

*A trusted support when life gets tough.*

ALL PEOPLE.

ANY TIME.

EVERY TIME.

 **Foundation 2**  
*Crisis Services*

FY26 Annual Report

# Together, we are building a more **connected**, **resilient** future.

This year, we’ve been proudly living our value of Community Collaboration. From the beautiful new mural created with IowaBIG students to the continued expansion of our Center of Response, Education and Support (CORES), we’ve been building new partnerships, strengthening existing ones, and connecting with more people across Iowa.

As our footprint continues to grow, we’ve loved getting to know communities through spending time in schools, healthcare facilities, law enforcement agencies, human service organizations and meetings with stakeholders talking about how we can work together to make Iowans more mentally well and better supported. We know we can’t do this work alone and we don’t want to. The best solutions come when organizations know their expertise and bring their strengths, ideas and resources together.

Our Crisis Center had another record-breaking year with more crisis contacts than ever before. This work is also deeply connected to the communities around us. Every day, our team works alongside partners across the state to make sure people can access the right support at the right time. Those relationships help us respond better, share resources, solve problems and create a stronger system of care for Iowans. They also help us better understand what communities are experiencing and where there are opportunities to do things differently.

That is what Community Collaboration looks like to us. It is showing up, building relationships, sharing what we know, learning from others and being willing to try new things together. It means celebrating what is working, being honest about what is not and continuing to look for better ways to support the people and communities we serve.

*Emily J. Blomme*

**Emily J. Blomme**  
CEO

*Bryan Mullen*

**Bryan Mullen**  
Board President

### Our Values

Compassionate Care   Inclusion   Integrity   Community Collaboration  
Innovation   A Great Place to Work



This is what  
Community Collaboration  
looks like to us.

It is showing  
up, building  
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sharing what  
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together.”

Emily Blomme

## Agency Programs

### Crisis Center

Phone, text, chat support available 24/7

### Crisis Stabilization Community Based Services

Short-term, in-home crisis response

### Emergency Youth Shelter

Short-term residential facility for youth experiencing a personal or family crisis who need temporary housing

### Fostering Futures

Case management and supportive services for youth in foster care

### J-FAST

Community-based crisis support for youth

### Law Enforcement Liaisons

Specialized mental health response in area law enforcement agencies

### Mobile Crisis Outreach

In-person crisis response in 12 Iowa counties

### Suicide Loss Survivors Support Group

Support group for individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide

### Training & Education

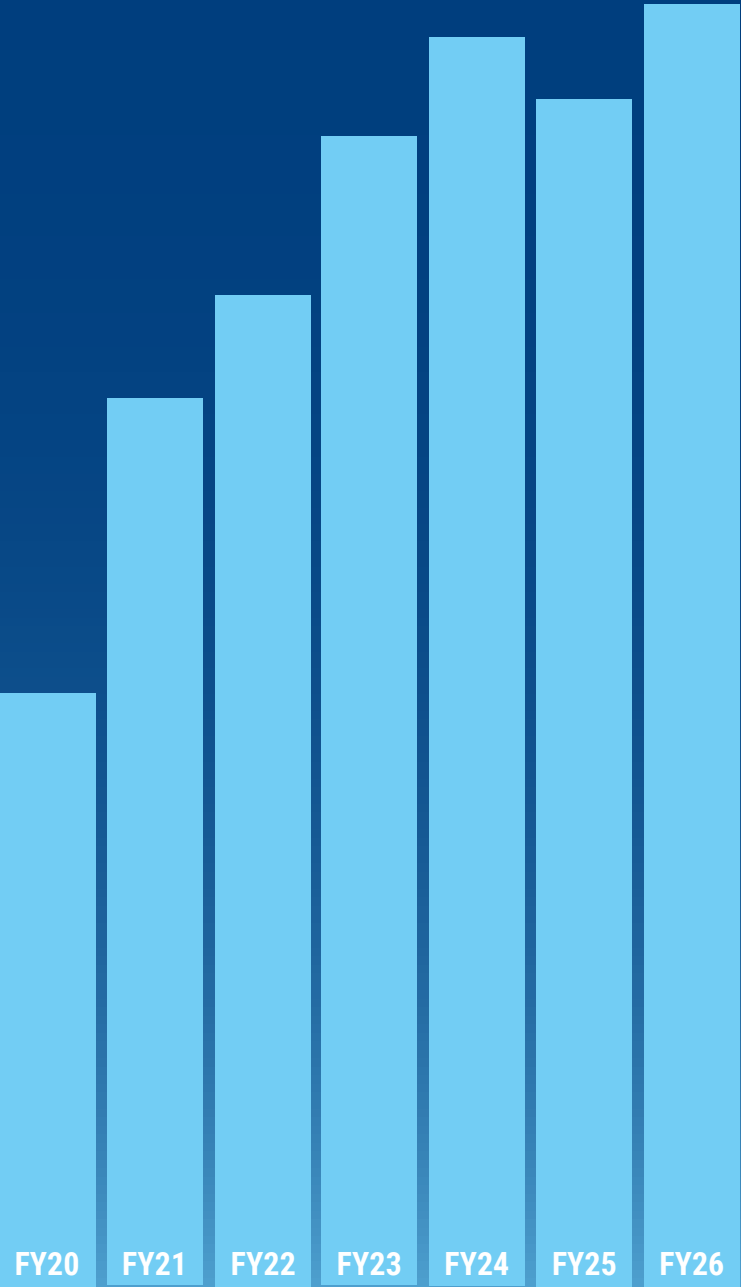
Internal and community-based education services to build skills in mental health care and suicide prevention

