

Final Report  
New Visions Homeless Services  
1435 North 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501  
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### **Purpose of the Project**

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The purpose of the grant project was to increase perishable food storage capacity at New Visions Homeless Services, resulting in an increased number of food insecure lowans served. The organization receives many large donations of perishable food and, often, bulk donations of meat. With limited space, New Visions Homeless Services was not able to accept all donations of perishable food. This decreases operational efficiency and the amount of perishable food that is able to be distributed to individuals who are facing homelessness. New Visions Homeless Services requested grant funding to purchase a walk-in freezer to be used to increase its storage capacity. In turn, this would also decrease the amount of spoilage of perishable food. As a result of the project, New Visions Homeless Services anticipated that it would distribute an increased number of pounds of perishable food, accept an increased number of pounds of perishable food, and minimize the spoilage of perishable food items that have been donated.

### **Client Impact**

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**Average number of persons served monthly pre-project implementation:** 1,500

**Average number of persons served monthly post-project implementation:** 1,750

**Pounds of food items distributed monthly pre-project implementation:** 55,000

**Pounds of food items distributed monthly post-project implementation:** 60,000

**Type of additional food accepted for distribution resulting from additional storage capacity:**  
Protein (primarily meat)

**Pounds of additional food accepted for distribution resulting from additional storage space:**  
Approximately 5,000 pounds

### **New Visions Homeless Services's Satisfaction with the Purchased Items**

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Due to an issue with electrical power limits, New Visions Homeless Services was forced to change the size of the freezer to be purchased with grant funds to a smaller size. Funds were also used to purchase an ice machine for mobile food giveaways. These budget changes were communicated and confirmed with the Department of Natural Resources before purchase.

### **Contractor Operations**

New Visions Homeless Services was satisfied with the process for purchasing and installing the grant-funded items.

### **Accepting Recovered Food**

With additional freezer space, New Visions Homeless Services was able to accept an increased number of pounds of frozen food, primarily proteins, such as meat. The agency is satisfied with the increased amount of donated, recovered food able to be accepted.

### ***Storage Capacity***

New Visions Homeless Services is satisfied with the amount of increased storage capacity gained as a result of the new freezer and ice machine. With grant funds, New Visions Homeless Services was able to increase the number of pounds of food it stored to give away to food insecure lowans by several thousand. This resulted in an additional 250 people served during the grant period.

### ***Distribution of Recovered Food Items to Food Insecure lowans***

New Visions Homeless Services was able to distribute food to additional 250 lowans as a result of grant funding. The new freezer has allowed New Visions Homeless Services to accept and store an increased amount of protein, and the new ice machine has provided the agency with the opportunity to give away an increased amount of food during mobile giveaways. Food is kept on ice in the ice machine until the time at which it is distributed.

### ***Budget Summary***

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At the time of application, the total budget for this project was \$8,948.76. New Visions Homeless Services received an award from the Department of Natural Resources for \$8,000, and the agency was to cover the remaining \$948.76. After award, New Visions Homeless Services was forced to modify its project budget due to a change in the size of freezer to be purchased with grant funds. This change was communicated to the Department of Natural Resources. The final project cost, which includes a freezer and ice machine, was \$7,322. The cost of the ice machine was \$3,447, and the cost of the freezer was \$3,875.

### ***Grant Expense Sheet and Invoice***

The grant expense sheet and invoice for the freezer and ice machine are attached to this report.

## Picture of the Purchase Items

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### *Freezer*



***Ice Machine***

