



# ATLAS of Lyon County

## Together Touching Lives for Christ



### Staff Members

- Lisa Vande Stouwe  
Executive Director
- Vicki Slack  
Executive Assistant
- Beth Judd  
Mentor Coordinator
- Jeff Buckley  
Mentor/IT Support
- Ashley Lewis  
Office Manager

### Board Members

- Eugene Ver Steeg
- Randy Freerks
- John Hulshof
- Paul Altena
- Bonnie Vanden Bosch



A huge THANKS! to Dave Fields for his donation of snow removal this winter!



### Wish List

- 33 & 39 Garbage Bags
- AAA, AA Batteries
-  Postage
- \$10 Gas Cards
-  2 Gallon Bags
- Dish Soap
- Coffee 



### We Need Each Other!

**Lisa Vande Stouwe**

Encouraging one another, offering a listening ear, showing kindness... We are meant to be a living examples of GOD'S love. Let's come together, helping the hurting build and strengthen their relationships with GOD, their families and others. Let's be there, holding each other up in good times and bad, standing strong! Your donations help us build, strengthen, and restore relationships through the hope and love of Jesus Christ. Clients often share the impact made in their life. They truly touch our hearts! One Client shares, "Without Atlas of Lyon County I wouldn't be getting back on my feet. They helped me with much needed groceries for my children, and told me about Center for Financial Education to help me set up a budget and get my debts paid. Thank You again for all you do for us who are struggling."

At ATLAS, we desire to reach out to people in our county, to connect them relationally to grow in Christlikeness, to help the work of the Church in order to glorify God. We exist to walk alongside churches, businesses, individuals, families, and schools to touch lives for Christ in an effort to make disciples that are Attaining Truth, Love, and Self-control. Our desire is that Mentoring relationships established through ATLAS of Lyon County provide Christian friendship, the gift of time, a listening ear, and spiritual encouragement. Our Mentor Coordinator, Beth, aims to prayerfully work alongside those interested in mentoring to develop, grow, and strengthen their Christian community as Ecclesiastes 4:9a and 10 says, "Two are better than one...if one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up."

If you are interested in intentionally providing and/or receiving the gift of time, a listening ear, prayer, and spiritual encouragement through ATLAS Mentoring, please contact Beth Judd through our office and request a form. Be certain to mention whether you are interested in the blessing of being mentored or mentoring someone else! Your support takes the message of GOD'S LOVE even further. Thank You for being a living example of GOD'S LOVE. Your gift is very important to this ministry. Please take this opportunity to make a difference!

BLESSINGS, Lisa

### Volunteer Spotlight

Doug Wiarda, pictured right bringing food, is a familiar face around ATLAS of Lyon County. He shares his love of cooking with our many volunteers and staff members by bringing in his culinary creations. Doug also volunteers with the Bread of Life Food Ministry, picking up meat, and where ever else there is a need. We are grateful to have Doug on board!

If you are looking for volunteer opportunities, stop by or call our office for more information. At this time, volunteer help is greatly needed in the Lost but Found Thrift Store.



Jeff and Doug sharing a meal and fellowship.



**Lord, Fill Our Cup!** Join us on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from for a time of scripture reading, discussion, application, and prayer. We'd love to have you come for an hour of fellowship!

**Special THANKS!** To Car and Truck Trader in Inwood, IA for printing our newsletters! Thank you for giving of your time, resources and Talents!

## Deep Cleaning for Your Spirit

Deep cleaning, while worth the effort, will only last for a season, but spiritual cleansing could have an eternal influence. So don't just dust behind those

book shelves, dust off your Bible and get ready for a spiritual deep cleaning.

1. Cleanse Your Heart- The Bible encourages us to draw close to God and allow our hearts and bodies to be cleansed. We can't clean ourselves. Instead we must draw near to God and ask Him to do the cleansing. Psalm 51:10, Hebrews 10:22

2. Clean Out Your Mouth- As your heart gets clean, your language should follow. This is not just talking about bad language, but also negative talk and pessimistic thoughts that contradict the Word of God. This includes the challenge to stop complaining. Luke 6:45, Philippians 2:14

3. Renew Your Mind- This is a big area of

struggle for most of us – removing the garbage from our minds. We must feed our minds and spirits the Word of God instead of the garbage of this world. Romans 12:2, 2 Corinthians 10:5

4. Repent from Hidden Sin- The Bible says to confess your sin - tell someone, and reach out for help. When your spiritual closets are clean, the heaviness will lift. Psalm 32:3-5

5. Release Bitterness- Any sin will weigh you down, but long kept bitterness is like old baggage in the attic. You are so familiar with it, you don't even realize how it's hindering your life. Hebrews 12:1, Ephesians 4:31-32

6. Involve Jesus in Your Daily Life– God wants to be in the big and small moments of your life. Let the light of God's presence shine into every part, experience daily, moment to moment refreshing of your spirit. 1 Corinthians 1:9, Psalm 56:13

7. Learn to Laugh at Yourself and at Life- Some of us take life too seriously, or we take ourselves too seriously. Jesus wants you to enjoy yourself, and to have some fun. God made you for His pleasure! Psalm 28:7, Psalm 126:2

See the full article at [Christianity.about.com](http://Christianity.about.com)



## Client Quote

“ I was having some life problems and came to ATLAS on a referral from somebody else. I had no idea what ATLAS was all about. The people are here to listen.

To help you with your spirituality. You can talk about your problems or about what you did last week. They are not here to judge, just listen and help you along. It has meant the world to me.”



Lillian's of Rock Rapids has started off the year with a new message to bring to women each day. We want to bring the message of God's word

to all women that we are clothed in strength and dignity, Proverbs 31:25. We want all ladies in our community from young to old to feel that they clothed in God's strength and dignity each day and that we are not here to impress while we dress but instead we are here to dress to express.

We are going to be teaming together with ATLAS of Lyon County to bring God's word to our community members hands through women's fashion. Each month Lillian's of Rock Rapids will have a new "Giving Back" message! With your support we will be giving back to the hurting in our community!  
God Bless, Kilee Uittenbogaard Co-Owner



## ATLAS in Action!

“When asked to volunteer at ATLAS by handing out food to those who needed it, I decided that was another way of helping others. It's a great blessing to see the people come in and get what they need and give them an encouraging word. Even a smile can make a big difference to someone when they are down.”

Thanks to the family and friends of Phyllis Palmer who chose to honor and remember her desire to serve through their gifts in her memory.



## CFE Has New Location!

Center for Financial Education is now occupying office space in the First Reformed Church located at 512 S. Union St. in Rock Rapids. Although the CFE office location has changed, appointments can still be made through the ATLAS office, or by calling CFE during office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9am-3pm. 712.463.3066

