

# Giving hope in times of crisis

Our mission is to be a trusted support when life gets tough. All people. Any time. Every time. During the challenges faced between July 2020-June 2021, we saw our mission demonstrated by each of our programs, thousands of times.

We responded to a recording-breaking number of contacts at our crisis center. We weathered a derecho and the resulting disruptions and damage, not only for our agency, but also for our community. We adjusted our services many times to best serve Iowans while staying safe during the pandemic. Thanks to your partnership, we were able to answer these needs in a variety of ways every day.

*Trusted support when life gets tough.* When a mental health concern engages law enforcement, our expanding Law Enforcement Liaison program responds with trained crisis counselors to navigate situations at home and in the community. We value being a trusted support during these high-stress situations, providing mental health care, diverting from local hospitals or jails, and connecting individuals with the best on-going care for their mental health needs.

*All people.* Our Emergency Youth Shelter remained open every day despite the challenges of the pandemic. Our shelter is the only facility of its kind in Linn county, providing 24/7 care for youth ages 11-17 who are experiencing out-of-home placement due to situations like foster care, family conflict, homelessness, and human trafficking.

*Any time.* Mobile Crisis Outreach and Crisis Center counselors spent weeks answering questions and providing mental health support at the drive-thru resource centers in Cedar Rapids following the derecho.

*Every time.* While crisis contact numbers have increased annually, we saw a significant jump in the 2021 fiscal year, totaling more than 67,000 contacts. We also saw an increase in first time callers, a testament to the wide-spread impact the events of the last year have had on our communities.

We are grateful for all you do to support our important work in the community. We know that without you and the connection of others, more people would suffer, more lives would be lost. Thank you for your support.



*Emily Blomme*

Emily Blomme  
Foundation 2 CEO



*Alex Trunnell*

Alex Trunnell  
Foundation 2 Board President

## Our Mission

To be a trusted support when life gets tough.  
All people. Any time. Every time.

## Our Vision

To build resilience and improve quality of life  
by ensuring every Iowan has access to our  
lifesaving work in crisis prevention,  
intervention and response.

## Board Members

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## Foundation 2 Leadership Staff

Emily Blomme Chief Executive Officer  
Erin Langdon Chief Operating Officer  
Matt Heinrich Chief Financial Officer  
Katie Curtis Chief Development Officer  
Drew Martel Director of Crisis Services



Foundation 2  
Crisis Services

Annual Report FY21

# Foundation 2 Crisis Services

A lot happened this year at Foundation 2 Crisis Services! With your support, we were a trusted support for thousands of Iowans. Check out some of our highlights from July 2020-June 2021. Plus, you can visit [foundation2.org](https://foundation2.org) to learn more with our expanded digital report!

## LAW ENFORCEMENT LIAISON PROGRAM EXPANDS

The Law Enforcement Liaison Program saw remarkable expansion.

Additional partnerships were formed, including with the Marion Police in October and the Linn County Sheriff's Office in March 2021. Liaisons respond to 911 calls in their service area to assess and de-escalate mental health-related emergencies, such as:

"An adult with autism, schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder wandered out alone on a nature trail. They walked until they reached a construction zone, became disoriented, and panicked. They called 911 for support. The Law Enforcement Liaison was able to find the client, who was pacing the trail, anxious and scared. They de-escalated the client, built trust, did an evaluation, and transported them to a Crisis Stabilization Bed for continued support."

In FY21, the Law Enforcement Liaison Program provided **662** contacts.

2020  
**JULY**

### 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Foundation 2 celebrated its 50th anniversary of services. We were started in 1970 by a group of Kennedy High School and Coe College students. We celebrated the anniversary with a City of Cedar Rapids Mayor's Proclamation, downtown window display, historical photos on social media, postcard, cake, and more.



Youth celebrate the 50th anniversary of Foundation 2 with a cake at the Emergency Youth Shelter.

### YOUTH SHELTER

Summer at the Foundation 2 Emergency Youth Shelter is busy! We provide music and technology enrichment opportunities, trauma-informed yoga, exercise equipment, and more to engage youth.

The youth shelter had **126** youth admissions, totaling **2,516** nights of safety.



The Foundation 2 Emergency Youth Shelter is a 17-bed facility in Cedar Rapids for youth ages 11-17 experiencing a personal or family crisis that requires a temporary out-of-home placement.

2020  
**AUG**

### DERECHO HITS

Foundation 2 staff provided hundreds of hours of crisis mental health care in the storm's aftermath at community resource centers in Cedar Rapids. We saw a brief disruption in Crisis Center services due to widespread power outages, but we were able to resume services within days with the support of local businesses offering technology and facilities.

All Foundation 2 buildings in Cedar Rapids sustained some level of damage during the storm. Volunteers helped clean up debris to help us continue to provide quality services with limited interruptions.



Foundation 2 crisis counselors support residents at a drive-thru resource center in Cedar Rapids following the derecho.

2021  
**JUNE**

### YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK

In October 2020, the Iowa Giving Crew gave the initial donation for the "Small Things, Big Impact" program - a new scholarship for young people in the Fostering Futures program. This fund provides basic needs not covered through other means.

2020  
**OCT**

### VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

In May, more than 40 United Way Day of Caring volunteers completed projects, including tilling a garden at the Emergency Youth Shelter and cleaning up landscaping impacted by the derecho.

Thanks to volunteers year-round, we are able to complete special projects that support our staff and mission.



Volunteers clean up around a tree lost after the derecho during Day of Caring.

2021  
**MAY**





Fostering Futures Program Manager Renae Koth (right) talks with Stephanie, a Fostering Futures participant. Stephanie said that Fostering Futures helped her make better financial choices and learn how to make positive choices while living on her own.

## ILP BECOMES FOSTERING FUTURES

The Independent Living Program for young people aging out of foster care expanded and was renamed Fostering Futures. The new name better describes how the program helps young people who have aged out of foster care build and maintain stability in areas including housing, transportation, and education.

Additional community and education supports were added, including the Fostering Higher Education program, which connects young people with resources and mentors to encourage post-secondary education and training options. The new Group Violence Intervention model (funded through the SET Fund) works to reduce community violence and high-risk behaviors that can lead to involvement with the criminal justice system.

In FY21, Fostering Futures served **174** individuals, helping them to navigate independent living, and achieve and maintain stability.

2020  
DEC

## MCO EARNS NATIONAL AWARD

The Foundation 2 Mobile Crisis Outreach was awarded the sole national 2021 AAS Award for Mobile Crisis Outreach Program of the Year by the American Association of Suicidology.

MCO provides in-person crisis support to youth and adult clients in Linn, Benton, Jones, Delaware, Bremer, Buchanan, Cedar, Jackson, Clinton, Scott, and Muscatine counties.

"I felt the sensation of tons of weight lifting off my shoulders, back, head, conscience - (a) toxic weight, lifting off and not settling back down.

They saved me. I owe them my life."

In FY21, MCO provided **2,849** contacts.



From left to right: CEO Emily Blomme, MCO Program Manager Adrienne Korbakes, and Director of Crisis Services Drew Martel stand with the AAS award for Mobile Crisis Outreach.

2021  
JAN

## MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS CENTER OPENS

Foundation 2 was part of a community effort to launch rapid, walk-in mental health services at the Linn County Mental Health Access Center in Cedar Rapids, which opened in spring 2021.

At the center, Foundation 2 staff provide mental health services, including triage for admission, crisis counseling, and suicide assessment.



CEO Emily Blomme (third from left) cuts the ribbon at the Linn County Mental Health Access Center opening.

The crisis center experienced record-breaking contact volumes with more than 5,500 contacts per month in March, April, and May. This is the highest number of contacts per month in the agency's history.

In FY21, the crisis center responded to **57,543** calls; **4,143** texts and chats; and **6,269** follow-up calls to clients.



Illustration of increase in crisis contacts per year.

2021  
APRIL

## IN THE CLASSROOM

In the spring, parents contacted Mobile Crisis Outreach regarding their transgender child who was suicidal. They were frantic, trying to find resources to help their child feel accepted and get connected to the LGBTQ community. The Foundation 2 school-based liaison, part of the Mobile Crisis Outreach program, was able to support, assess, and find many resources for the child, as well as resources to help the parents feel supported.

School-based liaisons provide services in Cedar Rapids and other area schools to support students and their families experiencing concerns about mental health, substance use, behavioral challenges, and more.

2021  
MARCH

**In crisis or need support? Call our 24/7 crisis counselors at 319-362-2174.**

## Your impact

We sincerely appreciate our donors, volunteers, and community partners who make it possible for Foundation 2 Crisis Services to serve Iowans during times of crisis. Together, we can be a trusted support when life gets tough.

• For a list of all FY21 donors, please visit our expanded digital annual report at [foundation2.org](https://foundation2.org).

### Gifts in Memory

Neil Barkalow  
Carter Boyles  
Rosye Bunch  
Hannah Colton  
Garrett Farr

Kylie Ford  
Michael Hand  
Suzanne Hargarten  
Dean Hartkemeyer  
Dan Husmann

Suzanne Kittelson  
Michael Larson  
James Matthews  
Judith O'Donnell  
Cody Vande Voorde

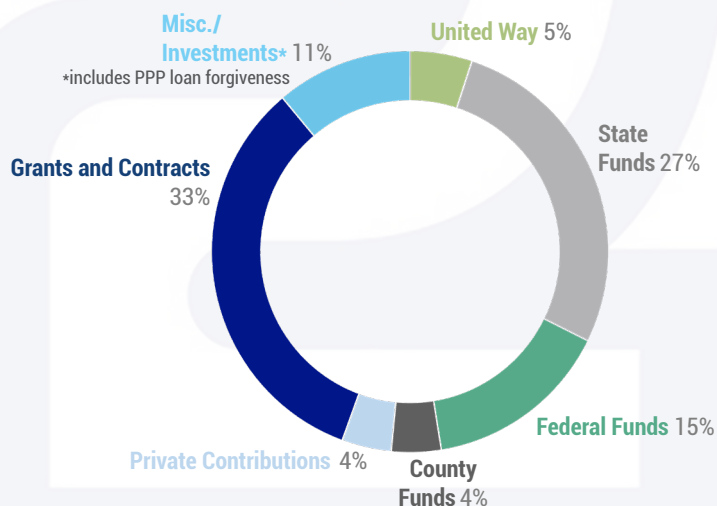
Jeff Vipond  
Mark Voss  
Mark Weaver  
Nick Wheeler  
Diana Willard

### Gifts in Honor

Cristal Boeding  
India Hawkins  
Judy Legge  
Sarah Nelson

Olivia Peters  
Jim Wooldridge  
Sally Wooldridge

### INCOME



### EXPENSES

