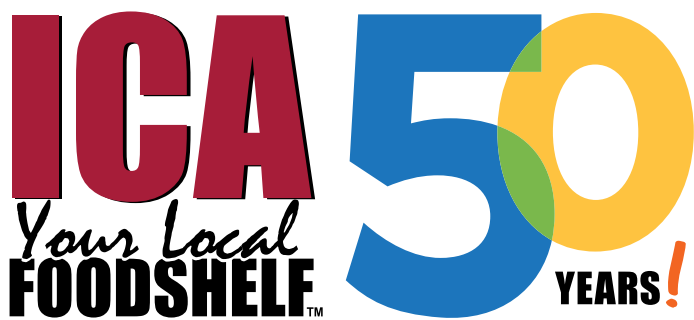


Our mission is to offer hope as we provide assistance to our neighbors.



Faithful Neighbors for Another 50 Years

Thank you for being part of ICA Food Shelf's first 50 years!

As you read this, we're celebrating our 50th Anniversary by looking back—and looking ahead. After all, our legacy was founded on **seeing, hearing, and responding to what our neighbors need.**

ICA's impact throughout our history and over our next 50 years can be measured by how faithfully we adapt and evolve in step with our neighbors' needs.

From a small food and clothing program, over time,

ICA has expanded services in several ways to meet the needs of our community, including:

- **Food Programs** including a choice model food shelf, mobile food sites, home deliveries, snacks and weekend packs for students, a kid's summer market, food boxes for seniors and just recently - weekly pop-up food distributions!
- **Homelessness Prevention** providing financial assistance (rent, mortgage and utility) to help families stay in their current homes or move to better, more affordable housing.
- **Employment Assistance** working with individuals, one-on-one, who are seeking employment through resume and cover letter assistance, interview skills and connecting job seekers to potential employers.
- **Case Management** meeting with individuals seeking additional resources that help them move beyond their immediate crisis.

Whether meeting one-time needs or connecting people to a longer-term spectrum of resources, **your continued support fuels our work. And today, that support can go twice as far** as the next \$100,000 donated to ICA **will all be matched!** This matching opportunity sets the stage for 50 more years of being faithful neighbors.

We also invite you to celebrate our first half-century at our **50th Anniversary Celebration on June 5!**

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ICA'S IMPACT: January - March 2021



Financial assistance to help **neighbors pay rent, utilities, and more increased by 1500%** over the same period last year!

ICA **distributed 238,000 pounds of food** (approximately 200,000 meals) between January and March





FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dan Narr

ICA is poised to build on our 50th Anniversary by continuing to redefine what access means to the neighbors we support.

“Meeting people where they are” is an oft-used phrase among nonprofits, but ICA has been doing it literally. From pop-up food shelves to school programs to deliveries to seniors, we have met changing needs across our community, taking our services “off the shelf” to reach more people in new and nimble ways.

With a renewed sense of urgency, we are taking time to learn, listen, and embrace new insights that lead to innovative models of service delivery.

In consideration of our new strategic plan (which we'll be launching this year), we have recently created a new position of a Program Outreach Manager. The opportunities for this position was an obvious one. As we continue to redefine what access means to those facing food and housing insecurity, we need to put on our walking shoes by literally meeting families in the neighborhoods, schools, congregations, etc. We look forward to forging new relationships and programs.

Finally, as reflected in our \$100,000 50th Anniversary matching opportunity, ICA is home to some of the most faithful supporters around. Your support inspires me every day, and your contributions create the stability for ICA to grow and adapt in ways that truly meet the needs of all our neighbors. Thank you!

To 50 more years,

HELPING NEIGHBORS STAY HOUSED

ICA Food Shelf -- more than food

ICA believes our community is more stable, secure, and healthy when we can help neighbors stay in their homes.

While we have been providing homelessness services for over a decade, this work has come into sharper focus as we collaborate with our community partners (including the county, City of Hopkins and City of Minnetonka) and generous ICA donors to provide greater levels of emergency rent relief and other financial assistance **for families on the brink of becoming homeless.**

Through those partnerships, our housing and employment services have become an even stronger pillar of our work as we continue **linking people with services and resources that address needs beyond food** and support their paths to long-term health and stability.

In this past year alone, **we have provided over 1500% additional funds to our neighbors on the brink of becoming homeless in the last three months alone.**



I am so grateful and thankful that [ICA case managers] are working so hard for our community,” shared one neighbor after receiving rental assistance. “I don't know if you hear this enough. You have saved me from being homeless. You gave me a chance to keep my truck. Without it I have no business. I wanted to put my face to a person you so greatly helped. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.



Support Housing Security Today

Thanks to our 50th Anniversary matching donors, your donation goes twice as far in fueling our work, including homelessness prevention. Any amount helps (and counts twice)! To share just one example of your gift's impact:

\$5,050 becomes \$10,100, keeping (four) eight families in their homes.

You can donate using the enclosed envelope, or online at www.icafoodshelf.org.



