



CENTRAL IOWA
RSVP
Connecting People To Purpose

The Connection

Spring 2025



Volunteer Driver Transportation Program - We Need You!



Our Volunteer Driver Transportation Program in Story County is booming! Our program provides older adults with safe and reliable transportation to and from medical appointments and other essential services.

We have seen a significant increase in transportation client applications recently. However, in order to meet the needs of those older adults, **we need more drivers!** If you have even a few hours a week and you would like to make a difference, consider signing up as a driver. Drivers are covered by our supplemental insurance while driving, are eligible for mileage reimbursement, and get to spend time meeting new people, making friends, and making a difference to those in need! Call Linda with any questions at (515) 292-8890 or Laura at (515) 733-4917.

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The 2025 Senior Expo is fast approaching!

Come and connect with many exhibitors serving “seniors” in Central Iowa and/or attend informative presentations. Everything is free, including beverages, refreshments, and lunch! Stop by the RSVP booth to say “Hi” and get a gift!

We are also looking for volunteers to assist in making this event a success! Contact Kim for more information at (515) 292-8890.

Volunteer Meet & Greet


Mark your calendars for our next volunteer meet and greet. This is for new volunteers, or those who need a refresher, to discuss RSVP and volunteer opportunities!

Thursday, June 19, 9:30 AM, 60 Forward Center

Staff Email Change

Our staff recently changed email addresses! Please update your contacts accordingly:

- Kalen Petersen - director@rsvpvolunteer.org
- Laura Severson - office@rsvpvolunteer.org
- Kim Anderson - story@rsvpvolunteer.org
- Linda Von Holten - marshall@rsvpvolunteer.org
- Paul Litscher - vme@rsvpvolunteer.org

LIVE UNITED 

FOOD DRIVE

To combat the need for increased food security, especially among children, United Way of Story County (UWSC) will hold the annual LIVE UNITED Food Drive in Story County April 28 - May 8. Help RSVP fight hunger in Story County!

Help us fill the pantries before school gets out for the summer! [More information can be found at www.uwstory.org/food-drive.](http://www.uwstory.org/food-drive)

TO DONATE: Items will be collected at our Ames & Story City offices.

Brag Book



PrepWise Presentation



Salvation Army Toy Shop



Raising Readers Event



Rock On in Retirement



Making Card Holders

Featured

- Disaster education (PrepWise) to Story County residents
- Salvation Army Christmas toy shop
- Raising Readers holiday event
- Rock On in Retirement event
- Volunteers making card holders
- Northridge Village "Lady Bug" group making Caring Cards



PrepWise Presentation



New Arrivals to Central IA RSVP

Laura Bauer, Ames
 Allen Bell, Marshalltown
 Pegi Bevins, Ames
 Mardell Christian, Story City
 Jeania Cozad, Ames
 Andrea Dorn, Nevada
 Lisa Green, State Center
 Wayne Hauber, Ames
 Linda Moore, Marshalltown
 Robert Moore, Marshalltown
 Tepricia Reeder, Story City
 Fonda Riemenschneider, State Center
 Robert Rivera, Ames
 Michelle Roseburrough, Marshalltown
 Susan Ruby, Roland
 Maryna Salas, Marshalltown
 Gary Seite, Story City
 Ione Stoll, Story City
 Sheryl Tjernagel, Roland
 James West, Ames

Call for Groups to Present To

We have several new volunteers giving Fraud Fighters and Disaster PrepWise presentations. These presentations provide information for older adults about financial scams and preparation for disasters. With the rise of fraud and scams, and certainty of disasters, we need your help identifying groups to present this information to.

If you belong to a group that might benefit from hearing this information, contact Paul at (515) 292-8890.



**IOWA
 FRAUD
 FIGHTERS**



**LEARN,
 PREVENT,
 & PROTECT**



**+ DISASTER
 PREPWISE**



Northridge Village



Northridge Village



Northridge Village



Northridge Village



First Friday Coffee

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(515) 294-5790

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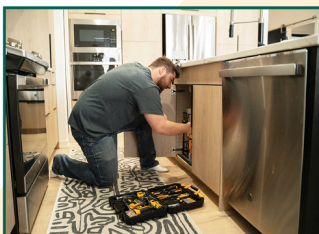


Health & Support

- Personal Companion
- Homemaker Services:
 - Cleaning, cooking, laundry
- Transportation
- Nurse Visits
- Medication Mgmt.

