

SUMMER 2026

GIVE HOPE

I BELIEVE IN WAYPOINT

*Get involved in
our annual
campaign to
help inspire
people to move
forward*

ALL ABOUT KIDSPPOINT

*Learn how our
child care
program
strengthens
families*

HOMELESSNESS DOWN BY 12%

*See how Waypoint
and community
partners are
working together
to reduce
homelessness*

WAYPOINT



**Thank you
for finding
it in your
heart to
support our
mission.**

Sustaining Momentum, Expanding Opportunity, and Creating Hope

Words from Autumn Paine, CEO

As Waypoint concludes another fiscal year on June 30, we are grateful for the progress made possible through the generosity of supporters like you. Together, we are addressing the root causes of homelessness, violence, and poverty that help individuals move from crisis to stability.

Years of dedicated work have contributed to a 12% decrease in homelessness in Linn County and positioned Waypoint to lead the Creating Hope: A New Vision for the Madge Phillips Center capital campaign. This effort will create affordable, entry-level apartments while strengthening our evidence-based housing programs.

I recently came across a quote that resonated with me: “In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal. In every heart, there is power to do it.”

Thank you for finding it in your heart to support our mission. You are helping create hope, healing, and opportunities for individuals and families who need it most.

Continuing to Serve Large Numbers in the Community

Demand for Waypoint’s services has remained high, and the organization is on track to serve nearly as many individuals and families as last fiscal year, reflecting continued need, increased awareness of available resources, and the trust community members place in Waypoint. While the need remains significant, many of those served are achieving lasting stability and not returning for additional services.

COORDINATED ENTRY



12,341

Served through Coordinated Entry to help resolve their housing crisis.

RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM



191

Received Rapid Re-Housing case management for housing search and placement.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV) PROGRAM



1,721

Helped with safety and stability through DV Program advocacy and resources.

SURVIVORS’ PROGRAM



300

Supported with advocacy after loss of a loved one or victimization.

Numbers above reflect July 1, 2025-April 30, 2026, with two months remaining in the fiscal year.

Help Needed to Reach Our I Believe in Waypoint Goal

\$75,000 of \$100,000 goal raised



Waypoint's annual I Believe in Waypoint campaign is nearing its fundraising goal, with only \$25,000 left to raise thanks to the heartfelt generosity of our donors.

This campaign is especially vital because it provides essential support that

makes our work possible each day. Waypoint depends on the kindness and compassion of supporters who believe in our mission and help ensure caring, highly skilled staff are available to provide tailored solutions that support individuals and families in achieving long-term stability.

Thank you for believing in Waypoint.

GIVE A GIFT. CHANGE A LIFE.



Mail or Drop Off Check

318 5th St SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401



Donate Online

waypointservices.org



Venmo or Paypal

Venmo: @WaypointServices

PayPal: @WaypointServices

**PLEASE SCAN TO HELP US
CONTINUE OUR WORK**



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Waypoint's Part in the Roadmap to Ending Homelessness

In May 2025, the Housing Fund for Linn County released the 2025 Linn County Homeless Systems Community Roadmap to Prevent and End Homelessness. Developed by J'nae Peterman, Homeless Systems Manager for the Housing Fund for Linn County, the roadmap outlines a data-driven strategy aimed at making homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring.

The report emphasizes diversion, prevention, rapid re-housing, and expanded access to affordable housing as critical system-level strategies. **Waypoint is identified as a key partner agency in delivering these programs and advancing the coordinated community effort to address homelessness across Linn County.**

Housing Services Impact

12% year-over-year decrease in homelessness in Linn County

While homelessness continues to rise in many Iowa communities, Linn County is experiencing a decline. **The county has achieved a 12% year-over-year reduction, reflecting a coordinated and innovative local housing services system led by Waypoint.**

This progress demonstrates a strong commitment to data-informed practices and proven service models that support individuals and families navigating homelessness and housing instability, even as needs grow more complex. However, sustaining this momentum will require continued focus and investment at a time when resources are becoming more limited.

By prioritizing high-impact, cost-effective strategies, we are working toward a future of greater housing stability across our community. Achieving and maintaining that future depends on the continued support of donors, advocates, and partners who believe in and invest in this work.

Waypoint Program Success

- ✓ **99%** of individuals supported through Homeless Diversion/Eviction Prevention secured or maintained housing.
- ✓ **80%** of participants exited the Rapid Re-Housing Program into stable housing after receiving case management and support, and most remain housed following program completion.
- ✓ **A significant number** of clients were diverted from the local housing services system by resolving their housing crises through Coordinated Entry.

Data from FY25 (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025)



Supporting Children and Strengthening Families

Serving more than 200 children daily, Waypoint's KidsPoint Child Care Program provides quality child care and educational opportunities for children ages six weeks to 12 years old. By accepting state child care assistance and offering tuition scholarships, KidsPoint helps families access affordable care while parents work or attend school full-time.



29% of children attending KidsPoint receive financial assistance through the state or Waypoint Child Care Tuition Scholarships

93% of children graduating from a KidsPoint Learning Center & Preschool are developmentally on track for kindergarten

Your Support Helps KidsPoint Families Thrive



The First 2,000 Days Matter

The first five years are critical for brain development. Child Care Tuition Scholarships ensure every child can succeed, regardless of income.



