

THE DREAM



Sip for the Future: A Night to Remember

Our **Sip for the Future Wine Flight** was an unforgettable evening of wine, food, and community impact.

In partnership with **Winefest** and **Bodkin Wines**, guests enjoyed a delicious four-course meal paired with standout Bodkin selections.

A big thank you to **Chris Christensen**, Iowa native and owner of Bodkin Wines, for joining us and sharing the stories behind each pour. His insights made the evening even more special.

The event raised vital support for our youth programs, which served **over 5,000** young people in 2024.

As we celebrate **40 years** of Urban Dreams, we're filled with gratitude for the partners and supporters who help us create lasting impact.

Thank you for investing in the future!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Kick off summer with our Youth Employment students at these **FREE** community events! Follow us on Facebook for the latest updates.

Summer on Sixth

Every Wednesday June 11th - July 30th, 2025
 5:00 pm
 Community Courtyard
 601 Forest Ave. Des Moines, IA 50314

Summer City Hoops

Every Thursday June 12th - July 25th, 2025
 5:00 pm
 Evelyn K. Davis Park
 1400 Forest Ave, Des Moines, IA 50314

Rendezvous on Riverview

Every Friday June 13th - July 31st, 2025
 5:30 pm
 Riverview Park
 710 Corning Ave, Des Moines, IA 50313

HELP VOTE US BEST NON-PROFIT IN DES MOINES



This year, Urban Dreams is celebrating **40 years** of serving the community, and what better way to honor that milestone than by being recognized in the **Des Moines' People's Choice Awards**?

If our work has made a difference to you or someone you know, please take a moment to vote for us for **Best Nonprofit Organization**!

HERE'S HOW TO VOTE FOR US:

- 1 Scan the **QR code** or **use the link** above the newsletter to visit the voting page
- 2 Enter **Wellmark Urban Dreams Community Center**
- 3 Scroll down to the **Services** category, then select **Nonprofit Organization**
- 4 Select **Add Vote** and **Submit Voting Ballot**



You can submit votes **once per day** until **May 7th** at **5 PM**! Every vote helps us **celebrate 40 years** of impact and community connection!

Thank you for Helping Us Help Others!



APRIL 2025



A CELEBRATION OF ART & COMMUNITY

This month, our community came together to celebrate something truly special: the unveiling of a breathtaking new mural by local artist Indigo Moore. Now brightening the walls of our community center, the mural is a bold reflection of the **creativity**, **strength**, and **connection** that runs deep in our neighborhood.

The event brought out an amazing mix of neighbors, supporters, and Urban Dreams board members. It was more than a celebration; it was a reminder of the beauty that grows when community and art come together.



THANK YOU TO OUR VALUED SUPPORTERS WHO MADE THE MURAL POSSIBLE!



Kyle & Sharon Krause



TEAM FROSTBYTE TAKES THE STAGE

At the **2025 Iowa Technology Summit**, hosted by the **Technology Association of Iowa**, Team FrostByte presented their 3D application that visualizes Artemis II, NASA's first crewed lunar mission in over 50 years!

For the past year, this group of high school students has used our E-Sports Lab as their home base while solving real-world problems through **NASA's App Development Challenge**.

They also founded a **3D Modeling Club** at Urban Dreams to mentor and inspire younger students. We are proud to support these students as they lead, give back, and show that the future of innovation begins right here in Des Moines.



BROOKLYNN CONARD WINS 4TH AT AUGUSTA

Congratulations to Brooklynn Conard on placing **4th in the nation** at the **2025 Drive, Chip & Putt National Finals** at Augusta National Golf Club!

Brooklynn's achievement is the result of focus, hard work, and hours of training. While a lot of her practice happens on the course, she also sharpened her skills using the golf simulator at the Wellmark Urban Dreams Community Center.

We're proud to play a small part in her journey and can't wait to see what she does next.



Check out Brooklynn giving KCCI Anchor Marcus McIntosh a golf lesson!



Book the Urban Dreams golf simulator!

URBAN DREAMS AFFORDABLE NORTHSIDE HOUSING PROJECT

Urban Dreams is excited to share an early look at a **transformative housing project** on a site in Des Moines we've owned for over 30 years. The plan includes six thoughtfully designed row houses: **four two-bedroom** and **two three-bedroom** units for households earning at or below **50% of the area median income** (AMI). With a focus on **accessibility**, **sustainability**, and **community connection**, this project marks a new chapter in inclusive and affordable living.



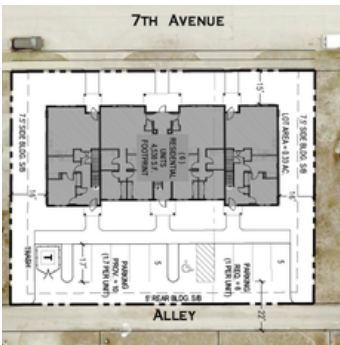
1411 - 1419 7th St.
Des Moines, IA 50314



Lot size of **14,190** total sf
4,268 total sf footprint
4 two-bedroom and
2 three-bedroom units



ADA unit and parking lot
on site



Simonson + Associates Architects
6-row houses



Builder & Contractor



Architect & Designer



Property Manager



Simonson + Associates Architects
Mock-up of potential design

# of Person(s) in the household	50% of AMI in Polk County Income Limit
1	\$39,550
2	\$45,200
3	\$50,850
4	\$56,500
5	\$61,050
6	\$65,550
7	\$70,100
8	\$74,600

Source: Neighborhood Finance Corporation

Stay tuned for more news about this exciting development!

APRIL FOOD PANTRY STATISTICS



28,561

TOTAL POUNDS OF FOOD



2,288

TOTAL PANTRY VISITS



3

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE

Food Pantry Hours

Monday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Tuesday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Thursday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Our Partners

Atlantic Bottling Co.	Kum & Go
Casey's	Kwik Star
Centro	Malo
Costco	Pizza Hut
Dollar General	Price Chopper
Food Bank of Iowa	Sam's Club
Garbazo	Target
Gilroy's	Whole Foods
Hiland Bakery	World Market

KNAPP PROPERTIES DELIVERS OVER 1,100 POUNDS OF SUPPORT

A heartfelt thank you to the incredible team at **Knapp Properties** for organizing a food drive and delivering **1,124 pounds** of essential items to our food pantry.

Their generous donation included **canned goods, diapers, wipes, hygiene products,** and other **dry goods**, all of which are in constant demand. Even more impressive, the team helped unload, weigh, and stock the shelves, making an immediate impact on both our staff and the families we serve.

We are deeply grateful for their generosity and hands-on support!



APRIL 2025



URBAN DREAMS COMMUNITY CENTER

Rent the Urban Dreams Community Center!

Our community center has been buzzing with activity over the past few months, serving as a hub for connection and celebration. It's home to the Riverbend Neighborhood Association's monthly meetings, weekly AA gatherings, and a variety of other events. The space is perfect for hosting baby showers, holiday parties, corporate events, and more.

Amenities include:

- Capacity for 275 people standing
- Up to 15 round tables seating 8 people at each table
- Three mounted TVs and one mobile TV
- High-speed WiFi
- Convenient kitchenette
- Toucan video conference system



To reserve the space, please scan the QR code or follow the link provided above this newsletter. To use the community center, a minimum donation of \$25 an hour is suggested. Your generous support helps maintain and improve the facility.



Employee of the Month!

This month's Employee of the Month is Barry!

Barry plays a key role in our food pantry and continues to go above and beyond every week. He not only ensures our donations are well-organized and ready for distribution, but he's also always eager to help with extra tasks wherever needed. His reliability and teamwork make a big difference in keeping our operations running smoothly.

Thank you, Barry!



MISSION STATEMENT

Urban Dreams advocates for **all members of the community**, breaking down barriers to success and collaborating with key stakeholders to overcome obstacles and uplift **underserved** and **underrepresented** people.

VISION STATEMENT

Our Urban Dream is to create **equal opportunity and access** for people to pursue their Dreams.

FOLLOW US TO STAY UP TO DATE ON CURRENT EVENTS



Urban Dreams - Iowa
Facebook



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Snapchat



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Urban-Dreams
LinkedIn



www.urbandreams.org
Website



SCAN OUR LINK TREE TO
ADD US ON SOCIALS