



Social Justice Newsletter May 2019

Foster Parenting

"I was a stranger, and you welcomed me..." Matthew 25:35



At a recent parish meeting **several inquiring families of our St. Cecilia's community** learned about being **Foster Parents in Iowa**. A representative from Four Oaks Foster and Adoptive Services, Bambi Schrader, who is a Foster Parent, was on hand with an extremely helpful presentation.

Some surprising things to know are:

1. All the costs to care for the child are reimbursed.
2. If you aren't ready to be a full fledged Foster Parent, you can be a respite care provider.
3. Sometimes Foster care can open the door for adoption, but does not have to. The ultimate goal, if possible, is reunion with family of origin.
4. The need in Iowa is great for loving stable homes.

Becoming a Foster Parent is an opportunity to make a positive impact for the "least of these", but requires prayer and discernment. The support for becoming one is definitely out there, so fear not!

For more information contact:

Bambi Schrader / Recruitment & Training Coordinator

FO Foster/Adoptive Family Connections Program

YSS / 125 S. 3RD ST. AMES, IOWA 50010

C: 515-291-4071 / W: www.yss.org

Social Justice Contacts

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET -
1-800-842-2243 - **SCT Contact:**
Cynthia Shriver 292-6584

AMOS - SCT Contact:
Kathy Wipf 232-6232

APPALACHIA/OVERFLOW -
202 So. Duff, Ames - **SCT Contact:**
Lynn Franco 232-0898

BIRTHRIGHT OF AMES -
108 Hayward Ave., Suite 202, Ames -
515-292-8414 - **SCT Contact:**
Kriss Holmes 515-292-8414

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE
AMERICAS - SCT Contact:
Rose Tondra 232-4598

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM -
SCT Contact: John Wilson 232-1087

DAYS FOR GIRLS - SCT Contact:
Mary Ross 232-5080

EMERGENCY RESIDENCE
PROJECT - SCT Contact:
Julie Haas 232-7138

FOOD AT FIRST - 611 Clark Ave.,
Ames - 515-344-4357 - SCT Contact:
Julie Haas 232-7138

GOOD NEIGHBOR EMERGENCY
ASSISTANCE, INC. - 613 Clark Ave.,
Ames - 515-296-1449 - SCT Contact:
Charlie Weber 460-3335

HOME FOR AWHILE - SCT
Contact: Mary Ross 232-5080

OPERATION RICE BOWL - SCT
Contact: Cynthia Shriver 292-6584

PRISON MINISTRY - SCT Contact:
Barb Moore (515) 337-1551

SAINT CECILIA SOCIAL JUSTICE
COMMITTEE - Contact:
Doreen Berg 956-3414

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE -
SCT Contact:
Garland Dahlke 460-0403

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



UNITED WAY OF STORY
COUNTY (UWSC) has taken an
active role in providing food and aca-
demic enrichment opportunities for
children during the summer. Together
with other community partners
UWSC through the Story County
Reads education initiative helps fund
and implement summer programs in
Ames, Ballard, Collins-Maxwell and
Nevada.

Research shows that students who are not engaged in either academics or enrichment activities lose ground with their education over the summer months.

Summer is also a time when some families have a harder time making their budgets work because their food costs increase dramatically when children are not in school to participate in food programs. Food insecurity during the summer months negatively impacts these families the most as children who are normally receiving meals at school during the day do not have that option. Healthy food options may be limited as well because the food that is available for quick and easy preparation may not be the healthiest choice.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help with these summer programs. If you are interested in helping children read or help with lunches, please visit **The Volunteer Center of Story County** for information <https://www.vcstory.org> or call (515) 268-5323.

SHOP Plus 1

During the Summer months,
as mentioned in the article above,
families in **Ames and Story County**
are in real need of food since children
are not in school and do not always
have the food they receive through
lunch programs, etc.



When you shop for groceries and household items, please consider picking up an item to donate to the monthly St. Cecilia MICA collection.

Food items needed at the MICA Food Pantry are :

soups, packaged main meals, rice, canned meat, canned vegetables, canned fruit, peanut butter, pasta, cereal, baby food

Non food items needed are:

laundry detergent, dish soap, disposable diapers, baby wipes, toilet paper, shampoo, paper towels and tissues

Thank you for SHOPPING Plus 1!