

*If one falls down, his friend can help him up, but pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! - Ecclesiastes 4:10*



# ATLAS of Lyon County

Together touching lives for Christ

112 First Avenue Rock Rapids, IA (712) 472-9016 [www.atlasoflyoncounty.org](http://www.atlasoflyoncounty.org) [atlaclc@premieronline.net](mailto:atlaclc@premieronline.net)

## Our Staff

**Lisa VandeStouwe**  
Director

**Tim Ryals**  
Staff Mentor

**Ashley Lewis**  
Office Manager

**Wilma Drenth**  
Assistant Manager

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

## LISA VANDESTOUWE



God always has a plan...

After a 26 year career in the insurance business working with individuals and families, I felt the calling to reach deeper. I had no idea at the time what that meant or where God was leading me. God's grace brought me to ATLAS.

At ATLAS I have the opportunity to show God's unconditional love to others, that we truly care about them, that we are here to walk along side them through the trials of life and they are never alone. Most of the times they just need someone to listen, someone to pour out their heart to. The Lord

uses our kind words, listening ears, hugs and prayers to show God's love to each and everyone who comes through our doors.

At ATLAS we are helping the hurting, equipping the saints and uniting the community. We are also blessed with an onsite food pantry and a thrift store so we can help feed and clothe the hurting. I am amazed each and every day by the donations we receive from individuals, organizations, businesses and churches.

When you give to support ATLAS you make a real difference right here in your community. Without your support this ministry wouldn't be possible. It is in giving that we receive our great-

est blessings. It is what we are all called to do. Nothing happens without prayer. Any ministry expecting to transform lives needs an active and deep blanket of prayer.

My prayer is that you will be the hands and feet of Christ through your support as a prayer partner, a mentor, a volunteer or by donating to our thrift store or food pantry. To learn more about ATLAS and how you can serve this ministry, please call or stop by anytime. I would love to give you a tour or share a cup of coffee. Our doors are always open. Your support takes the message of God's love even further. God's blessing to you and yours, Lisa.

[director@atlasoflyoncounty.org](mailto:director@atlasoflyoncounty.org)

*"I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord."*



## SPRING HAS SPRUNG AT LOST BUT FOUND

*"It was fitting to celebrate and be glad... he was lost and is found."*

Luke 15:32

The Lost but Found Thrift Store opened June 1, 2012. We have received a great reception from the people of Lyon County by the donations we have received. Many volunteers gave their time getting ready to open the door. Because of the faithfulness of all the volunteers the store continues to be successful.

A big THANKS! to all who have served the Lord at the Lost but

Found Thrift Store so we can continue to offer resale at a fraction of the cost to our customers.

Some of our ATLAS clients have received vouchers to redeem in the store for needed items. We remember the smiles of a client and her husband as they were able to take home things to start a new life in this community.

We thank God for all He has

done in our midst as we look around at the smiles on the faces of those who come through the doors. We see God's hand in all that happens and thank Him for everyone who comes in bringing a donation or coming to support ATLAS by shopping. He is in it all! Please call 472-0117 with questions.

Hours of Service

Tuesday-Friday 10a-5:30p

Every 3rd Saturday 10a-1p

(712) 472-0117



Creative design gives a new look to our gently-used items.

# ATLAS OF LYON COUNTY

## NEWS FROM BREAD OF LIFE

Have a group of around 30 and a free Thursday night? Your group would be perfect for one of our food distributions. It's an evening of connecting with our community and serving each other in the name of the Lord.

Our office, through a partnership with the Food Bank of Siouxland, is able to distribute thousands of pounds of food to help the hurting right here in our county. In 2012

we distributed 1,190 boxes of food. On (normally) the fourth Wednesday and Thursday evening people come to the Forster Community Building and the West Lyon School to receive a free blessing of food to help get through otherwise tough times. We don't set income requirements, but there is a check-in process.

Along with a gift of food, we try to offer an even more important time of prayer. Our

mission is to use the food as a tool to reach people we otherwise wouldn't reach in the name of Jesus Christ.

We aren't able to do this without groups like yours to help set-up, distribute and carry-out the food we have. There is more to it than this of course, but the reward of serving as a group is great. If you are interested and would like information, please call our office.

## Blessings In the New Year:

- New Director
- New Mentor
- A Well-Stocked Food Pantry
- Many Faithful Volunteers
- Bless-A-Family was a Success with 57 Families!
- Donations keep coming for the store- Thanks!

## NEW MALE MENTOR JOINS ATLAS TEAM!



Tim Ryals is the Male Mentor for ATLAS of Lyon County. Tim joined ATLAS in January and is

enjoying the opportunity to serve God, the people of Lyon County and ATLAS.

As the Lead Pastor of New Life Assembly of God, Tim brings with him a Holy Spirit led perspective to mentoring.

He firmly believes that the power of the cross of Jesus Christ conquers sin and despair that the enemy would heap on us and that the Holy Spirit will lead us in truth.

Tim, like many of us, grew up in church. He knew the stories, he had read the book (the bible) and knew the right things to say, but something was missing. After many years of running from God

and making many poor decisions that resulted in hurt for those he loved the most. He responded to the drawing of the Holy Spirit and gave his life to Christ in the spring of 2002. Now he understands that it was the relationship with a loving Heavenly Father that was missing all along. His life will never be the same. Tim can be reached at (712) 472-9016 or [mentor@atlasoflyoncounty.org](mailto:mentor@atlasoflyoncounty.org).

## ATLAS OF LYON COUNTY WISH LIST:

### OFFICE

- \$10 Gas Cards
- \$10 Grocery Cards
- Postal Stamps
- Laminating Machine
- #4 Coffee Filters and Coffee for volunteers
- "Thank You" cards

### FOOD PANTRY

- Gallon or Larger Zip-lock Bags
- Plastic Disposable Gloves
- Sharpie Markers
- Clip Boards
- Carpet Cleaning

### THRIFT STORE

- Wrinkle Releaser
- Fabric Refresher
- Large Trash Bags
- Swiffer Duster Refills
- A Phone with 2 Handsets
- Gently Used Furniture

## Open House

Join us for an open house on February 25th to welcome our new staff members!

9:30 am to 2:00 pm  
Monday, February 25th  
All are welcome!

Tours will be available of our newly remodeled building as well as staff available to answer any questions.

## ATLAS of Lyon County Board of Directors

Dr. Eugene VerSteeg

Randy Freerks

John Hulshof

Sr. Judi Angst

Paul Altana