



**Emergency
Residence
Project**

225 S. Kellogg Ave.
Ames, IA 50010

amesshelter.org



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2019 Year-End Report



Letter from the Executive Director

On my first day at the Emergency Residence Project, I saw a woman walking outside my window. She was a wisp of a woman, and she had a severe limp. Often, she paused to rest.

I asked my staff about her later that day. I learned her name was Marie, she was in her fifties, and she was a client in our shelter. Due to domestic violence, she was experiencing homelessness. A few days later, I spoke to Marie for the first time, and I learned that she grew up in the south and moved here with her boyfriend.

"I'm so grateful to be here," she told me. "Everyone in the shelter is so helpful and caring."

Over the next few weeks, I would occasionally run into Marie, and we would talk. I learned that she was looking for a job and an apartment.

"This will be the first time I've ever had an apartment in my name," she said.

Marie spent 62 days in our shelter. On that 62nd day, I found Marie in her basement room, packing her belongings: She was leaving us. She had found not only a job, but her own apartment. As she told me about her plans, her eyes sparkled with hope.

You are the reason Marie found that hope. By sharing your time or your money, you have changed the future

for people in our community, people who are desperately searching for hope and another chance.

Thank you from me. Thank you from Marie. And thank you from everyone at Emergency Residence Project. We wish you happiness and an overabundance of hope this holiday season.

Sincerely,

Jodi Stumbo

Jodi Stumbo
Executive Director
Emergency Residence Project
jodi@amesshelter.org

Client Quotes

"I couldn't have ever gotten a job, or housing, or even an Iowa driver's license if I didn't have the help of the ERP and officer Eric Snyder. In other words, you saved my life."

– father, 50s who overcame homelessness

"I believe the stability and resources of ERP are beneficial for the Ames Community. Their knowledge and support of housing programs granted me the structure I needed to save my family from hardship."

– mother, 30s, who overcame homelessness with her family

"The staff is very hospitable and treats everyone with dignity and respect. God bless you!"

– daughter, 20s, who overcame homelessness

Originally from a small town in western Iowa, Jodi Stumbo graduated from Iowa State University and worked as a high school English, speech and drama teacher at Glidden-Ralston Community School District.

In 2001, Stumbo moved to Ames and started her career in philanthropy with the Iowa State University Foundation. During her 16 years there, she held a variety of titles, including executive director of communications. Stumbo has also served as the development director at Boys & Girls Clubs of Story County.

Stumbo enjoys attending Cyclone sporting events; hanging out with Red, her 120-pound German Shepard; and spending time with family and friends. In the spring, she serves as a volunteer wildlife rehabilitator and has rescued, rehabbed and released seven raccoons, one bobcat and two fawns. She also enjoys bicycling, gardening and canning.

Stumbo believes that nobody goes through life without the occasional need for a helping hand. She considers it the community's duty to help its neighbors who are experiencing or on the verge of experiencing homelessness.



Jodi with her aunt who inspired her join the ERP team.

The Year in Review

July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019



Homeless Prevention

- Short-term funds to keep families in their current homes have significantly reduced the number of people who need to enter the shelter.
- 1,350 individuals received support that prevented them from becoming homeless.
 - 73% were families with children
- 91% of individuals who entered the shelter did not have to repeat their stay.



Providing Shelter

- Nearly 40% of those needing shelter were single women.
- We are seeing more evidence that some of our residents are victims of human trafficking.
- Families experiencing homelessness are remaining sheltered for a longer amount of time, but returns to the shelter are decreasing.



Finding a Home

- An increasing number of single men are coming through our program. The program helps them quickly move from either an emergency shelter or place not meant for habitation to affordable housing, all while receiving one-on-one support services.
- The average time for moving families from homeless to transitional housing is eight days.
- More than 71% of those who went through the discharge process exited into transitional or permanent housing.



Community Partners

- Our homeless outreach team works with local police officers to provide support and services to help community members who are experiencing homelessness.
- ASSET provided nearly \$215,000 through funding from the city of Ames, Story County and United Way of Story County.
- Four faith groups—Ames United Church of Christ, St. John's by the Campus Episcopal Church, Collegiate Presbyterian Church and St. Thomas Aquinas Church—provided nearly 50% of the meals needed for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Volunteers and interns contributed 3,273 hours, equivalent to \$45, 822 in wages, to assist with tasks such as answering phones, preparing meals, painting and cleaning.



Because of You

- 10,673 nights of shelter provided
- 632 individuals helped
 - More than 21% were children younger than 18
 - 24 were veterans
- More than 4,000 meals were served to people in shelter

Funding

Emergency Residence Project Funding Allocation Fiscal Year 2019

- 45% Donations
- 27% Assets
- 21% Government Funding
- 5% Grants
- 2% Misc.

