

# news release

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## **The Iowa Association of REALTORS® Foundation Donates \$25,000 to Children & Families of Iowa**

**CLIVE, IOWA (Oct. 16, 2009)** – The Iowa Association of REALTORS® (IAR) Foundation made a \$25,000 contribution to Children & Families of Iowa (CFI) at its annual auction held Sept. 22 in Council Bluffs. The donation is the second part of the IAR Foundation’s three-year, \$75,000 commitment to Children & Families of Iowa.

“We know how important a home can be to the future of a family, so our donation will help survivors of domestic abuse find safe, affordable apartments or houses,” says Dick Koestner, 2010 president of the IAR Foundation. “We are happy to be able to help individuals at CFI’s shelters and out in the community get back on their feet and have a fresh start in a new home,” he explains. The IAR Foundation’s gift will assist with items such as rent, down payment on a house, utilities, self-sufficiency classes and moving expenses.

“The housing fund provided by the Iowa Association of REALTORS® has enabled programs around the state to help victims of domestic violence become survivors,” says Sheila Kinman, director of development and communications for Children & Families of Iowa. “The ability to secure housing is one of the largest barriers facing victims of domestic abuse. This fund is one of the first steps for women and children that are transitioning out of violent homes.”

According to Koestner, the IAR Foundation was established by the Iowa Association of REALTORS® to offer financial support to fellow REALTORS® in times of crisis, as well as organizations working to improve the quality of life for Iowans facing great challenges. “We are inspired by the work of Children & Families of Iowa. Helping others in need is the right thing to do, and we are honored to support CFI in their ongoing efforts to positively change lives in our state,” says Koestner.

Children & Families of Iowa is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to restoring hope, building futures and changing lives for Iowa's children and families. CFI has reached more than 21,000 people across Iowa this year through its broad range of programs and services for at-risk families, individuals and children. For more information about CFI visit [www.CFIowa.org](http://www.CFIowa.org). For more information about the IAR Foundation contact Mike Romig, Foundation director at 641.423.7418.

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