

Meet Deric...

"I moved back to Sioux City in 2008, and I wanted to give back to the community. I had previously worked at the Crittenton Center's Therapeutic Home in college and knew that the organization provided support and services to local at risk children. The time I spent working at the TTH provided me insight to the importance of the Crittenton Center's mission and it was something I very much wanted to be a part of.

One story that has stayed with me over the years is from my time working at the TTH in college. There was a remarkable young man, age 17, that due to his difficult home life, was due to spend the rest of his adolescence living at the shelter. Over the course of the 12 months leading up to his 18th birthday, when he would be forced to be discharged from the shelter, the staff worked tirelessly to prepare him to navigate the challenges of adulting. They helped find him employment, an apartment, learn the bus schedules, open a checking account, and simply gave him the head start he would not have found elsewhere. They encouraged him to check back with any wants or needs he may have in the future. He would occasionally stop in to visit over the following years and update the staff on his situation. He went on to trade school a few years later and became a shining example of how a small amount of love and support would ultimately pull a young man out of an otherwise vicious cycle of abuse and poverty."

**-Deric Redmond, Crittenton Board Member and
Volunteer**