### Violence Prevention Program

Community-based services to reduce gun violence

101,140

total contacts across all programs



Agency contacts across all  
programs annually from  
FY20-FY26

# Fostering Futures

Within Fostering Futures, Aftercare services help young people aging out of foster care gain and maintain stability on their own. The program is available for young people ages 17.5 to 23 and is voluntary.

A major goal for Amelia,\* a Fostering Futures client, was to purchase a more reliable car. With the help of her case manager, she talked through a check list of tips for purchasing a used car and options for financing. Together, they came up with questions to ask when purchasing a used car and talked about available resources for making a good decision.

At their next meeting, Amelia was excited to share that she'd been able to purchase a more reliable car and felt confident in her decision. She was even able to make additional payments toward the loan, ensuring she would have reliable transportation for work and school.

### Fostering Futures in Education

The Fostering Futures in Education program helps young people who have aged out of foster care navigate post-secondary education and training opportunities.

Their advocate helps them file for financial aid, apply to schools or training programs, find housing, connect them with resources and set goals.

The pathway to stability and adulthood looks different for every participant, but the outcomes are encouraging. In FY26, Fostering Futures in Education served 23 participants.

"One young person obtained an apprenticeship with a local plumbing company," said Clare Dieter, Fostering Futures in Education advocate. "Through his employer, he is working on certification and journeymen hours with his online courses completely paid for. His goal is to buy a house within the next five years and based on his ability to save, I know he will get there."

\*Name has been changed

192

clients enrolled in Fostering Futures Aftercare and Fostering Futures in Higher Education

# Community support for youth



Members of Junior League of Cedar Rapids, Foundation 2 Crisis Services staff and community partners cut the ribbon for the new AMP kitchen in April 2026.



Greatamerica employees pack totes for the Apartment in a Suitcase program in May 2026. Each kit is valued at more than \$700. Community businesses donated more than \$10,000 worth of kits during FY26

For more than a decade, through a partnership with the Junior League of Cedar Rapids, youth have had a homecooked meal at each of their bi-monthly Achieving Maximum Potential (AMP) peer support meetings.

These meetings are an opportunity for youth in an out-of-home placement to connect, learn life skills and advocate for changes to the child welfare system.

When AMP meetings moved to the new Headquarters building in 2024, the facility lacked a sufficient kitchen facility for on-site food preparation.

Inspired by community support for the program, JLCR led a campaign to fund more than \$40,000 in renovations to the kitchen. The remodeled kitchen opened in spring 2026.

JLCR began supporting youth in foster care in 2009 with the Bridging the G.A.P. program. It includes a scholarship, housing fund, apartment supplies and AMP meals.

"Bridging the G.A.P. has grown into a meaningful program that helps young people step into life after high school with dignity, confidence and support," said Mindy Sorg of OPN Architects, one of the JLCR members who helped start the partnership.

Through additional community partnerships with Collins Aerospace and Greatamerica, volunteers packed more than 40 Apartment in a Suitcase kits for young people in the Aftercare program. This kit includes more than \$700 worth of basic living items for these young people as they transition to living on their own for the first time.

