The DMARC Food Pantry Network, established in 1976, consists of 14 partner pantry sites, 14 Mobile Food Pantry sites, two food warehouses, and numerous community partners. It is the largest food pantry system in Iowa. Pantry sites are located in West Des Moines, Ankeny, Johnston, Clive and Urbandale, with eight sites in Des Moines.

The DMARC Food Pantry network helps meet short-term food needs when families do not have enough to eat. Once per calendar month, families can receive a free, three-day supply of nutritionally balanced food. Families can also receive additional ‘Anytime Items’ every day at pantries. In the past year, DMARC assisted more than 46,000 individuals in the greater Des Moines community—half of whom were children and youth.

At its roots, DMARC is a multi-faith collaboration working to meet basic needs in the Des Moines community. We have relationships with members of Baha’ism, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Jainism, Judaism, Sikhism, Unitarian Universalism and Native American religions. As such, we take pride in offering a variety of opportunities for interfaith engagement.

The DMARC Housing Stability Fund provides emergency financial assistance to prevent families from becoming homeless. DMARC works in partnership with Polk County General Assistance to process program requests for rent and utilities assistance. To request help, contact General Assistance at 515-286-2088. Housing Stability Fund program funds are extremely limited and disbursed only when available. One request per household in a 12-month period.