



Listening, caring, doing what's right

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News Release & Photo Opportunity

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A Brighter Holiday Season for 18 Clinton Families

Holiday food baskets will be distributed at Ascentra Credit Union, 1116 South 14th St. in Clinton on Saturday, December 18th from 9 to 11 a.m.

CLINTON, IOWA --- What are the ingredients to a brighter holiday season? For families in need it's the basics. Eggs, cereal, mashed potatoes, stuffing, a ham, spaghetti and pasta sauce, along with some cans of vegetables. For 13 years Daniel Birdsley, Clinton County Deputy Sherriff and member of the Board of Directors of Ascentra Credit Union, has been putting together food baskets and once again is hoping to light up the faces of 18 families in Clinton, Iowa this Saturday.

“We understand things get tough for people,” Daniel explains. “We’re making it a little brighter for some people this holiday season.”

What initially started as board members donating food items from their home now involves a trip to the food bank where they load up a trailer full of food. Daniel, his wife

LeeAnn, fellow board member Larry Ketlesen and former board members arrange the baskets with the food to accommodate those in need.

“I will call these people and then put an order in at the food bank and if they have kids we make sure to get some snack items like Pop Tarts,” he said.

The names of those who receive the food baskets come from RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) and from Ascentra staff who know of members who are in need. Traditionally they give the baskets the Saturday before Christmas.

“We’re giving back to the community, I feel like we’ve done something right,” he said. “Those who have received food baskets in the past have been very appreciative.”

By taking part in this generous act of giving those coordinating it seem to get something in return.

“It makes me very thankful for what I have; I appreciate everything a bit more,” Daniel adds.

The holiday food baskets will be distributed to select families at Ascentra Credit Union, 1116 South 14th St. in Clinton on Saturday, December 18th from 9 to 11 a.m.

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