



“

You have *impacted*  
my life in a very  
*positive* way...



**FRIENDS**  
of the **FAMILY**

Take Back Tomorrow. Today.

2017-2018 **ANNUAL REPORT**



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“

You welcomed me and  
made me feel safe.

You’ve all been great. Thank you so much!” – Shelter Resident

“You have impacted my life in a very positive way. You have been the light at the end of a very dark tunnel. I now have a desire to get my GED, get a job, put my kids in daycare, and live a positive, productive life.” – Permanent Housing Participant

“I was given resources to reach my goals. To get back to a normal sense of life. Thank you all so very much.” – Shelter Resident

“This class was so much more than I thought it would be. I didn’t realize how little I understood about finances.” – Financial Literacy Course Participant

# We Just Don’t Stop

Just when you thought we could not possibly do any more, we look back at 2017-2018 and realize we just don’t stop. We continue to expand the amount of people we serve and bring new programming into the agency.

In 2017-2018, Friends of the Family:

1. Officially changed the agency name to Friends of the Family, introducing a new logo and tagline.
2. Became the lead agency for the 9-county coordinated services region. This means all referrals, program development, and statewide leadership is represented by Friends of the Family.
3. Added the Wise Guys Program to its prevention education services. We now provide this program in Black Hawk, Bremer, Butler, and Chickasaw Counties to young men in 6 -12th grade. We educate young men on how to be respectful of women and what their responsibility is within the community. The Prevention Education Coordinator, in addition to providing the program, serves as a positive role model of these values.

We also continued developing our existing programming to meet the needs of those we serve. This means that we have lower cost interventions with higher success rates.



As we look ahead to 2018-2019 we will continue to develop resources that allow us to house more people affected by violence. We will work to develop alternative shelter options and increase employment opportunities for those we serve. Everything we do here is about ending homelessness and violence in our communities. We appreciate your help in that mission.

In partnership,  
  
Ben



When Jody returned to shelter after treatment, she found out she was accepted into our housing program, Rapid Housing Initiative. She quickly secured a safe and affordable place to live, and she and her dog were reunited in their new home. During her time on the Rapid Housing Initiative program, Jody worked with her caseworker to meet her goals of employment, income, community involvement, and treatment. She left briefly for another round of treatment, and again, Friends of the Family volunteers involved with Fostering for Hope stepped up to the plate and cared for her pet in the meantime.

Having a safe and loving environment for their beloved pets is a huge relief for victims of domestic violence. Without this support, many would remain in an abusive home, or return to the abusive home for their most basic needs. The Fostering for Hope volunteers provide a valuable service and we cannot thank them enough!

# Fostering for Hope

Jody entered shelter after fleeing her abusive partner. She had with her a therapy dog which helped her cope with her anxiety and eating disorder. Because of the Fostering for Hope program and the generous volunteers involved, the dog was cared for in a loving home while the client got back on her feet. During her time in the shelter, the client participated in crisis counseling and case management with Friends of the Family advocates. She also entered treatment to help her cope with her eating disorder. Throughout all of this, the dog was safe and cared for.

5,522

**SHELTER** 5,522 nights of safety provided to adults and children fleeing violence.

1 + 39  
2,777

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING** 1 labor trafficking survivor and 39 sex trafficking survivors were provided services. **This is more than double the previous year's 19 survivors served.** (3 labor trafficking survivors and 16 sex trafficking survivors). 91 human trafficking prevention and awareness presentations were provided to 2,777 individuals.

78%  
80%

**HOUSING** 78% of Turning Point participants increased their income while on the program. 80% of rapid rehousing clients remained in stable housing for 6 months or more after ending services.

65%  
1,013

**LETHALITY** 65% of callers seeking services screened "high" or "lethal situation" on the lethality assessment. 1,013 screenings were conducted.

41%  
75%

**PREVENTION** There was a 41% increase in 3rd and 4th grade students who demonstrated understanding that sexual abuse perpetrators are not usually strangers, but rather are typically someone the family knows and trusts. At post-test, 75% of 1st and 2nd graders demonstrated understanding that kids can be tricked and lured into abuse by adults. At posttest, 75% of middle schoolers demonstrated understanding that bystanders can and should safely intervene when they witness bullying.