Two-Generation Impact

Dependable child care supports child development and family stability, improving outcomes and reducing poverty.



Research-Based Curriculum

KidsPoint's use of the Creative Curriculum® supports strong early learning development and kindergarten readiness.



Wraparound Family Support

KidsPoint responds to family health, housing, violence, and basic needs and connects them to Waypoint programs or community resources.



Make sure to check out our new website at kidspointchildcare.org, made possible by the incredible talents of the Informatics, Inc. team and generous grant support from the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation.

Rise With Waypoint Party Recap & HOPE Awards

On April 11, supporters, partners, and friends gathered for our first-ever Rise With Waypoint brunch, a morning filled with inspiration, connection, and community spirit. Special thanks to emcees Eric Hanson and Zach Schladetzky for bringing energy and humor to the event, and to Cole Thomas for sharing his musical talents and creating a welcoming atmosphere throughout the morning.



Guests were also deeply moved by Impact Speakers Kate Peterson and Chris Luhning, who shared their experiences following the loss of Coach Ed Thomas and reflected on the healing support provided through Waypoint's Survivors' Program. Thank you to everyone who attended, donated, and helped make the event such a meaningful success.

HOPE Awards Honor Impact and Dedication

This year's HOPE Awards recognized the individuals and companies making a meaningful difference through their partnership, compassion, and commitment to our community. Presented during the Rise With Waypoint brunch, the awards celebrated those helping create hope, healing, and brighter futures for the individuals and families Waypoint serves every day.



June Rainbow

June is a Board of Trustees member, former Board of Directors member, and capital campaign chair known for strong leadership and results. We are thankful for her support.



Rayser Holdings

Rayser Holdings reflects our values through active board and committee service, event volunteering, and generous support, and we are deeply grateful for their partnership.



TrueNorth Companies

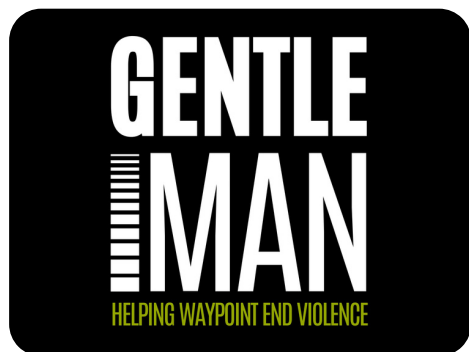
TrueNorth has supported Waypoint for years through board leadership, volunteering, events, and benefits work. We sincerely value their partnership and generous support.



MPC Capital Campaign Update

The Creating Hope: A New Vision for the Madge Phillips Center capital campaign is nearing fundraising completion, thanks to our supporters for helping expand local data-driven solutions for homelessness and housing needs in the community.

Stay tuned for ribbon-cutting details for Fall 2026!



ABOUT THE GENTLEMAN CAMPAIGN©

TAKE THE
PLEDGE
HERE



Since 2013, the annual Gentleman Campaign© has united men, businesses, and community leaders to raise awareness and take a stand against violence by promoting what it means to be an Exceptional GENTLEman.

Running from July through September, the campaign supports Waypoint's Domestic Violence Victim Services and Caring Dads Program, helping strengthen families, support survivors, prevent violence, and break cycles of abuse.

Through community partnerships, sponsors, public awareness efforts, and the Exceptional Gentleman pledge, the campaign helps create a safer, stronger community.



PLEDGE TO BE A GENTLEMAN OR SPONSOR THE CAMPAIGN

Waypoint is challenging men in our community to rise up, take the pledge, and stand against all violence. Scan the QR code above or visit waypointservices.org to take the pledge.

If your business is interested in sponsoring this campaign, your partnership is a meaningful way to demonstrate your commitment to ending violence in the community and support Waypoint's mission. Contact Coady at csierra@waypointservices.org for more information.

TRIBUTE TO WOMEN EVENT NOMINATIONS OPENING IN JULY

Do you know a phenomenal woman? Nominate her for Waypoint's 45th Annual Tribute to Women of Achievement to be held on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at the DoubleTree in downtown Cedar Rapids. **Nominations will be open July–November 2026.** Contact Jameson at jreineke@waypointservices.org for more information.



Lindsay Leahy (far left) coaching Waypoint's leadership team

THANK YOU TO LINDSAY LEAHY

Waypoint's management team was grateful to work with Lindsay Leahy, who provided individual and group coaching focused on role purpose, the "why" behind our work, and the accountability it takes to grow stronger together and plan a strong future for Waypoint.



**318 5th St SE
Cedar Rapids, IA
52401**

What's Inside

- All About KidsPoint Child Care
- Upcoming Waypoint Events
- Waypoint's Role in Ending Homelessness
- Rise With Waypoint Recap & HOPE Awards
- More!

Donate Today



waypointservices.org/donate

THANK YOU FOR INSPIRING PEOPLE TO MOVE FORWARD



*Waypoint's FY26 Board of Directors, Board of Trustees,
and Board of Advisors*

On behalf of Waypoint's boards, staff, and the individuals and families we serve, thank you for your partnership in creating pathways to housing, safety from violence, and hope.

PROUD PARTNER OF:

