

JULY 2025



THE DREAM



Reflecting on a Summer of Impact

As summer winds down and families gear up for a new school year, we're taking time to reflect on a season full of connection, celebration, and community spirit.

This summer, we hosted **8** Summer on Sixth events and **8** Summer City Hoops nights, and supported the always-lively Rendezvous on Riverview series.

From **live music** and **free food** to **basketball games** and **neighborhood gatherings**, each event reminded us of the power of showing up for one another.

Keep reading for some of our favorite summer highlights!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Driving for Dreams Topgolf Outing

Thursday, August 21

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Topgolf

7680 Coachlight Dr. WDM, IA 50266

Presenting Sponsor:



Broadlawns Medical Center Free Nutrition Class

Wednesday, August 13

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Urban Dreams

1615 2nd Ave. Des Moines, IA 50314

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JOIN US AT THE 2ND ANNUAL TOPGOLF DRIVING FOR DREAMS!

It's the last week to register for our 2nd Annual Driving for Dreams signature golf outing at Topgolf, supporting youth development in our community.

 **Date:** Thursday, August 21st

 **Time:** 3 pm - 6 pm

 **Location:** Topgolf - 7680 Coachlight Dr., West Des Moines, IA 50266

Whether you're a seasoned golfer or just in it for the good vibes, you'll help raise critical funds for our **Youth Golf** and **Summer Youth Employment Programs**, giving young people opportunities to build confidence, skills, and careers.

PRESENTING SPONSORSHIP | \$5,000

- Recognition as a Presenting Sponsor on all event materials & promotions
- 3 bays (up to 18 golfers total)
- 36 drink tickets
- Premier logo placement throughout the event

BIRDIE SPONSORSHIP | \$2,000

- 2 bays (up to 12 golfers total)
- 24 drink tickets
- Recognition as a Birdie Sponsor on all event materials & promotions
- Choose drinks, food, or coach

BAY SPONSORSHIP | \$1,200

- 1 bay (up to 6 golfers)
- 12 drink tickets
- Logo placement on the signage at your bay

INTERESTED IN SPONSORING THE EVENT?



Scan the **QR code** or use the **link** above the newsletter to secure a sponsorship.

QUESTIONS?



golf@urbandreams.org



515-288-4742



urbandreams.org

THANK YOU SPONSORS:

ANDERSEN



ATHENE



bpc / BusinessRecord **dsm** bpcCUSTOM

CC CHOICE CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

D.M. KELLY & COMPANY

iowa total care

Urban Dreams Board Members

Pam & Harry Bookey

Dr. Mary Chapman

Kay & Bob Riley

THAT'S A WRAP ON SUMMER ON SIXTH!

Last month, we closed out our final **Summer on Sixth** event with a powerful evening celebrating community, connection, and the legacy of Urban Dreams founder **Wayne Ford**. It was a night to remember, full of heartfelt moments, delicious food, and great music.

A huge thank you to **The Vinyl Five** and **Izz One Productionz** for keeping the vibes great all night long. Our amazing students served up free hot dogs, snow cones, and cotton candy, making it a true summer celebration for all ages.

We are deeply grateful to **Iowa Total Care** for sponsoring this event and helping us bring joy and unity to 6th Avenue.

To everyone who came out, thank you for being part of something special. Urban Dreams is powered by our community, and last week proved just how strong that community is.



Scan to read **IPR's**
news coverage



Scan to watch **WHO13**
news coverage



Scan to watch **We Are**
Iowa news coverage

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Meet the minds behind the mission! Each month, we are spotlighting one of our board members whose passion, perspective, and commitment are helping Urban Dreams thrive.

We're excited to introduce our **Board Secretary, Erin Knupp**. Get to know Erin and learn more about the experiences that shape her service and impact.

Erin Knupp

Urban Dreams Secretary

How long have you served on the Urban Dreams board?

3.5 years

What drew you to join the Urban Dreams board?

When I met with Izaah, he was a down-to-earth, real person who had his own story to share that highlighted the power of somebody giving him a chance when he needed it most.



*Director of Business Development,
Beal Derkenne Construction*

He didn't sugarcoat anything. I could deeply relate to that and wanted to associate myself with a leader and organization that led through a lens of compassion, understanding, and a willingness to give back to their community.

Can you tell us about your professional background?

I serve as the Director of Business Development for Beal Derkenne Construction. We're a boutique general contractor that builds some really impressive and innovative commercial projects. I LOVE what I do and who I work with. In short, I spend my days meeting with the great people of Des Moines and the surrounding metros, cultivating and fostering meaningful relationships, and connecting great people to amazing opportunities in our community.

Do you have a favorite book or podcast that's inspired you recently?

The list here could get very long, but some of my favorite reads are "Unreasonable Hospitality" by Will Guidara, "The Happiness Advantage" by Shawn Achor, and "Leaders Eat Last" by Simon Sinek. And for podcasts, The Ed Mylett Show is always a top recommendation for me.

JULY FOOD PANTRY STATISTICS



28,371

TOTAL POUNDS OF FOOD



1,960

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
Capital City Fruit	Kwik Star
Centro	Malo
Costco	Pizza Hut
Dollar General	Price Chopper
Food Bank of Iowa	Sam's Club
Garbanzo	Target
Gilroy's	Whole Foods
Hiland Bakery	World Market

MEET ANNIE FROM THE EVELYN K. DAVIS CENTER!

We're thrilled to introduce Annie, a passionate community advocate from the **Evelyn K. Davis Center** who is dedicated to helping families thrive financially.

Annie is helping families access **FREE** financial help. Whether you need support with **budgeting, credit repair, debt management, banking, or saving for the future**, Annie connects you with professional financial coaches who care about your success.

You'll find Annie periodically in our food pantry, ready to chat, listen, and link you to resources that can truly make a difference. If you see her around, be sure to say hello and spread the word!



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



SCAN TO RESERVE

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 required.



Summer Youth Employment Student Spotlight

This month, we're proud to spotlight **Ollivia**, one of our amazing Summer Youth Employment Program students.

From day one, Ollivia jumped in and got to work, helping clients at the food pantry and supporting community events at Rendezvous on Riverview.

She's gaining experience in leadership, teamwork, and event planning while making a real difference.

Thanks for all your hard work, Ollivia!



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.

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Website



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ADD US ON SOCIALS