



2025

Year End Review



We support children and families who have escaped domestic violence situations and those suffering from some other form of trauma including natural disaster and criminal assault. We provide donated furniture and household goods as these families begin new, independent, productive lives in safe environments.



2025 Year End Review Executive Summary

2025 was another big year for the FreeStore. In addition to serving clients, the board worked on several strategic initiatives including succession plans for key volunteers, planning for an anticipated change in our warehouse location and onboarding of new volunteers.

Client activity is still very high, with over 500 families served in 2025. Some clients have waited as long as 3 weeks to get an appointment to be served, even as we continue to add volunteers and delivery times.

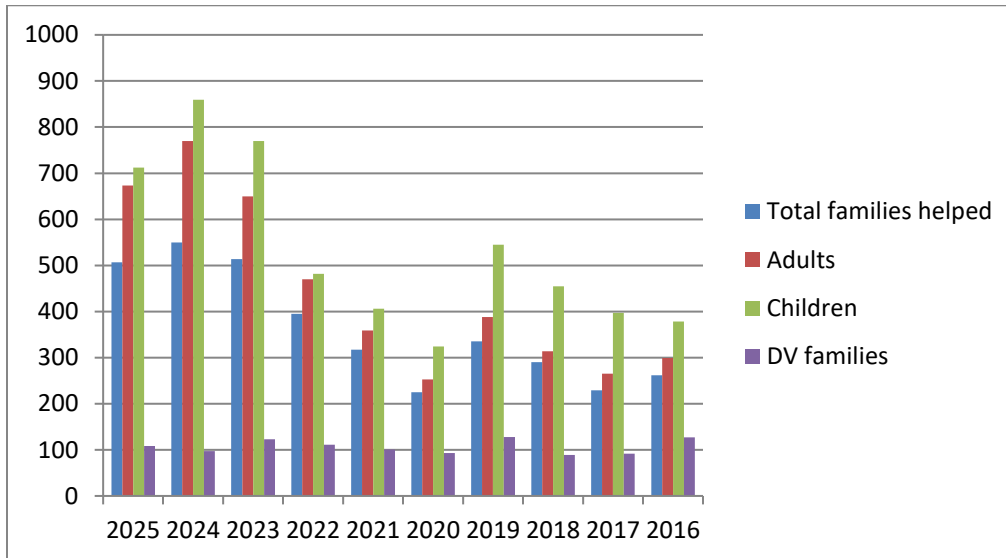
The FreeStore operates with 0 paid employees and around 120 volunteers. We estimate that about two thirds of our volunteers are involved with us at least once a month. Reported volunteer time in 2025 was around 13,000 hours.

Donations of furniture have not kept up with demand. To supplement donations, we purchase furniture and household goods to give to clients. In 2025 the FreeStore spent over \$72,000 on client materials, a 23% increase over 2024. We appreciate granting organizations that have helped with those purchases.

2026 presents challenges of recruiting and retaining volunteers and maintaining enough inventory to meet the growing needs of the Central Iowa community. Strategically, we continue to consider future warehouse needs and are addressing significant succession issues.



10 year View of Client Data



	Total families	Adults	Children	DV families
2025	507	673	712	108
2024	550	770	859	97
2023	514	652	771	123
2022	395	478	489	111
2021	328	372	433	102
2020	225	254	324	93
2019	335	393	549	130
2018	289	312	455	97
2017	229	265	419	92
2016	263	299	382	127

Client Data by Family Type

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020*	2019	2018
Families	507	550	514	395	328	225	335	289
Adults	673	770	652	478	372	254	393	312
Children	712	859	771	489	433	324	549	455
DV Families**	108	97	123	111	102	94	130	97
ICIW***	14	4	2	7	3	3	4	4
Needy	279	303	275	203	149	86	157	138
Youth	43	39	36	50	63	31	43	50
Sex Trafficking	2	5	2	7	4			
Vet	30	12	8	10	12	12	1	0
Homeless	14	37	57	15	2	0	0	0
Refugee	15	11	4	1	0	0	0	0
Agency	1	41	7	2	0	0	0	0
Other	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated value of goods in thousands ****	\$658	\$710	\$643	\$620	\$421	\$385	\$553	\$406
Total est. weight ****	255 tons	275 tons	267 tons	232 tons	172 tons	139 tons	205 tons	170 tons

* The Covid Pandemic impacted operations in 2020.

**The FreeStore served Domestic Violence families from Assault Care Center Extending Shelter and Support (ACCESS), Children and Families of Iowa – Domestic Violence Services (CFI-DVS), Crises Intervention and Advocacy Center (CIAC), Latinos for a New Dawn (LUNA), Nissa African Family Services and Monsoon United Asian Women in Iowa in 2024.