Prevention education coordinator and students





## A New Start

“Julie” called our crisis line searching for shelter as she was being relocated to the Cedar Valley by the FBI in another state, due to ongoing safety concerns. She was trafficked for sex starting in her teens, being moved from place to place, never knowing where she was or what would happen to her at each new place. She had no access to money or communication tools, which restricted her ability to seek help. When she was finally able to escape, no matter where she went, her trafficker was able to find her. One of Julie’s traffickers has begun a prison sentence, but has organized for someone else to do his work. Even his incarceration does not give her safety.

Due to the abuse and stalking, Julie is hyper-aware of her surroundings. Each new person walking by, every sound outside, and anything that is outside of her expectations terrifies her. Since working with Friends of the Family, Julie has changed her phone number 4 times, changed her residence, and has even changed her identity.

As she works with her Friends of the Family advocate who provides support, counseling, and advocacy, Julie is slowly beginning to express hope, and is feeling that she may have found a place where she can start new and become a member of a community rather than someone’s property.

Friends of the Family’s human trafficking program serves victims and survivors of sex and labor trafficking throughout fourteen counties in Northeast Iowa. It offers safe shelter, relocation assistance, housing assistance, advocacy, crisis counseling, information and referrals, education, and other resources.

## Why give to Friends of the Family?

“

I support Friends of the Family because it is an organization with many people who truly care about helping others and making a difference in the community. I couldn’t be more proud of the hard work the people involved with Friends of the Family put in every day. I’ve felt connected to Friends of the Family since the first day I joined because this organization is a family and you truly see that when you meet the incredible individuals who work every day helping people who use our services.  
-Connor Kenney, Promotions Manager, KFMW-FM

“

When I give to Friends of the Family, I feel that my gift is pleasing God because I know I’m really making a difference for local abuse victims in need. Not only are donations helping family members who are victims with shelter and basic needs; but as Friends of the Family has grown, education and awareness has become such an integral part of what this organization is all about. I admire the leadership and staff of Friends of the Family and am a joyful giver because of the work this organization continues to do. -Jayne Hall, Business Solutions Advisor, The Accel Group

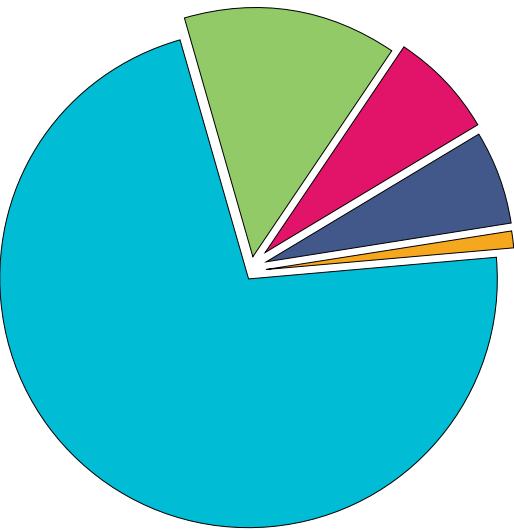
- Celebrated **25 years of service** to the Cedar Valley in 2017
- Recipient of the **2018 Distinguished Non Profit Award** from the Waverly Area Chamber of Commerce
- **181 volunteers** gave **1,449 hours of time**
- Doubled the amount of **human trafficking survivors** served from 19 the previous year, to 40 in FY17-18.
- Provided another record amount of client assistance, in the amount of **\$525,555 to participants affected by violence and homelessness**
- Wrapped up our first full year implementing Rapid Housing Initiative of North Iowa, **serving 25 adults and 24 youth who were homeless** prior to receiving services

FINANCIAL DATA

Income

Federal Grants	\$1,551,380.90
State Grants	\$303,208.31
Local Grants & Foundations	\$151,640.19
Events & Contributions	\$134,969.58
Program Reimbursements	\$5,885.00
Misc Income	\$5,251.29
Investment Income	\$3,252.12
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TOTAL INCOME	\$2,155,587.39