Home Solutions

- Lawn Care
- Landscaping
- Home Safety Inspection
- Handyman Services
- Snow/Ice Removal
- Tech Support
- Lifeline



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Current Volunteer Opportunities

The following opportunities are currently available in Story County. Mileage reimbursement is available.

For additional assignment details, please contact: Kim in Story County at (515) 292-8890, story@rsvpvolunteer.org, or Linda in Marshall County at (641) 752-0279, marshall@rsvpvolunteer.org.

ACCESS (ASSAULT CARE CENTER EXTENDING SUPPORT & SERVICES) – Ames

- *Office:* (Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, 4 hr shifts) Answering phones and other admin tasks.

BERTHA BARTLETT PUBLIC LIBRARY – Story City

- *After-School Program:* (Wednesdays 1:45 - 4:00 PM) Monitor kids (K-4th) participating in program.
- *Library Assistant:* (Monday - Friday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM) Assist with general library duties.
- *Technology Assistant:* (Monday - Friday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM) Assist patrons with tech difficulties.

BETHANY LIFE – Story City

- *Front Desk Greeter* (212 Lafayette Ave): (Monday - Friday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM) Greet visitors at the front door of the Households of Bethany and assist them where they need to go. Training required.
- *Affordables Thrift Store* (618 Broad St): (Tuesday - Friday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Saturdays 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM) Sort, price, clean, and stock donated merchandise.

CARE INITIATIVES HOSPICE – Story & Marshall County

- *Friendly Visitors:* (Days/times determined by the volunteer & client) Offer a variety of support for Hospice clients like reading, playing music, playing games, or simple listening. Training provided.

CENTRAL IOWA RSVP – Story & Marshall County

- *Transportation Program:* (Story Co.) Provide occasional rides to medical appointments and essential services. Ames, Story City, and Nevada drivers are needed, will use personal vehicle for rides.
- *Fraud Fighters:* (Story & Marshall Co.) Facilitate Fraud Fighters presentation from Iowa Insurance Division to local groups to educate about fraud, scam, and prevention techniques. Training provided.

CITY OF AMES HISTORY MUSEUM – Ames

- *Welcome Desk:* (1st & 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 - 4:00 PM) Greet visitors, provide direction, explain exhibits.

CITY OF AMES PARKS & REC – Ames

- *Greeters (City Auditorium):* (March 28, April 11, & April 25, 5:45 - 7:15 PM) Greet patrons, hand out wrist bands, stay and watch the concert for free!

EVERY STEP GRIEF & LOSS SERVICES – Marshalltown

- *School Support Group Facilitator:* (Once/week, 6 weeks, 45 minute sessions) Guide discussions and lead activities for students, providing tools to navigate grief and develop healthy coping strategies.
- *Data Entry:* (On own time, remotely) Enter information into database. Training provided.

GOOD NEIGHBOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE – Ames

- *Customer Contact:* (Monday - Friday 1:00 - 4:00 PM) Assist at the reception area, answer phones, assess client needs, and distribute vouchers, must be able to respect confidentiality.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Ames

- *Store Clerk:* (Saturdays 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM) Greet shoppers, run the register, assist customers.

HEARTLAND OF STORY COUNTY – Story County

- *Volunteer Drivers:* (Monday - Friday 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM) Deliver a hot lunch to seniors' homes in Story County. Pick up the meals at Mary Greeley and deliver to the clients listed on the route.

HOUSE OF COMPASSION – Marshalltown

- *Miscellaneous Support:* Volunteer needs include assisting clients at the Supply Closet, assisting with cooking and serving meals, and processing, moving, sorting, stocking, and cataloging donations.

MARY GREELEY MEDICAL CENTER – Ames

- *North Information Desk:* (Fridays 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM & 12:30 - 5:00 PM) Provide directions to patient rooms and other areas, serve as a check point for patient visits, and answer questions.
- *Meals on Wheels:* (Monday - Friday 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM) Provide support to drivers, clean and organize delivery bags, collect and file route sheets, occasional meal delivery if driver shift is open.

