such as food pantry clerk, clothing baler, and truck driver. Again, the goal is to have volunteers establish a positive friendship which in turn will rebuild the resident's attitude and self-worth.

RSVP is looking for a minimum of 5 volunteers to serve between 1-2 hours a week mentoring Sioux City Gospel Mission residents in a variety of areas. If you are interested or need more information, please call Johna at 712-252-1861, ext. 21.

Annual Report

We would like to share with you our agency accomplishments during 2007. The Community Assistance Department served 6,733 people with a variety of services. Bridges West Transitional Housing for the homeless served 99 people. The Seniors Programs Department worked with 601 seniors to provide 95,803 hours of service.

The Client Trust Department handled finances for 853 people. Consumer Credit Counseling provided services for 2,173 people. These services could not have been provided without generous donations received from individuals and businesses in the community.