DONOR PROFILE

Nancy Albright Beyer and Joe Albright

Whether on the phone, over Zoom, or on a socially-distanced ICA Food Shelf tour, Nancy Albright Beyer and Joe Albright draw you in.

"After my first conversation with Nancy and Joe, I knew they were special," says Executive Director Dan Narr. "Nancy and Joe believe in 'paying it forward' and they truly walk the talk."

For Nancy and Joe, walking the talk includes following ICA's history and evolution closely and, like ICA itself, responding to their community's shifting needs. While they have been donating to ICA for two decades through their church, All Saints Lutheran—one of ICA's founding members—the **COVID-19 crisis had the longtime supporters thinking about how to deepen their impact.**

"We looked closely at ICA's mission as far as their expansion to housing and other kinds of resources," says Nancy. "We wanted to make sure we were looking at other ways to support people during the pandemic, and it was good for us to see that ICA's mission is growing in that way."

"If you can find an organization that thinks about the more holistic view," adds Joe, "it's a better way to try and solve the problem than just working on one little piece."



As they continued to discuss their giving plans, they recognized this moment in time as an opportunity. As Joe puts it, "We've been blessed to both have jobs—[he as a mechanical engineer, Nancy as a nurse]—that allow us to have enough income that we have more than we need."

When their investments recently outperformed expectations, Nancy says they asked themselves, "Why not donate a bigger gift than ever?"

"My initial reaction to the idea was, 'We might need this in retirement!'" shares Joe. "But Nancy helped make it real for me: am I really going to worry about this when there are people whose businesses have shut down during the pandemic or they're out of a job? They're not worried about retirement savings, they're worried about their meals and housing this week and next. So who's got the bigger issue? It makes more sense to donate now, and put this money in a place where it helps somebody today."

Nancy says, "As I told Joe, it's a big donation—but this is money we never would have had. We didn't expect it. So we talked it through and decided ICA was a great place to put those funds. Now ICA will have \$50,000 more to work with: that's a big win for the community."

The sense of symmetry is, to use a favorite word of theirs, serendipitous. On their 20th anniversary as donors, Nancy and Joe are donating \$50,000 in honor of ICA's 50th anniversary to be used as matching funds. And in another example of "walking the talk," the couple is encouraging others to give. "It's lead by example," says Joe. "The more we can tell others about ICA, the better."

Their work as ambassadors has already paid off, with another couple stepping up to make their own \$50,000 matching incentive gift!



\$100,000 MATCH

Invest in ICA Today and Bring Hope to Neighbors for Another 50 Years

In honor of our 50th Anniversary, all funds matched up to \$100,000! Visit www.icafoodshelf.org/50th-matching-gifts to double your donation. Our behalf of our neighbors, thank you!



Thank you so very much for your work! I feel 1000 lbs lighter! I really appreciate the help and I hope you have a great week.



SUMMER 2021 AT ICA FOOD SHELF



GROW IT FORWARD

Do you plant a home garden? Consider growing an extra row for ICA! If you have extra produce—or would like to grow more—our food shelf is the perfect destination for it!



You can drop off fresh produce at our K-Tel location. View our current donation hours at the bottom of our webpage.

If you have any questions or are interested in starting a community garden, contact Maggie at maggie@icafoodshelf or 952-279-0292.



With the return of summer, we are also getting ready to launch **ICA's Kids' Summer Market**. During the next three months, we will provide extra food to families with school-

aged children. This program helps fill the gap left by the lack of free and reduced-price lunch when kids are out of school. ICA's service area includes the Hopkins and Minnetonka school districts that combined have a 17% rate of kids eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. We love this program - an easy way to help hungry kids in our community!

EVENTS *For the most up-to-date information, please visit our website: [icafoodshelf.org/event-calendar](https://www.icafoodshelf.org/event-calendar)*



ICA 50th Anniversary Event

Saturday, June 5 | 10 am - 2 pm

None of our work would be possible without you: our donors, volunteers, and other ICA ambassadors. Step back in time as we honor all that ICA has accomplished since its founding 50 years ago, while celebrating the present and moving toward the future. Free to attend! All are welcome!
<https://www.icafoodshelf.org/50th-anniversary-event>



Big Island & Back 10 K Paddle

Saturday, August 7, 2021

Proceeds benefit ICA Food Shelf and Freshwater Society



Tour de Tonka

Saturday, August 7, 2021

A portion of each riders' registration fee for this annual bike event is donated to ICA Food Shelf



Great Taste October 14, 2021

Save the date for our annual fundraiser

Ongoing

Online Bazaar: Brows a variety of items online from furniture, home goods. Proceeds benefit ICA Food Shelf. www.icafoodshelf.org/online-bazaar

ICA FOOD SHELF 952.938.0729 · [icafoodshelf.org](https://www.icafoodshelf.org)

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ICA is a 501(c)3 organization. Tax ID # 41-0979010 Your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Serving residents of Hopkins, Minnetonka, Excelsior, Shorewood, Deephaven, Greenwood, & Woodland since 1971.