# Crisis Center

The Crisis Center experienced rapid growth over the last fiscal year, responding 94,143 times by phone, text and chat. To meet these new demands, the Crisis Center expanded staff and increased utilization of the System Navigation system to ensure all people received quality, rapid care.

Adam\* called the Crisis Center frequently because he was experiencing ongoing mental health challenges and didn't have consistent support outside moments of crisis.

With regular follow-up and support, Adam's reliance on the Crisis Center decreased as he strengthened ongoing support options.

While crisis counselors provide support each time someone calls, connections to ongoing care such as therapy can also be appropriate for people who need a higher level of care. The crisis counselor connected Adam with Bridge Therapy, a short-term therapy option through Foundation 2 Crisis Services.

While recovery is rarely a straight line and support needs can change over time, this experience illustrates how crisis services can serve as the first step toward longer-term stability.

\*Name has been changed

7,684 contacts were from someone reaching out for support for another person they were concerned about

2,881 contacts were about youth-related concerns

643 contacts involved an active rescue, an in-person response after a suicide attempt has been made

### Gifts Made in Memory of

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Austin Speidel      | J. David Carey    |
| Austin Comried      | Jeff Vipond       |
| Chance Tamminga     | Joey Loftsgard    |
| Chandler            | John Arians       |
| Dakota Holt         | Jourdan Reeder    |
| DB                  | Matt Edwards      |
| Dean Hartkemeyer    | PJ Smith          |
| Deb Peddycoart      | Quinton Walton    |
| Doug "Smug" Chadima | Sam Cruthis       |
| Evelyn Carver       | Sammy Vance       |
| Garrett Farr        | Sue Harwood       |
| Greg Goodale        | Suzanne Hargarten |

### Gifts Made in Honor of

- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| George Daniel Martin | Matt Olson     |
| Jaci and Josh Weber  | Ryan Smith &   |
| Jack Schleier        | Bryan Mullen   |
| Matt Heinrich        | Spencer Carver |

### Remembering loved ones

Each year on World Suicide Prevention Day (Sept. 10), we invite the community to light more than 200 luminaria for loved ones who died by suicide.

Alongside Light the Night, we honor loved ones on the Legacy Wall, located at our Headquarters. Tiles with names and messages remember loved ones who died by suicide and honor individuals connected to our mission.

Through the partnership with the Iowa Giving Crew, multiple suicide loss survivors have been able to honor their loved ones on the Legacy Wall.

In 2025, Hector Candelaria was one scholarship recipient. He added a tile to honor his wife, Theresa.

"We 'light the night' not only for those we've lost to the darkness, but also to remember the light in which our loved ones provided the world," Hector said.

Foundation 2 Crisis Services

# 2026 year in review

*We provided*  
**700**  
hours of training

for employers and businesses, focusing on mental health and suicide prevention, stress management and more

We stabilized  
**76%**  
of law enforcement liaison dispatches in the community, reducing the need for more restrictive levels of care

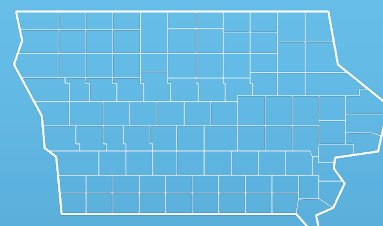
**190**  
luminaria were lit at Light the Night on Sept. 10 for individuals who died by suicide.



*We responded to*  
**101,140**  
requests for support across all programs

We provided  
**823**  
group therapy sessions for youth in our Emergency Youth Shelter

Our services were utilized in all 99 Iowa counties



We provided support for

**782** youth through our specialized **Juvenile & Family Assistance & Stabilization Track**, in-person crisis care for youth experiencing concerns about mental health, self-harm, substance use and more

We participated in  
**120+**

community events including back-to-school nights, Cedar Rapids Pride Fest, Cedar Rapids Downtown Farmer's Market, county fairs and community festivals

*We provided*

**3,010**

**Mobile Crisis Outreach responses** in our service area of Benton, Bremer, Buchanan, Cedar, Clinton, Delaware, Jackson, Jones, Linn, Muscatine and Scott counties

We dispatched Mobile Crisis Outreach

**6,379 times,**

utilizing the statewide network of providers that cover all Iowa counties. Mobile Crisis Outreach provides in-person crisis support

*Our teams completed*

**9,733**

trainings to ensure high-quality care every time we respond to a crisis

We employed approximately

**200**

full and part time employees across all programs and locations

We responded to a total of **94,143** contacts through the crisis center



**89,501**  
contacts by phone



**2,272**  
contacts by text



**2,370**  
contacts by chat

**Adult Mental Health**

was the most common concern people received for support from a Law Enforcement Liaison and at the Mental Health Access Center

# Responding to emergencies

When a mental health emergency occurs, the Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) program is uniquely positioned to provide rapid, life-saving support.