Current Volunteer Opportunities

MARY GREELEY MEDICAL CENTER – Ames

- *Pet Therapy:* (Flexible days, 3:00 PM shift) Seeking volunteers with a dog certified through Therapy Dogs International to visit patients on the Physical Rehab unit, along with a designated staff person.
- *Inpatient Comfort Rounds:* (Thursdays 8:00 - 10:00 AM) Support nursing staff by offering patients and guests water, coffee, warm blankets, TV guides, etc. and visit with patients if time allows.
- *Hospice House:* (Daily 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM, 2-3 hr shifts) Answer phone, greet/assist visitors, interact with patients/families. Upcoming trainings April 22, 24, and 30.
- *Hospice Caring Cards:* (On own time) Write letters, make cards, or send notes to hospice patients.

MICA (MID IOWA COMMUNITY ACTION) – Ames

- *Food Pantry Assistants:* (Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, 2 hr shifts) Check individuals in, Stock pantry shelves and compile orders, and Contactless Delivery Driver.
- *Food Rescue:* (Mondays & Fridays 8:00 – 8:45 AM) Pick up donations from Kum & Go and Kwik Star, and take to MICA. Volunteers can use their own vehicle or MICA van.

NEVADA FOOD AT FIRST – Nevada

- *Meal Assistance:* (Mondays & Thursdays) Assist with the 400+ free meals. Preparation (2:00 – 5:00 PM), Packing (4:30 – 6:00 PM), Delivery (4:45 – 5:45 PM), Clean Up (5:00 – 7:00 PM).
- *Food Rescuers:* Pick up food and transport to Nevada First United Methodist Church. (Dollar Fresh daily 10:30 AM, Dollar General Market Mondays & Thursdays 1:00 PM, Dollar General Mondays & Thursdays 1:30 PM, Crumbl Cookie (Ames) Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:30 AM.)
- *Food Inventory:* (Monday - Friday 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM) Weigh, sort, and safely store the food donations until distribution to area food pantries can be arranged. Flexible days and hours.

OCTAGON CENTER FOR THE ARTS – Ames

- *Student Art Show:* (April 10, 4:45 - 6:45 PM) Welcome guests to the gallery, serve refreshments.
- *Mailing:* (April 17 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM) Label 1,500-2,000 postcards for bulk mailing.
- *Maintenance:* (Fill-in during staff break) Basic projects like tightening knob, fixing chair leg or leaky toilet, etc.

OVERFLOW THRIFT STORE – Ames

- *North (202 S Duff Ave) & East (919 E Lincoln Way):* (Monday - Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM & Saturdays 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM.) Run the registers, sort and clean merchandise, and stock donations.

RAISING READERS OF STORY COUNTY – Ames

- *Welcome Desk:* (Monday - Thursday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, 2 hr shifts) Greet visitors, assist with questions, and maintain welcome desk documents.

REIMAN GARDENS – Ames

- *Butterfly Wing Docent:* (Daily 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM, 2 hr shifts) Monitor the enclosure to ensure regulations are followed, butterflies are contained, and interact with the public.
- *Caterpillar Club:* (Thursdays 10:00 - 11:00 AM) Lead or assist with program for birth to Pre-K kids about nature exploration. Set up, clean up, read books, sing songs, assist with activities.
- *Trivia Night:* (Jun. 12, Sep. 25, Nov. 21, 6:30 - 9:30 PM) Greet, judge team answers, deliver answer sheets.
- *Indoor Gardening Assistants:* (Flexible shifts) Water, plant, deadhead, trim, weed, other projects, etc.



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HEARTLAND OF STORY COUNTY

Current Volunteer Opportunities

REIMAN GARDENS – Ames

- *Indoor Pot Washing:* (Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM) Scrape, soak, and wash plant pots.
- *Garden Guide:* (April & May, 1 hr tours) Guide groups through butterfly wing, conservatory, & outdoors.

