

# North Iowa Children's Discovery Center

A safe indoor place for families to play, learn and grow!  
[www.northiowakids.org](http://www.northiowakids.org) + [www.facebook.com/northiowakids](https://www.facebook.com/northiowakids)

## Opportunities to Serve and Give at the NEW North Iowa Children's Discovery Center!

Spring 2018

Greetings!

In just a few weeks, the North Iowa Children's Discovery Center will be opening in downtown Mason City. The Discovery Center will provide a safe indoor place for families with young children to play, learn, and grow together year-round. It will also serve as a parent resource and education center in partnership with other local agencies.

As a non-profit, the Discovery Center will be supported by sliding-scale membership fees, day passes, and donor-sponsored scholarships. This will allow all North Iowa children to be able to access Discovery Center programs, regardless of family income.

The social impact of the Discovery Center will be significant and widespread. For most families, it will be a much-needed place to enjoy quality time with their children. New parents who may feel overwhelmed and isolated will find support and connection with other parents. Families facing crises will find connection to services that can help. Older adults who have downsized will find a childproof place to spend time with young relatives. Families with custody or visitation arrangements will find a comfortable place to bond. Our outreach programs will even be able to help foster children and adoptive families, and families in our local homeless shelter.

In order to be ready to serve the community as quickly as possible, we need your help in the following ways:

### Volunteer Opportunities

We need *volunteer teams* to:

- + Spackle and paint walls;
- + Help construct our wood safety wall, gate, and "birthday booths;"
- + Build benches and activity counters for our display areas (kid-sized farm, grocery, school, clinic, home, theater/stage, etc);
- + Help give our new space a good scrub

We are also looking for *individual volunteers* who:

- + Can help with daily tidying up and hospitality;
- + Can help with minor mending/ cleaning of toys/costumes;
- + Can help with regular repairs/ minor maintenance issues;
- + Can help connect our CCTV system and assist with tech support; or
- + Can share their background in law, carpentry, or accounting.

### **Donor Opportunities**

- + We need lumber, spackle, drywall patch, and paint supplies to prepare our space (as described above)
- + We have a 'Wish List' of toys/ equipment we do not yet have but would like donated in new or like-new condition (please contact us for details);
- + Since we are a non-profit startup which is registered by the State of Iowa but still in the process of obtaining our 501c3, we welcome partner congregations and non-profit organizations who are willing to help donors make tax-deductible contributions;
- + We just launched our GoFundMe campaign ([www.GoFundMe.com/northiowakids](http://www.GoFundMe.com/northiowakids)) and will soon offer the ability to pre-purchase day passes, birthday parties, facility rentals, and memberships;
- + We welcome sponsors for our scholarship, sliding-scale, and outreach programs;
- + We welcome display area sponsors for our Streetscape (kid-sized school, grocery, farm, home, campsite, stage, garage, construction zone, hospital/clinic) and infant area;
- + We are looking for new or gently used preschool and elementary-sized children's classroom furniture; 8ft folding tables; and folding chairs;

We are so excited to be at this stage in our development, and so grateful for the support and encouragement the community has shown us this far. We would love to visit with you to share more information or answer any questions about our mission and goals. Please do not hesitate to contact us:

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#### *Board of Directors:*

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