Seven liaisons in their respective law enforcement agencies responded to 2,185 requests for emergency mental health support during FY26 across all services.

In 76% of calls, the client was successfully stabilized within the community. This reduces the need for more restrictive placements such as the hospital or jail.

In addition to responding to 911 calls, liaisons also provide training and outreach including:

- Mental health training for law enforcement officers
- Victim support following a crime
- Community outreach and youth engagement events
- Naloxone education and distribution

In Cedar Rapids, the LEL provided mental health instruction during Basic Skills training for new officers and participated in Shop With a Cop during the holidays.

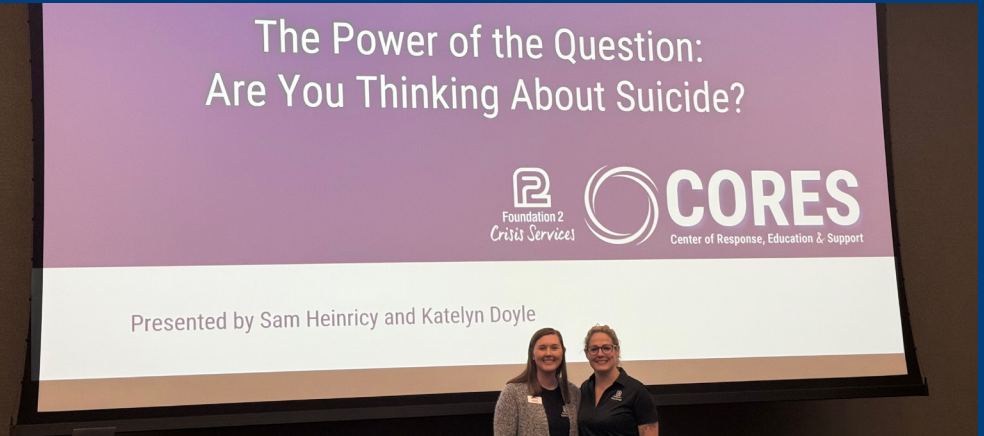
An LEL initiative launched in FY26 supports individuals transitioning out of the Linn County Jail. It is designed to improve community integration and reduce future crises and justice system involvement.

“We’ve seen how these partnerships help build a stronger Cedar Rapids,” said Tiffany O’Donnell, Cedar Rapids mayor. “When we can realistically meet people where they are and help them take that next step toward stability, we can create better outcomes for individuals and for our community.”

**Linn County Mental Health Access Center**  
Foundation 2 Crisis Services staff provide triage services at the walk-in Mental Health Access Center, located in Cedar Rapids.

In FY26, staff provided crisis triage care to 1,276 walk-in individuals, delivering more than 70,760 minutes of direct triage support.

Through the Naloxone Vending Machine Program, 640 boxes of naloxone were distributed to the community, increasing access to the life-saving medication.



Dubuque Police Department LEL Katelyn Doyle and LEL Program Coordinator Samantha Heinricy present on the importance of talking about thoughts of suicide at the Iowa Corrections Association in May 2026.



**It’s an opportunity to collaborate and support an organization that provides critical resources and hope to our community.”**

Anne Parmley



Anne Parmley, Community Impact Director at TrueNorth, vacuums out a shelter vehicle on Day of Caring in May 2026.

## Youth Shelter

The Emergency Youth Shelter provides 24/7 care for youth ages 11-17 who need a safe, temporary place to stay. This can include runaway, homeless and human trafficked youth.

In FY26, the youth shelter provided 4,277 nights of safety and 823 group therapy sessions.

Community volunteers provided more than 100 hours of labor at the youth shelter, including painting the dining room, doing outdoor landscaping and sorting clothes.

“At TrueNorth, we believe strong communities are built through meaningful service,” said Anne Parmley, Community Impact Director at TrueNorth. “We are proud to invest our time and talents in strengthening the vital work of Foundation 2 Crisis Services.”

