



Cathie's Corner

Every day we are open brings moments of shared joy, sorrow, victories, and sometimes desperation.

The conversations that begin with a “Hi Mom” are always special. Equally moving are the tears shared with dear patrons who have spent weeks or months going in and out of the hospital, overwhelmed by medical bills, insurance issues, and utility expenses. We thank God for our partnerships with WeLift and CCA, which allow us to connect them with the help they need.

Then there are those who arrive with a positive attitude and a grateful smile, even as we know the physical pain they endure from terminal cancer. And we celebrate with the young mom who is excitedly expecting but facing unexpected expenses that came with this new chapter.

It’s hard to pick just one blessing to share. So instead, I simply want to say thank you—for every financial gift, every food donation, and every beautiful volunteer who so generously gives of themselves. We acknowledge God’s hand in all of it.

Director: Cathie Z.

PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

CCA is a local ministry focused on supporting families and individuals in the P.E.A.C.H. Community with utility and other general assistance. They also support Operation Backpack, Thanksgiving boxes, and Spirit of Christmas within the Carlisle School District. They also provide the CCA Food Pantry at Holy Cross Lutheran Church and multiple neighborhood Food Boxes. Their partnership with Friends Food Pantry and the General Assistance they provide in the community is invaluable.

THE QUARTERLY LEEK



April, May, June 2026
4057 S23 Hwy, Carlisle IA 50047 515-989-3319
Open Mondays and Wednesdays 10AM- 6PM

By the Numbers

Good News Quarter 1 is in the books!

Box: Each box represents a family served. Local families (Palmyra, Easter Lake, Avon, Carlisle, and Hartford) can come in weekly, while families outside this area can only come in once a month.

January	113		
February	127	28	New Families
March	130	Total	370 boxes

Year to Date Total 370 boxes

Individuals: This is a breakdown count which includes every time a family is served.

0-18 (minors)	466	YTD	466
19-59 (adults)	585	YTD	585
60+ (seniors)	214	YTD	214
Total Individuals	1412	YTD	1412

Quarterly Financial Report

Beginning	\$13,889	Expense	\$8,464
Income	\$14,407	Ending	\$19,833

2026 1st Quarter Expense Report

\$6,960	Food Purchases (+ \$990 in-kind)
\$406	Health and Human Service (HBA)
\$138	Fundraising
\$219	Administration (+ \$471 in-kind)
\$255	Snow Removal
\$299	Equipment (Nothing broke this year)
\$42	Thanksgiving /Christmas (CCA and St. Vincent DePaul provided these boxes)

GRANT REPORT AND FUNDRAISING

Josiah White Quakerdale Foundation:

Encouraging, empowering, and supporting children and families.

Founded in 2018, Josiah White's Quakerdale Foundation is a faith-driven, community-focused nonprofit dedicated to impacting our world for the gospel by serving as Christ serves. We provide grants and consultation assistance to organizations that support and strengthen children and families.

We are grateful to announce that we were awarded a \$10,000 grant for 2026. You can check out and support the Josiah White Quakerdale Foundation at <https://quakerdalefoundation.org>

Greater Carlisle Community Foundation Grant \$1000.

We want to say thank you for your support. The GCCF supports local needs, education, recreation, public safety, health and human services.

2nd Annual Appreciation Dinner

News is Coming! If you would like to help or be a part of the team that makes this a special night, let us know.

DID YOU KNOW?

While Warren County enjoys a low poverty rate of roughly 5–6.6%, real needs persist — from young families facing unexpected expenses to seniors and cancer patients battling medical costs. Many of these neighbors are part of the 'working poor': approximately 27% of Warren County households are ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). These are hardworking families with incomes above the federal poverty line but still unable to cover the basic cost of living in our county — such as housing, food, childcare, transportation, and healthcare.

Your Support is Appreciated

You are amazing! Your support makes this ministry happen.

Here are some Needs.

It's Broke: Our big double Freezer is down. We are fixing it in house to keep the cost down, givebutter.com/Pm6ddf the compressor and other parts may push a \$1000 which far exceeds our budget for equipment and repairs. We have been given \$250 by CCA.



Donations: Your generous donations of food and financial support make a real difference! Scan the QR code above or stop by during pantry hours to give.

Intake Volunteer: We are seeking one or two volunteers who would be willing to train and run our Monday and/or Wednesday Morning Intake Desk. This would be a regular volunteer position and would not require any lifting. Familiarity with Microsoft Excel is helpful but not required.

Grant Writer: We are seeking a second grant writer. Friends Food Pantry is growing and along with it our role in supporting families through partnerships and cooperation. Two new opportunities have presented themselves, but we will need a strong grant and fundraising team to support

Join the Board: Do you want to be part of a growing ministry which is making a difference in your community. This is a wonderful opportunity! The Board plays a vital role in ensuring the long-term sustainability of Friends Food Pantry. While Board members come from diverse backgrounds, they share three essential qualities: One, they love Jesus and attend a local church. Two, they love being Jesus' hands and feet to their neighbors. Three, they love to work together to solve the causes of food insecurity and other needs in their community.

If any of these interests you, please call or email pastormatt@middleriverfriends.org