



“Never look down on someone unless you’re helping him up.”

-Jesse Jackson

402-727-8977

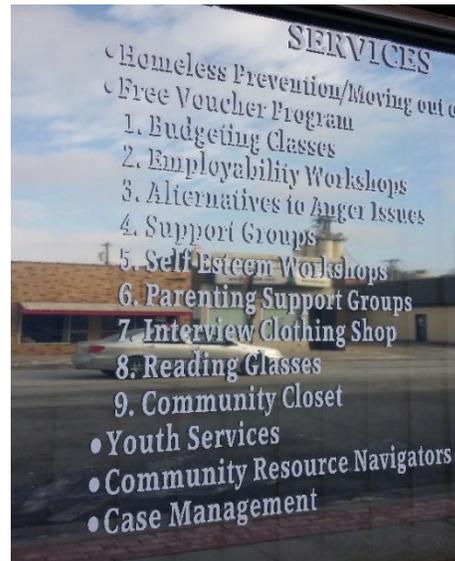
## Community Resource Navigation since 2014

When clients come in to UYSS for a free service, attached to that service is the opportunity to meet for Community Resource Navigation—a chance to have a confidential dialogue during which a UYSS representative will have the opportunity to find out what else those clients need and where else they can be connected.

If someone is needing a free interview outfit or a car repair, for example, there is a good chance that person is needing other services as well, services that will enhance the overall family well-being and assist with the maintenance of their housing stability.

Through this case management, clients are connected with other services available in the community that they may not already be receiving.

Examples include referrals to: DHHS for Medicaid, SNAP, Child Care, and other benefits; the Health Insurance Marketplace for health insurance; Community Response; Basic Needs agencies; NE Vocational Rehabilitation, Experience Works, or area staffing agencies for assistance finding work; informal supports, such as MOPS groups, Community Cafes, area churches, the local library, or UYSS-offered support groups; the local homeless shelter for those who are in need of immediate housing, or could be eligible for



transitional or permanent supportive housing; Fremont Housing Authority for low-income housing; area food pantries and community meals; and

many, many more.

These conversations and referrals are centered around increasing Protective Factors, which are conditions that, when present in individuals, families, and communities, help enhance family well-being and help mitigate or eliminate risk factors.

When UYSS was founded in 2007, only a handful of agencies were willing to work together. Thankfully, that environment has changed. But at UYSS our mission has always been to find individuals and families who are in need and give them the resources, education, and community connections they need to maintain their housing stability in the long term.

**MYTH or FACT?** The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that 13.5% of Americans and 12.9% of people in Dodge County are living in poverty. That means that nearly 50 million people in our country, and nearly 5,000 people in our community, are struggling to survive.

Myths, stereotypes, and misconceptions of people in poverty abound. These commonly-held misperceptions can be detrimental, particularly when they are used to drive federal, state, and local policies affecting the poor.

Here are some of the most common myths we at UYSS hear about poverty in Fremont, and why they are incorrect.

**MYTH:** People wouldn't be in poverty (or homeless) if they just got a job.

**FACT:** Many of UYSS' clients are employed, but still unable to make ends meet. A single person working 40 hours per week at minimum wage does not make enough income to afford a two-bedroom apartment.

**MYTH:** There's plenty of help available to individuals and families who need it.

**FACT:** Although Fremont is a resource-rich community, with many high-quality agencies dedicated to helping

### UYSS By the Numbers

**\*324 Unique Clients Served**

**\*932+ Hours of Community Resource  
Navigation**

**\*135 Coats & 127 Books Given Away in 3  
Hours**

**\*\$27,927 = Value of In-Kind Donations**

**\*\$69,757 = Value of Volunteer Hours**

---

### ***YOUR DOLLARS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!***

*Your gifts provide vitally-needed financial support and case management to struggling individuals and families. To help us achieve our mission of eliminating homelessness in Dodge County and the surrounding areas, donate today! Contributions are tax deductible. Make checks payable to:*

***Uniquely Yours Stability Support***

***240 N. Main St.***

***Fremont, NE 68025***

---

people in need, some individuals and families aren't eligible for assistance. Federal, state, and local funders all have eligibility restrictions, as well as other policies and guidelines, that sometimes limit access to much-needed services.

**MYTH:** People in poverty are just looking for a handout.

**FACT:** Most of the people who come to UYSS aren't looking for a handout—they're looking for help in a time of serious need. At the time of our conception, UYSS was the only agency that required participants to have a sustainable plan before receiving financial assistance. There were several agencies offering emergency assistance, which are now commonly considered handouts. Today, several agencies also require a sustainable plan, making assistance with a crisis much more difficult to obtain.

It can be easy to make assumptions about people in poverty, easy to believe the stereotypes. But what happens to those in need when their reality becomes our myth?