# Violence Prevention Program

The Violence Prevention Program is part of Stand Up for Peace, a community effort to stop the cycle of group and gun violence. The coordinated effort includes law enforcement, social services and community volunteers who work together to eliminate barriers and deliver a credible message against violence.

The Violence Prevention Program team worked with 50 individuals, helping them navigate barriers to employment, education, housing and more. Additionally, the team connected with 40 young men and women, and their families, about available Stand Up for Peace services.

Activities and support included:

- Back-to-school giveaway event with more than 500 free backpacks and community resources
- Peer-to-peer group for young men with lived experience
- Student groups at McKinley and Roosevelt Middle Schools
- Community outings with program youth to expand their horizons including the Harlem Globetrotters, Cedar Rapids Titans arena football and Spare Time Entertainment
- Partnerships with Linn County Public Health, Cedar Rapids Police Department, Wellington Barbershop, Wellington Heights Neighborhood Association, Iowa Ceramics Center and Glass Studio, Kirkwood Community College and more

Through the Cedar Rapids Community School District, Violence Prevention supported efforts to create safe classrooms. In July 2025, the district shared that there had been a 34.78% decrease in diversions and a 49.30% decrease in charges, showing a clear shift toward proactive support over punitive action.



Janessa Carr (left), Safe and Secure Learning Environment Administrator with the Cedar Rapids Community School District, and Ana Clymer (right), community volunteer, take a picture with a student (center) during Youth Violence Prevention Week in April 2026.



Community volunteers and program participants stand in front of the City of Cedar Rapids Rolling Rec Mobile at the Back-to-School event in August 2025.

## Mobile Crisis Outreach



Jason Pojar, MCO program supervisor in Bettendorf, attends the Maquoketa Community School District Teen Health Fair in April 2026.

When a crisis situation would benefit from in-person support, our Mobile Crisis Outreach (MCO) program responds. This in-person support is available in 12 counties across Iowa.

In FY26, MCO provided 3,010 dispatches across our service area.

Counselors respond to concerns about adult and youth mental health, substance use, thoughts of suicide and more. They can do a suicide risk assessment, de-escalate a situation,

create a safety plan, connect clients with resources and more.

Our Crisis Stabilization Community Based Services (CSCBS) team provides intensive supports in the home for up to five days after a crisis occurs.

In FY26, there were 123 CSCBS admissions. Ninety six percent of clients were able to stay in their homes, reducing the need for a higher level of care such as hospitalization.



In FY26, we launched the Center of Response, Education & Support (CORES) to help build safer, stronger communities through education, connection and support.

CORES brings together community and workplace mental health and suicide prevention training, suicide loss support and free resources.

During FY26, trainers provided more than 700 hours of training for employers and community organizations on topics including mental health, suicide prevention and stress management.

Internally, staff completed more than 10,200 trainings to strengthen skills and support high-quality care.

Through a partnership with the Marion Independent School District, our trainers also helped school staff build the skills and confidence to respond when a student is experiencing a mental or behavioral health challenge.

"It was incredibly informative and engaging," said Becky Knudson, Marion Independent School District Behavior Coach. "Our team walked away with a much stronger understanding of how to respond to a dysregulated student."



**This is such an important topic, and your team did an amazing job with the presentation. I heard several times how much it was appreciated."**

**- Lynn Price, President at Dryspace Inc.**  
Iowa Roofing Contractors Association Winter Conference



Simon Kalkbrenner, Crisis Center Training Coordinator, leads a training at Headquarters in November 2025.

### Supporting Wellness at Work

Prioritizing mental health can help workplaces improve employee well-being, reduce turnover and lower costs. And mental wellness matters in every industry.

In February, CORES trainers brought that message to the Iowa Roofing Contractors Association Winter Conference in Cedar Rapids with "Clear Heads, Safer Jobsites: Mental Wellness + Suicide Prevention."

The presentation focused on the unique mental health challenges facing workers in the industry and practical ways employers and employees can create safer, more supportive workplaces.