*** Released from Iowa Correctional Institution for Women.

**** Reflects updated values set in 2024.



Gender of Adults Served in 2025

Women	450	66.8%
Men	218	32.4%
Non-binary	5	0.7%

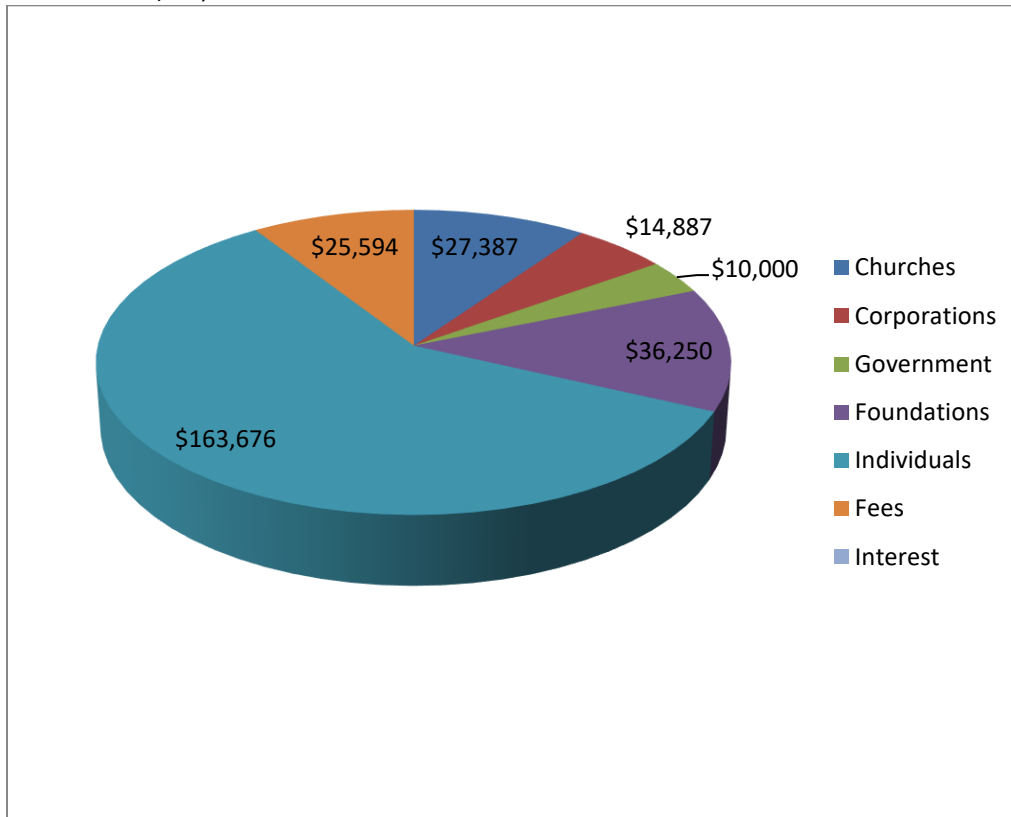
Self-Identified Race of Families Served

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Race					
African American	185	208	192	128	119
Asian	9	25	8	6	2
Caucasian	237	237	237	203	157
Hispanic	48	61	44	39	37
Other/ Multi	28	19	33	19	13
	507	550	514	395	328

2025 Cash Revenue

	2025		2024	
Churches	\$27,387	10%	\$14,278	4%
Corporations	\$14,887	5%	\$27,871	8%
Government	\$10,000	3%	\$17,500	5%
Foundations	\$36,250	13%	\$58,600*	17%
Individuals	\$163,676	57%	\$184,738	55%
Fees	\$25,594	9%	\$31,995	9%
Interest	\$6,488	2%		
Miscellaneous	\$3,802	1%	\$3,435	1%
Total	\$288,085		\$338,265	

* Includes one time \$52,000 for warehouse renovation.



Unaudited results.



Expenses

	2025		2024	
Warehouse	\$76,236	36%	\$81,168	37%
Trucks	\$15,497	7%	\$14,430	7%
Client Materials	\$72,187	34%	\$58,511	26%
Consulting*	\$0	0%	\$4,919	2%
Fund Raising/Marketing	\$15,008	7%	\$15,533	7%
Office operation	\$4,781	2%	\$6,855	3%
Salaries	\$0	0%	\$0	0%
Miscellaneous	\$2,651	1%	\$486	0%
Capital Expenditure**	\$27,436	13%	\$38,949	18%
Total	\$213,796	100%	\$220,851	100%

*Consulting used for creation of strategic plan for FreeStore operations.

**Capital expenditures were in large part offset by specific grants for one time capital expenditure and were used to make warehouse improvements.

All but 9% of total 2025 expenses go directly to client assistance.

Unaudited results.



