

CU Giving Back



At Cobalt, we love recognizing the many ways our employees give back to the communities we serve. Our CU Giving Back article for the second quarter of this year features Julie's dedicated volunteerism with Heartland Family Service (HFS). HFS operates from 19 locations in east central Nebraska and southwest Iowa. Their programs provide critical human services to individuals and families. The areas in which they provide support include child and family well-being, counseling and prevention, housing, safety, and financial stability.

Julie first got involved with HFS in 2017. Having had firsthand experience with one of her family members who received help from the organization, Julie was looking for an opportunity to give back. Through her involvement over the past five years, Julie has witnessed several other families who have received similar support from HFS. The HFS mission and how they empower their clients motivates Julie to stay active with the organization.

HFS has several volunteer opportunities. Whether serving clients directly, helping on a committee or the guild, or fundraising, there's something for everyone. A memorable volunteer experience came when Julie participated in the HFS street outreach program. She went with staff to walk the streets and talk with people who were experiencing homelessness. The HFS team and she were able to provide food, basic need items, and guide the individuals to resources that could help them out of their dire situation.

Julie's volunteer service brings her a great deal of pride. There are so many crisis situations in the community that HFS responds to including apartments being condemned, human trafficking, refugee assistance, mental health counseling, therapeutic services for kids and more. There are many more examples and HFS steps into every circumstance to provide hope to those in their time of need.