



Bidwell Riverside Center  
[www.bidwellriverside.org](http://www.bidwellriverside.org)  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Partnership for a Hunger-Free Polk County Provides New Truck for Bidwell**

*Nonprofits often find themselves without the best tools to do their work, but south-side food pantry and early childhood development center Bidwell Riverside Center was recently gifted an impactful new tool by the Partnership for a Hunger-Free Polk County: a brand-new truck.*

Des Moines, Iowa. October 23, 2017- Bidwell Riverside Center works to reduce food insecurity every day, and those efforts are strongly supported by the Partnership for a Hunger-Free Polk County. With support from Stivers Ford Lincoln, the Partnership presented a new truck with a lift gate to Bidwell Riverside Center to replace the old and deteriorating vehicle Bidwell has used for years.

The new truck and lift gate means Bidwell can significantly decrease the manpower and hours spent manually unloading anywhere from five to ten pallets of food picked up weekly; those hours of manual labor and volunteer power can now be spent helping families who visit our pantry instead.

The largest food pantry in the state, Bidwell's distribution center served more than 15,000 members of the community in 2016. Not only is Bidwell providing food to a community in need, the center also distributed approximately 122,000 clothing items, 37,000 diapers, 1,800 baby formula or food, and 26,600 personal items last year. The need for these services is not subsiding; from 2011 to 2016, the number of individuals served at Bidwell increased by 97%.

A new truck for Bidwell would not be a possibility without the generosity of the Partnership for a Hunger-Free Polk County, and Bidwell Riverside Center will use it to enhance efforts to decrease hunger in our community.

#### [About Bidwell Riverside Center](#)

Bidwell Riverside Center is committed to a vision of a future where no one lives in poverty and every person has the opportunity for a positive future. Established in 1893 by a group of Methodist women dedicated to helping disadvantaged families, Bidwell has evolved into a secular organization seeking to build hope for a better future by providing support through two primary programs, a distribution center and child development center.

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