



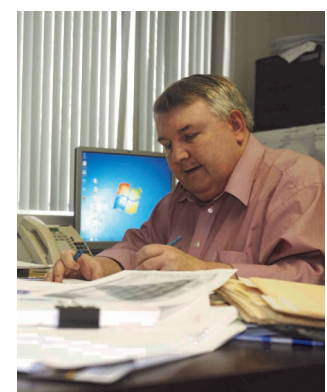
### Get Connected

Remember to check out the VISTA Corridor Recovery website and Facebook page! Members are strongly encouraged to submit content!

### Mark Your Calendar...

- National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week Nov. 12-20, 2011
- Sleep Out for the Homeless November 12-13, 2011
- **NOVEMBER 17, 2011 CCIA VISTA IN-SERVICE & HOLIDAY BOWL**
- Check Out the Downtown District Community Calendar <http://www.downtowncr.org/Events>
- Check Out the Cultural Corridor Event Calendar <http://www.culturalcorridor.org/calendar.asp>
- National Days of Service  
Veterans Day 11/11  
[www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday](http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday)
- Upcoming 2011 Federal Holidays:  
Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day

**CONGRATULATIONS! Re-Enrolling for a 2nd Term of Service: Bill Hoekstra**



ISSUE  
**03**  
November  
2011

# VISTA SHOUT OUT

### this issue

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### Current Team Members

- ◆ Angela (11/18/2011)
- ◆ Molly (11/18/2011)
- ◆ Matt (11/18/2011)
- ◆ John (11/18/2011)
- ◆ Bill
- ◆ Steve
- ◆ George
- ◆ Ryan
- ◆ Josh
- ◆ Johnna
- ◆ David
- ◆ Chris
- ◆ Nate
- ◆ Shane
- ◆ Brad
- ◆ Kelli
- ◆ Marielle
- ◆ Travis
- ◆ Glendy
- ◆ Thomas
- ◆ Jared
- ◆ Angelina
- ◆ Kayann
- ◆ Terry
- ◆ Ruth (NEW VISTA 11/4/11)
- ◆ Paul (NEW VISTA 11/4/11)



Participants spend the night outside from 5pm to 6am regardless of weather conditions to discuss, think, and learn about homelessness in our community and throughout the nation. Pledges and sponsorships are gathered by participants and used to fund programs for the homeless throughout the year.



### SLEEP OUT FOR THE HOMELESS

<https://sleepoutforhomeless.org>

The Sleep Out isn't about giving participants "a taste" of what it is like to be homeless, although some leave with a tiny glimpse of how challenging such a situation can be. There is no way that a single night, regardless of how cold or wet, can replicate the helplessness and personal pain of truly being homeless.

This is about raising awareness of the problem and its sources. It is about raising a few dollars to help out. This is about making our community better for all of us. The Linn County Veteran Affairs Office and Community Circle of Care invite the public to participate in the annual Sleep Out for the Homeless event in Cedar Rapids during National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week.

Cardboard is provided for creating makeshift shelters. Those attending should dress according to the weather and bring their own blankets. Cardboard will be available after 3pm for shelter construction. Unlike the actual homeless, we will have access to indoor restrooms and security will be on site. First Presbyterian Church will host entertainment activities from 5pm-9pm and the building will be open throughout the night for participants to use the restroom. Hot soups, snacks, and beverages are donated by local partners. Most importantly, the larger community sees and better understands the challenges that face the homeless population in Iowa.

Looking for additional opportunities to *Get Involved*? Check out the Volunteer Bulletin Board! Please submit events/projects in need of volunteer support.

*Note: If activities occur during your regular VISTA hours, you must have site-supervisor permission to participate.*



## Volunteer Bulletin Board

Sleep Out for the Homeless  
November 12-13, 2011  
marielle.cramer  
@vistacorridorrecovery.org

Volunteer with Homework Club at Lundby  
Tuesday and Thursday 4:00-6:00 PM  
Contact Johnna Percell 319-297-3574

# Community Condition Report

This Community Condition website tells the story of quality of life in Eastern Iowa. We have assembled this information while working with many local, state and regional partners to understand and identify opportunities to change conditions in our community for the better. This information, while not exhaustive, is intended to provide a pulse on the issues affecting our community and in particular the most vulnerable among us.

On this website, you will find snapshots of 13 issue areas. Each snapshot includes:

- Data that describes the current condition
- a narrative to support the data
- a chart that shows how the data have changed over time (if available)
- the original data sources.

<http://www.uweci.org/CCR/Content/Charting-Our-Course.aspx>



Chris Bartels, Shelter House

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### IMPACT on HOMELESSNESS Cedar Rapids and Iowa City CORRIDOR

Many local shelters in Iowa City and Cedar Rapids are working to raise awareness about hunger and homelessness. Two of these shelters are assisted by AmeriCorps\*VISTA members.

Brad Bybee and Chris Bartels are both working with homeless shelters. Bartels started working in late June and Bybee started work in early August. Bybee works at the Willis Dady Emergency Shelter in Cedar Rapids and Bartels works at the Shelter House in Iowa City.

The Shelter House's mission is, "To provide shelter, basic, and transitional resources, while encouraging self-sufficiency, to any person in our community who is homeless."

Bartels spoke about his position, "Roughly half of my time is devoted to equipping and supporting volunteers so that they may effectively deliver services like showers, laundry, mail, and phone messages to our clients,

and to drop-in clients: people who are at-risk for homelessness or may already be on the street or in non-housing. The volunteers connect clients to case managers, staff, and important community resources. Volunteers also staff fundraisers and other community events."

