



Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance

Fourteen years ago, **Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance, Inc.** was formed by several faith groups to provide emergency rent, utility, and food assistance to people in Story County whose resources had been exhausted. Today, thirty faith groups, including Saint Cecilia Parish, and other supporting organizations continue to pool their donations to provide that help. Each year, hundreds of Story County residents can stay in their homes, keep their utilities turned on, or put food on the table (through Healthy Food Vouchers) because of the help they receive from Good Neighbor.



Good Neighbor offers a central location at 3206 South Duff, where a qualified director evaluates requests for assistance, and provides counseling and advocacy with the support of dedicated volunteers.

Individuals and families seeking assistance with rent and utilities are required to provide proof of identity, demonstrate their need for service, proof of income, and information pertaining to the amount of assistance needed. Applicants for rent/utility assistance are given the specific list of documentation needed during a phone or in-person interview, at which time an appointment is set. Assistance is available once per twelve-month period and is paid directly to the landlord, property manager or utility provider.



Those applying for Healthy Food Vouchers may stop by the office during the office hours 9:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Monday through Friday and produce photo identification and proof of residency in Story County. The vouchers are available once per quarter and can be redeemed for nutritious foods at vendors throughout Story County.

Each Good Neighbor member group has a representative on the Good Neighbor Board of Directors, which provides oversight and direction to the agency.

More information is available by calling 515-296-1449 or by visiting Good Neighbor's website, www.gnea.org. Volunteers and donations are always welcome!

Social Justice Contacts

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

1-800-842-2243

STC Contact: Cynthia Shriver 292-6584

APPALACHIA WAREHOUSE

2019 Pullman Street, Ames

STC Contact: Lynn Franco 232-0898

BIRTHRIGHT OF AMES

108 Hayward Ave., Suite 202, Ames

515-292-8414

STC Contact: Kathy Ridnour 232-1697

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

STC Contact: Sharon Jenkins 233-2570

FOOD AT FIRST

516 Kellogg Ave., Ames

515-344-4357

STC Contact: Doreen Berg 956-3414

GOOD NEIGHBOR

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, INC.

3206 S. Duff, Ames

515-296-1449

STC Contact: Mary Ross 232-5080

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF CENTRAL IOWA

515-232-8815

STC Contact: Alan Christy 231-8099

MEALS ON WHEELS

(Homeward)

1114 S. Duff, Ames

STC Contact: Cathy Kaspar 233-0517

OPERATION RICE BOWL

STC Contact: Cynthia Shriver 292-6584

PRISON MINISTRY

STC Contact: Ron Smith 382-5654

SAINT CECILIA GOOD SAMARITAN SERVICES

STC Contact: Tom Samson 233-1950

SAINT CECILIA SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

STC Contact: Mary Ross 232-5080

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

STC Contact: Garland Dahlke (515) 460-0403

The Social Justice Committee meets on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Elizabeth Room. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Under the patronage of the Blessed Mother, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas are united by their faith in Jesus Christ, in their devotion to the church and the Holy See.

www.catholicdaughters.org

St. Cecilia's Contact:

Sharon Jenkins, Court Madonna Regent

phone number: 233-2570

(cell 515-291-2570)

E-mail:

jenkins-moore@att.net



The Catholic Daughters are women who work together to donate to charities, administer scholarship programs and strive "to be helping hands where there is pain, poverty, sorrow or sickness".

The members of the local chapter of CDA has helped with many activities at St. Cecilia's. Examples are:

Provide cookies and treats for parish events; make and donate handcrafted gifts that are sold at the Christmas Market (funds are used to support future building/parish needs); donate

gifts during the holidays to our Spanish families; contribute to many local, state, national and world organizations. These include:

- ◆ Appalachia Committee
- ◆ Catholic Charities
- ◆ Catholic Daughters Bishops Relief Fund
- ◆ Catholic Relief Services
- ◆ Mother Teresa Disaster Fund
- ◆ NCEA Scholarships for Teachers of Exceptional Students
- ◆ Saint Cecilia's School Library
- ◆ SOAR (Support our Aging Religious)

HOME FOR AWHILE

St. Cecilia Social Justice Committee has recently joined the agency of **Home for A While (HFA)**. It is a new agency which is developing this program to assist homeless families.

HFA was formed in the summer of 2010 by pastors and ministers from the Ames community who came together to envision a way that might address the increased need for affordable and/or transitional housing in Ames. After reviewing existing programs and meeting with representatives of support agencies in Ames, they decided to start looking for apartments to house displaced families.

Typically, candidates fill out an application and are interviewed by the HFA selection team to determine needs, goals and willingness to work with a mentor from the program. They are expected to contribute

a total of \$450.00 toward rent for the 3 month stay. The HFA coordinating team began by signing leases with the landlords of two rental units. They worked on refining the purpose and expectations of the program and in the beginning of October 2010 the first two families moved in. Two new families moved into the rental units on the weekend of Feb. 5-6. The HFA selection team is preparing to involve a third group of potential families.

Eventually there will be a meeting of all partner church representatives to determine greater involvement and to identify individuals with gifts and passions to bring to the program such as mentors to a family; working on the tenant selection team; volunteering to clean the units between tenants; fundraising; bookkeeping and other talents to build the program.

If anyone is interested in becoming involved in the project please see a member of the St. Cecilia Social Justice Committee.