



CENTRAL IOWA SHELTER & SERVICES

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August 2019 Newsletter

Our Volunteers!

Wow! We couldn't do what we do without our volunteers. Just last month, the people giving of their time saved us over \$85,000 in staffing fees by helping us serve meals, organize the Clothing Closet, assist clients with job applications and write thank-you notes to donors. **Tracy Petersen** has been volunteering on and off with the shelter since 2013. "I volunteer in the hygiene window and do filing. I've been so lucky in my life, I just want to share that with others.... It's as easy as a smile and treating someone with respect."

Some of our best volunteers understand that the best thing they can do is give our clients their time. "My favorite thing to do is spend time in the day room talking with clients, hearing their stories," says volunteer **Bruce Dunn**. "Working in the kitchen is a powerful experience. Having that face-to-face contact, we are all equals. It keeps me grounded, connected, and grateful."

CISS currently averages 48 regular volunteers a month (people that show up daily or weekly). Additionally, we have several groups and one-time volunteers, all helping to make OUR part of the world a better place.



From the CEO

One thing my mom always told me was "when you're successful, make sure you reach back and help the next person make it too." That's exactly what our volunteers do every time they come to the shelter.

What is an organization without volunteers? For CISS, we would need to hire more people to get the work done. We are grateful for the many church groups and work teams that give of their time and the individuals that call when they have an extra hour. There is a group of regular volunteers that treat CISS like their day job. They show up each day at the same time, we know we can count on them when we need an extra hand. These regulars are priceless.

Looking for meaningful work? We've got a spot for you!

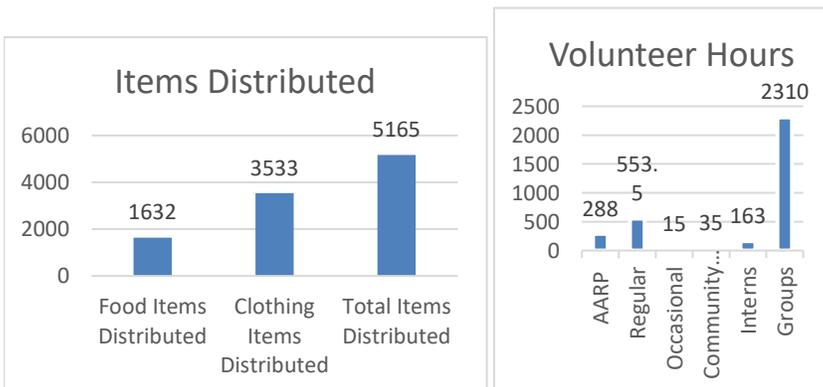
- Melissa O'Neil

Get Involved!

If you want to become a CISS volunteer and make a difference in the lives of our clients, please email **Melissa Gradischnig** at melissag@centraliowashelter.org or give her a call at **515-564-5752**.

If you'd like to donate to our cause, please visit our website at <https://centraliowashelter.org/>

Numbers of the Month



Money Saved Through Volunteer Hours:

\$85,559