Number of Families by Agency

Agency	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Assault Care Center Extending Shelter and Support - ACCESS	4	12	16	17	21
Aging Resources	5	4	19	4	3
Allied Congregations for Immigrant Support	1				
Animal Rescue League - ARL	4	11	5	12	8
Anawim	1	1	1	0	0
Ankeny Community Schools		1			
Beacon of Life	2				
Bethany Christian Services	1				
Blank Children's Pediatrics	1		0	3	
Broadlawns Community Services	20	23	5	1	
Broadlawns Path	0	2	3	3	1
Beacon of Life	3		0		1
Bond of Unity	0	2	1		4
Catholic Charities Family Emergency	8	10			
CathCharitRefugee Resettlement	2	3	3		
Central Iowa Shelter Services	0		15	4	
Central Iowa Trauma Recovery Ctr	4		3		
Children and Families of Iowa	14	11	15	23	30
Children and Families of Iowa-DVS	73	43	81	68	59
Children and Families Urban Ministry	2	4			
Latter Day Saints Church	1		1		
Crisis Intervention and Advocacy Center - CIAC	17	22	8	5	3
Christ Apostolic Temple	0	2	2	1	3
Central Iowa Housing Authority	0	1			
Community Support Advocates	9	20	17	13	
Corinthian Baptist Church	0	1			
Courageous Access	0	2			
Crestwood Baptist Church	0	1			
Dept of Corrections	1	1			
Dept of Vet Affairs	2	2	5	2	4

Agency	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Des Moines Catholic Workhouse	0		1		
Des Moines Christian Church	0	1			
Des Moines Public School	27	1	14	4	10
Des Moines Refugee Support	1				3
Disabled American Veterans	9	1		18	3
Department of Human Services - DHS	17	11	9	14	16
Dorothy's House	2	7	5	6	5
Drake University Head Start	2				
Easter Seals	0	1			
Elim	0		1	1	
Ellipsis South	2	3	1	1	
EveryStep	2	2			
Exemplar Care	0		4		
Eyerly Ball	30	33	27	31	20
FACT Program					
Families Forward (formerly Hawthorn Hill)	11	10	7	7	
Family Life Center					2
Family Crises Center - Ottumwa				1	
First Unitarian Church		2			
Fresh Start Women's Center	1	1			
Golden Heart			1		
Goodwill of Central Iowa	2				
Habitat for Humanity				2	
Heartland Church of Christ (Perry)			2		
Holy Trinity Catholic			1		
HOME, Inc					1
Hope Ministries – Bethel Mission	2	1		1	
Hope United Church of Christ		1			
Iowa Homeless Youth - IHYC	30	26	16	21	59
Iowa Trauma Recovery Center		3			
Immanuel United Methodist Church	4		1		
Impact Community Action			1		
International Rescue Committee		2	4		
Iowa Total Care/Aging Resources	3		1		
Iowa's Child ELC		1	1		
Joppa	23	53	45	9	3
Joppa Thrift	1	1	4		
Juvenile Court Services	1	4			
Kingdom Connection Outreach		1	1		
Latinx Immigration		2	1		2
Lutheran Services of Iowa Refugees	13	41	20		

Agency	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
LUNA	12	10	6	14	12
Lutheran Church of Hope	1			2	
Lutheran Services of Iowa	3	32	26	24	1
Madison Elementary				2	
Merrill Middle School				1	
Midlowa Family Therapy Clinic - MIFTC	23	25	30	18	14
Miracle Life Family Church			1		
Molina Health Care			1		
Monsoon	3	3		2	1
New City Church	1				
New Directions	2	1	1		
Nisaa African Family Services	3	6	11	5	6
Oneness Pentecostal Church			1		
Oakridge Neighborhood	1			1	
Orchard Place	2	8	11	10	5
Polk County Attorney's Office			2		
Polk County Crisis	2				
Polk County Family Enrichment Center				29	
Polk Co Family Development and Self Sufficiency - FADSS	20	14	27	8	9
Polk County Veteran Affairs					1
Prayer Circle Outreach				1	
Primary Health Care	28	6	7	2	
Restore					1
Royal View		3	5	2	1
Ruth Harbor Ministries				1	
Shepard of the Valley Lutheran					1
St. Timothy's			1	1	
St Timothys (Women at Well)	10	4	1	7	2
St John Lutheran	5	2	2	5	2
St Vincent de Paul			2		
Stepping Stone Family Service	9	8	7		
Supporting Survivors			1		
The Church at Union Park	1				
Trinity United Methodist			1		1
True Bible Baptist church	1				
United Way of Central Iowa	1				
United Community Services			1		
Unity Point Health Social Work	3				
Urban Bicycle Food Ministry			1		

Agency	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
VA Central Iowa	27	5	2	4	7
VA Hospital				1	
Veterans Affairs	1	4	3	2	4
Veterans Outreach				4	
Waukee Schools	1				
WDM School	16	23	10	2	
WDM Human Services					
Wesley Life			1	3	
WellPoint		2			
Windsor Presbyterian Church	1				
Windsor United Methodist	1				
YSS Youth Opportunity Center		1			
YSS Ames	2	1			
YESS – Emergency Shelter				1	
Youth Justice Initiative				1	
YMCA Supportive Housing Campus			1	2	3
YESS			2		
YSS - Lighthouse	11	9	18	27	3
YWCA		1			