



CENTER FOR SIOUXLAND
Helping People • Empowering Lives • Building Futures

OCTOBER 2011



HUNGER HEROES

HUNGER HEROES/FAREWAY FOOD DRIVE HELPS STOCK OUR PANTRY

Generous Fareway grocery shoppers bought a few extra items and donated them to the Center For Siouland pantry at the Hunger Heroes' annual Fareway Food Drive held on October 7th and 8th at all four local Fareway stores. On that Friday afternoon and Saturday morning a total of 3,208 food items were donated. Cash contributions totaling \$107 were also made to our pantry program which helps assure that low-income families have enough to eat.

The USDA identifies one out of every eight Siouland families as "food insecure". This means that these families experience real hunger and deprivation. Many literally don't know where their next meal is coming from.

A big thank-you goes out to Fareway stores, our Hunger Heroes committee, staff, volunteers, and especially the shoppers who cared enough to share food and donations with Siouland families who really need the help!



COLLABORATIVE PROJECT HELPS PUT FAMILIES IN THEIR FIRST HOME

Although owning a home is a major element of the American Dream, rates of home ownership have declined in recent years. Iowa ranks fourth nationally in home ownership rates. However, Iowa's rate for home ownership in the last fiscal quarter was 70.1% -- a reduction of 6.3% over the past five years.

Center For Siouxland is partnering with the City of Sioux City to address this trend. Our MyPad collaboration provides first time home buyers with housing counseling and access to \$5000 or \$10,000 in down payment assistance.

So far this year, 28 households have completed all the housing counseling requirements to qualify for MyPad down payment assistance.

Our next pre-purchase home buyer class is scheduled for December 9th, and the next post-purchase class will be held on November 18th.

For more information, call 252-1861 or email kellibeach@centerforsiouxland.org



GRANT AWARD WILL LEND A HAND TO HOMELESS KIDS AT BRIDGES WEST

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Siouxland (RMHC) has awarded a grant of \$1500 to Center For Siouxland to support our Bridges West transitional housing project. The grant will provide enrichment activities for the children of homeless families who are residing for up to two years at our transitional housing facility.

The grant will allow us to provide educational, recreational, and socialization opportunities to these kids to help "normalize" their stay in the facility. They'll be able to participate in summer camps, arts events, recreation activities, clubs and more. On behalf of these kids, we'd like to thank RMHC of Siouxland for this grant, and for all they do to help kids and families in Siouxland!

National MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY is Saturday, October 22nd!
Register at the Siouxland Volunteer Center (712-224-1001) to see how you can get involved and make a difference in Siouxland.

715 Douglas Street, Sioux City, IA 51101



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712-252-1861

If you have service needs please call our information and referral line at 2-1-1