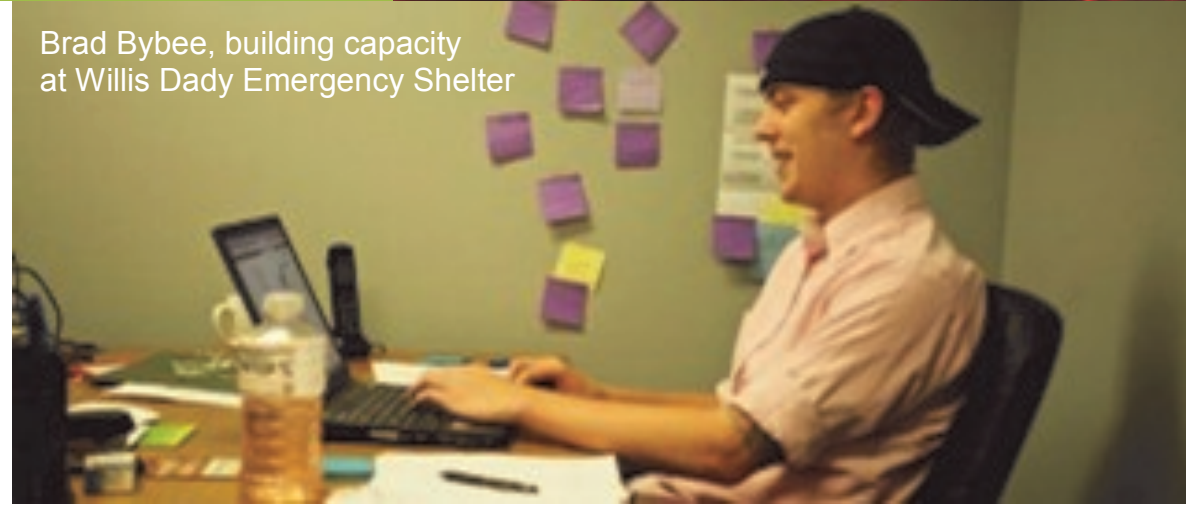
He continued, "The other half of the time is devoted to coordinating outreach, which encompasses a great variety of activities. Much of it is scheduling and advertising our classes, clinics, opportunities, so that clients are informed and able to participate in asset-building. Another chunk of it is recording data from our drop-in center and highlighting interesting data for our directors and grant-writers, who use it to maintain our funding."

Willis Dady Emergency Shelter's mission is, "To provide immediate shelter to homeless single men and families in a safe, clean, and caring atmosphere that promotes progress towards ending the cycle of homelessness."

Bybee spoke about the Willis Dady Emergency Shelter, "Willis Dady provides social services (case management) free of charge. That helps our client base, those in need stable of housing, to get the type of help that they need to improve their situation, that can come in the form of referrals to health clinics, substance abuse help, job training, low income housing assistance, etc. My job is to help get resources donated to the shelter so the clients have essential things (soap, food, bedding, etc) while they are staying at the shelter but also to free up as much money as possible, so that the limited budget that Willis Dady has can be best used to provide those services as opposed to covering operational costs. The way that I do that is through soliciting donations and acquiring volunteers. My goal is to establish a comprehensive development strategy for the shelter as well as a volunteer strategy.

FULL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT ON  
[WWW.VISTACORRIDORRECOVERY.ORG](http://WWW.VISTACORRIDORRECOVERY.ORG)

Brad Bybee, building capacity at Willis Dady Emergency Shelter



## VISTA Corridor Recovery Program Policy Spotlight

### Inclement Weather Policy

Community Correction Improvement Association urges all volunteers to use caution and common sense during winter driving conditions. If driving conditions are such that a VISTA member is unable to report to work, the member must first call their VISTA Program Specialist/Site Supervisor so that accommodations can be made to cover the shift.

The VISTA member then has the following options:

- The VISTA member can choose to utilize one of their ten allotted personal days.
- If the nature of the VISTA member's assignment allows, the member may work on their assigned work from home. Progress must be shown to Program Specialist/Site-Supervisor upon return to work.
- Arrangements may be made to make-up missed time, at the Project Specialist/Site Supervisor's discretion.

*In the event that a blizzard warning is issued and the governor urges all individuals to stay off the roads, an alternate assignment will be given to all members to be completed from home.*

## Make the Most of Your Year—ONLINE RESOURCES



<http://www2.guidestar.org/rxq/news/webinars/webinar-archive.aspx>

GuideStar's Mission:  
To revolutionize philanthropy by providing information that advances transparency, enables

users to make better decisions, and encourages charitable giving.



Check out this link to view archived webinars and sign up to be notified of future webinars.

If you're new to GuideStar, search the site to find the nonprofit information you need—it's free!

## REMINDERS & RESOURCES

### Sick Leave

Please remember that members must follow the call-in procedures of their assignment site when calling off work due to illness. CCIA requires a doctor's release when three or more sick days are taken in a row.

### Free Clinic

Community Health Free Clinic  
947 14th Ave SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
[www.communityhfc.org](http://www.communityhfc.org)

### Clinic Hours:

Mon: 8:00 AM-5:30 PM

Tues: (1st, 2nd, & 3rd):

8:00 AM-5:30 PM

(4th and 5th)

8:00 AM-12:00 PM for

acute illness or job conflict

Wed: 8:00 AM-12:00 PM and

specialty clinics in PM

Thurs: 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Fri: 8:00 AM to 10:30 AM

Sat: 8:00 AM-10:30 AM for

acute illness or job conflict

&

Spanish clinic (3rd Sat.)

Sun: 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM for

acute illness or job conflict

(1st Sun.)

CLOSED on major holidays and in severe weather.