### Agency Leadership

Emily J. Blomme  
Chief Executive Officer

Erin Langdon  
Chief Operating Officer

Matt Heinricy  
Chief Financial Officer

Katie Curtis  
Chief Development Officer

Abby Williams  
Clinical Director

Lejla Ford  
Director of Crisis Services

Renae Koth  
Director of Youth & Family Services

Kara Grafft  
Director of Quality & Training

### Board of Directors

Bryan Mullen, President  
Steve Pace, Vice President  
Samantha McGrane, Secretary  
Ron Hellweg, Treasurer  
Theresa Blong  
Eli Cochrane  
Whitney Gehrls  
Crystal Loftsgard  
Tim Nash  
Renee Nelson  
Michael Rozum  
Bob Sanders  
Nina Sheller  
Tim Vipond

## A Great Place to Work

An employee survey in Fall 2025 found that a majority of employees valued making a difference and were proud and happy to work for the agency.

Of staff who responded to the anonymous survey,

**99%** said they were **proud to work** at Foundation 2 Crisis Services

**93%** said they were **happy at work** most days

**93%** said they would recommend Foundation 2 Crisis Services as a **good place to work**



**The work is hard. Every year, with all the growth and change, it feels a little harder. But there is something about this agency that *inspires* me. I expected at some point staying in the same place would begin to feel stagnant, but I have yet to experience that here. There's always something you learn, and people to gain experience."**

- Employee survey feedback



Leland Freie (third from left) retired from the Youth Shelter after 32 years of service to our agency. The youth shelter kitchen was named in his honor.

People-focused changes in FY26 included increased debriefing after difficult calls and dispatches, enhanced virtual options to connect across the agency, and additional training options focused on trauma-informed care, burnout and emotional regulation.

**"I think Foundation 2's biggest strength is the *people*. The counselors genuinely care, and you can feel that every single shift. Even on hard days, it is a team that shows up for each other and for the people we serve. That kind of *heart* cannot be faked, and it makes the work feel meaningful."**

- Employee survey feedback

### Employees Celebrating 10+ Years of Service

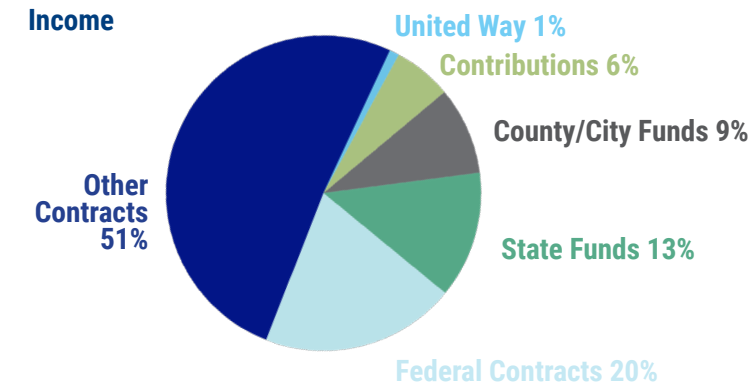
|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Emily Blomme     | Deb Manders       |
| Leland Freie     | Christy Martensen |
| India Hawkins    | Matt Olson        |
| Shelby Holsapple | Barb Rogen        |
| Renae Koth       |                   |

### Big'ler Deal Award Winners

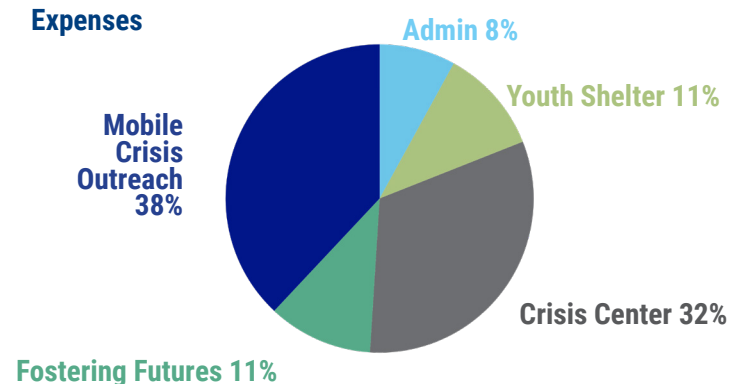
|                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Darcy Hilton<br>September 2025  | Abby Michael<br>March 2026   |
| Kailey Ciaccio<br>December 2025 | Ronna Gingerich<br>June 2026 |

## Financials

### Income



### Expenses



## Murals of Meaning

Through a partnership with IowaBIG and the Downtown SSMID Commission, high school students Olivia Toney and Audrey Pruett painted a mural on the building facing the alley of our Headquarters building (305 2nd Ave. SE) in Downtown Cedar Rapids in May 2026.

It was part of their Murals of Meaning project to bring meaningful art to Downtown Cedar Rapids.