SALVATION ARMY – Ames & Marshalltown

- *Food Pantry & Market (Ames):* (Monday - Friday 12:30 - 3:30 PM) Fill food boxes to distribute. (Tuesday - Thursday 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM) Look over and accept donations, sort and shelve items, .
- *Delivery Driver (Ames):* (Monday - Friday 12:30 - 3:30 PM) Deliver food packages in Story County.
- *Multiple opportunities (Marshalltown):* Office receptionist, food pantry sorting, thrift store organizing.

STORY MEDICAL SENIOR CARE CENTER – Nevada

- *Friendly Visitors:* (Days/times flexible) Provide companionship, read, reminisce, games, walks, etc.
- *Men's Coffee:* (2nd & 4th Thursday/month, 1 hour) Visit, snack, play games, do crafts, etc.

SUNCREST HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE – Story County

- *Fidget Blankets:* (On own time) Make lap size fidget blankets for Alzheimer's and Dementia patients.
- *Caring Cards:* (On own time) Write letters, make cards, or send caring notes to hospice patients.

TREES FOREVER – Marshalltown

- *Tree Planting:* (April 26) Plant trees in Marshalltown. Ground will be prepared and teams to assist.

UNITED WAY OF STORY COUNTY – Ames

- *Childcare:* (Mar. 31, Apr. 7, Apr. 14, 12:00 - 2:30 PM) Supervise participants' children while parents participate in class. Kids aged 1-12 years old.

YSS – Ames

- *Teen Club:* (Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays 3:30 - 5:00 PM, Wednesdays 1:30 - 5:00 PM) Work with 6-8 graders to develop positive peer/adult relationships. Located at Collins-Maxwell & Colo-NESCO.
- *School-Based Mentoring:* (30-60 minute sessions, Once/week, During school day) Work on establishing and reaching goals, play games, build bond as a mentor match.

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Mary Greeley

MEDICAL CENTER

Home Health Services

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For more information on Home Health Services, visit www.mgmc.org/homehealth or call 515-239-6730.

A Star-Studded Volunteer Opportunity!



The Senior Variety Show is looking for volunteers to perform in its 29th Annual Variety Show, "Catch a Radio Wave!" Auditions are April 5, 12, and May 3 at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 1416 20th St., Ames, 12:30 - 4:00 PM.

The acts must be under 3 minutes and related to something you might hear on the radio. The possibilities may include song, dance, instrumentals, skits, etc. and can be performed solo or with others. The auditions are low-keyed and supportive, with coaches available to advise and assist. So, if you are ...

- A resident/employee of Story County at any time?
- A fan of the performing arts or a creative thinker?
- A good sport, willing to join in for a great cause?
- OR ... someone who would just like to put RSVP on the show-biz map?

... Join the fun and help us celebrate our 30th year!

For further information: SeniorVarietyShow.org
[Facebook.com/SeniorVarietyShowStoryCounty](https://www.facebook.com/SeniorVarietyShowStoryCounty)
Kitty (kafisher99@aol.com); Pat (515-620-8843).

Hope to see you there!



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Prime Time Alive is a program of Mary Greeley Medical Center for individuals 50 and better. Prime Time Alive programs are designed to help you achieve a vital balance of physical, financial, emotional, social and spiritual components in your life.



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provides the opportunity to recover swiftly and regain your independence, while empowering you to overcome challenges and restore your vitality.

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provides enduring compassion and support, while enhancing your quality of life throughout your journey, ensuring your well-being and happiness.

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Office Locations

Business Office
503 Elm Avenue
Story City, IA 50248
(515) 733-4917

Ames Office
205 S Walnut Avenue
Ames, IA 50010
(515) 292-8890

Marshalltown Office
2608 S 2nd Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158
(641) 752-0279

For RSVP staff contact information, including email addresses, please call one of our offices or visit the staff page of our website:

www.rsvpvolunteer.org

RSVP Advisory Council Members

Thank you to this great group of RSVP Advisors and Ambassadors for your service!

Marlys Barker, Nevada

Nic Briseno, Ames

Marsha Hegland, McCallsburg

Arlyss Peterson, Cambridge

Maryna Salas, Marshalltown

Diana Schwendinger, Ames

Gaylan Scofield, Story City—Chair

Doni Sheldon, Marshalltown

Jeff Sodt, Nevada

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