

Our Volunteer- Jeff

Jeff was born and raised in Des Moines, and he continues to stay here because of the sense of community. Now, he's giving back to his community by volunteering his time with Central Iowa Shelter & Services. "A few of my friends had volunteered here (CISS) before and they highly recommended it. So I decided to come down and volunteer myself and I've thoroughly enjoyed it so far," Jeff said. He's been a volunteer with us for a little over 2 weeks. It doesn't take long to make a difference here.

On his first day, Jeff was pulled into the kitchen to help with the lunch service because they were a few hands short. "I was blown away by the amount of gratitude that our residents have. I've never heard so many thank-you's before. All I was doing was handing a tray of food to someone, but that little moment had such an impact on their day and mine," Jeff said. The benefits of giving go both ways. "I felt so fulfilled and positive being able to help add value to someone's day."

Jeff has been an employee with Farm Bureau for 20 years and he takes advantage of his flexible schedule and Volunteer Time Off offered by his company to come to our shelter to make a difference for our clients. "The amount of activity going on at the shelter really surprised me. There's intakes, security checks, day programming, donations, meal preparation, clothing closet stocking, food pantry stocking, events, tour groups. I had no idea that this place (CISS) does so much to help those in need."

When Jeff isn't working in IT with Farm Bureau or volunteering with us, he spends his time traveling and enjoying live music.