Income Overview

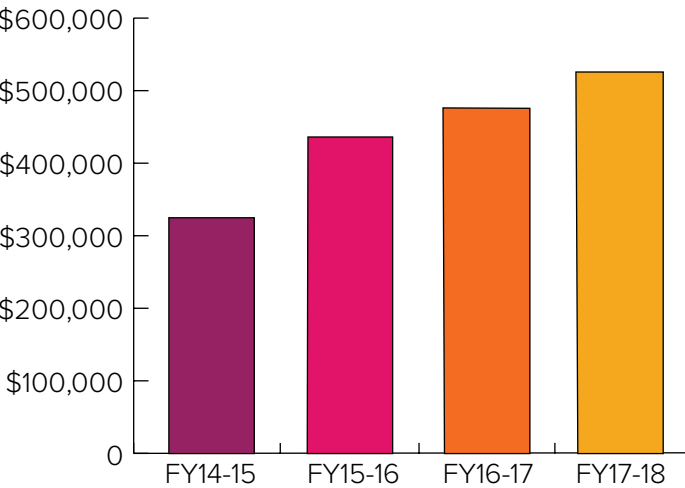


- FEDERAL GRANTS: 72%
- STATE GRANTS: 14%
- LOCAL GRANTS: 7%
- DONATIONS/FUNDRAISING: 6%
- MISC INCOME: 1%

Expenses

Payroll	\$1,149,664.81
Employee Benefits	\$118,067.24
Payroll Taxes	\$85,861.24
Travel & Training	\$58,209.01
Communications/Phone	\$24,835.32
Facilities & Equipment	\$12,945.72
Insurance	\$27,198.65
Rent	\$42,442.00
Utilities	\$19,798.41
Supplies	\$34,536.96
Repairs & Maintenance	\$18,772.11
Contract Services	\$40,193.01
Advertising	\$19,489.12
Bank Service Charges	\$727.84
Depreciation Expense	\$7,187.44
Workforce Developmt-SUTA	\$12,247.87
Client Assistance	\$525,555.90
Other	\$20,886.69
Business Expense	\$26,965.67
Fundraising/Outreach	\$17,166.56
<hr/>	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,262,751.57

Amount Spent on Client Assistance



FY14-15	\$325,051
FY15-16	\$436,140
FY16-17	\$476,140
FY17-18	\$525,556

OUR TEAM



Talye Anderson  
Shelter Advocate



Alexis Alfaro  
Housing Support  
Specialist



Tammy Anderson  
Night Advocate



William Aukes  
Housing Resource  
Specialist



Noah Baumeister  
Night Advocate



Jermain Berry  
Night Advocate



Will Bird  
Housing Support  
Specialist



Mechille Boldt  
Fiscal Director



Danielle Brackin  
Transitions Specialist



Kosette Brown  
Office Manager



Ben Brustkern  
Executive Director



Diamond DesRosiers  
Safe Housing  
Advocate



Carrie Diesburg  
Outreach Services  
Manager



Connor Fasse-Shaw  
Housing Support  
Specialist



Michelle Hall  
Manager of Community  
Engagement



Amanda Hewitt  
Night Advocate



Stephanie Hurlburt  
Night Advocate



Anthony James  
Prevention Education  
Coordinator



Jessica Jepsen-Rupp  
Homeless Resource  
Specialist



KarLee Kearns  
Housing Services  
Manager



Heather Kriener  
Shelter Services  
Manager



Megan Lindner  
Housing Support  
Specialist



Julie Mann  
Night Advocate



Cormick Michael  
Housing Support  
Specialist



Tara Moeller  
Director of  
Development



Casey Reints  
Grant & Communica-  
tions Coordinator



Genna Schilling  
Housing Support  
Specialist



Kelley Schmitz  
Director of Operations



Deanna Shafer  
Night Advocate



Felicia Shumpert  
Housing Support  
Specialist



Rosie Young-Julion  
Youth & Family  
Advocate

*not pictured*  
Rhonda Tovar, Night Advocate

Brittany, Human Trafficking Specialist  
Karen, Human Trafficking Manager  
Kayla Mehlert, Human Trafficking Specialist  
Mariana, Human Trafficking Specialist  
Shida, Human Trafficking Specialist

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Drew Kahler, President
- Alan Heisterkamp, Vice President
- Michelle Jungers, Secretary
- Jim Denholm, Treasurer
- Melissa Payne
- Jim Atty
- Stacy Hesse
- Connor Kenney
- Bari Richter
- Jim Denholm
- Nick Cleveland
- Kim Maclin
- Ken Cutts

# CRISIS LINE 24/7

**CALL 1-800-410-7233**

**EMAIL [admin@fofia.org](mailto:admin@fofia.org)**

Friends of the Family is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency providing victim services, violence prevention and homeless programming to 20 counties across Northeast Iowa. We are the only shelter and housing program designated to serve domestic violence survivors in the Cedar Valley. Our programs create safety and stability for the individuals and families we serve.

Serving the following Iowa counties: Allamakee, Benton, Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Cerro Gordo, Chickasaw, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Howard, Jones, Linn, Mitchell, Winneshiek, Worth.

## CONTACT US

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