

Urbandale Community Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways your business or organization can give back to the Urbandale community. Below are a few of the local opportunities to get involved.

Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa

Girl Scouts is only possible with the help of wonderful volunteers - no Girl Scout experience or daughter required! Volunteer and support opportunities include event sponsorship, leading a troop, outreach support volunteers, hosting outings, helping with cookie sales and mud runs, sponsoring membership and camp fees for low-income girls, and much more!

Contact: Jessie Tobin

Regional Director of Philanthropy
(515) 401-8256

The Urbandale Food Pantry

The food pantry is a community effort to reach out to our neighbors to provide food assistance with dignity and compassion. Services are open to all residents and proof of economic need is not required to obtain food, milk, and personal care items. Volunteer needs include greeting clients, re-stocking shelves, picking up orders, collecting food or money for holiday meals, office work, and serving on a standing committee. Monetary, food, and personal item donations are always needed and appreciated.

Contact: Eileen Boggess

Executive Director
(515) 251-6688
info@urbandalefoodpantry.org

UCAN

UCAN offers a number of programs that assist Urbandale residents in need. Through these programs, UCAN hopes to replace despair with opportunity and hope by focusing on individuals, families, communities and to facilitate problem solving. In addition to ongoing volunteer opportunities assisting youth and the elderly, we have many one time volunteer needs. These include assisting with our Shoes that Fit/Winter Clothing Drive, Holiday Assistance (Adopt a Family, Toys for Tots and Holiday Store), summer programs for at-risk youth, and much more.

Contact: Laura Holms

Executive Director
(515) 278-3936
www.urbandalenetWORK.org

Urbandale Parks & Recreation

Urbandale Parks & Recreation is dedicated to helping residents and neighbors stay fit, active, and healthy so everyone can enjoy the rich quality of life our community has to offer. Volunteer opportunities include painting park benches and shelters, weeding, trash pick-up along trails, fall leaf cleanup and springtime flower bed preparation. Opportunities vary by season.

Contact: Kevin James

Assistant Director for Parks & Facilities
(515) 331-6799
kjames@urbandale.org

Endow Urbandale

The Endow Urbandale Community Fund is a tax-qualified community foundation managed by citizens to facilitate charitable giving in Urbandale. Endow Urbandale supports the charitable, cultural, and civic needs of our community now and for generations to come. Grants from the fund are used to enhance quality of life by targeting education, youth development, cultural amenities, and health and human services needs.

Contact: Sara Pearson

(515) 283-8159
info@endowurbandale.org



Make-A-Wish Iowa

Make-A-Wish Iowa volunteers transform lives one wish at a time. They fulfill our mission through wish granting and a variety of events. Wish granters meet with our wish families to help the child determine their one true wish. Then they work alongside Make-A-Wish staff to create wishes unique to each child. We also have event-based volunteers who help organize and implement internal events including: Jolly Holiday Lights, Tour de Lights, and the annual gala. Groups and organizations can also host a fundraising event such as a golf tournament or office jeans day, in support of Make-A-Wish Iowa.

Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. A wish positively impacts the life of a child and will forever enrich yours.

Contact: Mary-Kate Lange

Volunteer & Wish Assignment Coordinator
(515) 334-2636
mklange@iowa.wish.org

Let's Read

Members of the GenYP Community Service Committee of the Urbandale Chamber of Commerce structure teams of four to five volunteers who spend time reading to students in their adopted classroom. A variety of times and days are available!

Volunteering with a team takes as little as 20 minutes, and involves listening to students as they read and helping them sound out words and put together sentences. Volunteering with Let's Read is easy, and helps students develop good habits and become stronger readers!

Contacts: Nick Darrah, Eric Williams

Committee Co-chairs
nick.darrah@yahoo.com
ewilliams@aowealthadvisory.com
<http://uniquelyurbandale.com/lets-read-program/>

For more information, please contact:
City of Urbandale Economic Development
www.urbandale.org/econdev

Living History Farms

As a private nonprofit organization, Living History Farms relies on support from businesses, foundations, and individuals to help fund all programs and operations. Opportunities to give back include providing sponsorships or gifts, volunteering with special events, and helping to maintain and improve museum sites.

Contact: Jim Dietz-Kilen

Vice President, Development
(515) 645-9820
jdietz-kilen@lhf.org

Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity

GDM Habitat brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope. The home ownership program offers qualified low-income families the opportunity to purchase a safe, affordable home of their own. Opportunities include working on a build site with Rock the Block© or in a Habitat ReStore.

Contact: Colleen Rogers Messenger

Director of Advancement
(515) 471-8686 ext. 102
crmessenger@gdmhabitat.org

Courage League Sports

Courage League Sports is a non-profit adaptive sports and recreation facility that offers year round programming for children and adults who aren't able to go full speed due to a physical, cognitive or emotional disability. To run our program we rely heavily on volunteers. On any given night we need volunteers to serve as a teammate, coach, or help setup/teardown games. These opportunities are available Monday-Thursday evenings, and on Saturdays.

Contact: Porshia Perkins

Development Coordinator
(515) 421-4022
porshia@couragleaguesports.com

give back