

FY18

ANNUAL REPORT



Strengthening & Growing Philanthropy in Iowa

FY18 ICoF BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Monica Chavez-Silva
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AVP, Grinnell College
Office of Community Enhancement & Engagement

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Foundation Manager, The Wellmark Foundation

Karla Twedt-Ball
At-Large

SVP, Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation

ICoF STAFF:

Kari McCann Boutell
President

Ellie Moore
Administrative & Communications Coordinator

The Iowa Council of Foundations (ICoF) is a statewide membership network of Iowa grantmakers committed to strengthening philanthropy and growing its impact throughout the state. We are a member-driven organization which convenes and educates partners around philanthropic skill-building and issue-based topics. This year, our quarterly membership meetings covered the following topics:



Systems Grantmaking Approach & Lessons from the Field –
With Management Assistance Group (MAG)



A New Vision for Comprehensive Capacity Building –
With Grantmakers for Effective Organizations (GEO)



Presenting Data Effectively: Using Data Visualization to Demonstrate Impact –
With Evergreen Data



Exploring Your Foundation's Openness – With See What I Mean Consulting + ICoF Foundation Openness Cohort Members

In FY18, **92%** of ICoF members reported Quarterly Membership meetings were helpful or very helpful. In addition:



40 PARTICIPANTS REPORTED THEY WILL

IMPLEMENT A NEW INTERNAL PROGRAM



48 PARTICIPANTS REPORTED THEY WILL

SHARE INFORMATION WITH THEIR BOARD



55 PARTICIPANTS REPORTED THEY WILL

SHARE INFORMATION WITH THEIR STAFF



46 PARTICIPANTS REPORTED THEY MADE

NEW CONNECTIONS THROUGH NETWORKING

We were pleased to welcome five new members into our network this year:

Doris and Victor Day Foundation • Faegre Baker Daniels Foundation
Grow Greene County Gaming Corporation • Regional Development Authority • Volunteer Iowa

ICoF membership reached a record 70 members in FY18!

100%
OF ICoF MEMBERS
VALUE
THEIR MEMBERSHIP



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WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE SAYING...



Shelli Panicucci
Executive Director
Otto Schoitz Foundation

"The timing could not have been better to join the Openness Cohort. Starting out in a new role, I have learned a great deal about openness and transparency practices – some of which I have been able to incorporate into the design of the Foundation's grantmaking process. From the initial openness assessment, through learning about different personas, and hearing directly from non-profit leaders on how they perceive grantmakers' communication, the cohort has been an incredible learning opportunity. We are all focused on positive and lasting change; increasing our openness & transparency will surely lead to improved grantmaking."

WHAT OUR MEMBERS ARE SAYING...



Rebecca Krohn
Executive Director
Siouxland Community Foundation

"Without the ICoF Education Funders Network for Grade Level Reading, the initiative in Siouxland would not have come into fruition. We have asked for guidance and examples and were provided both through the group of well-known professionals. Connecting to those communities that have paved the way for GLR and the funders group is a valuable resource."

PRIORITY 1

Increase philanthropic **AWARENESS** in Iowa:



PRIORITY 2

Increase philanthropic **IMPACT** through ICoF members:

FOUNDATION OPENNESS COHORT

Beginning in January 2017, ICoF has been convening a Foundation Openness Cohort through grant support from the United Philanthropy Forum and the Fund for Shared Insight. Nineteen cohort members representing 17 ICoF member organizations have explored user-experience theory, funder-grantee relationships, and moving from transparency to strategic openness. ICoF is partnering with Visual Logic Group and a team of consultants from See What I Mean Consulting to deliver the cohort which will conclude in December 2018. Strategic openness has become a national philanthropic priority. ICoF President, Kari McCann Boutell and McElroy Trust Executive Director, Stacy Van Gorp presented the ICoF cohort research at the 2018 Grantmakers for Effective Organizations (GEO) National Conference in May 2018.

THE PHILANTHROPIC PREPAREDNESS, RESILIENCY, AND EMERGENCY PARTNERSHIP

For a second year, the ICoF has participated in The Funders' Network's Philanthropic Preparedness, Resiliency, and Emergency Partnership (PPREP) cohort. PPREP has brought together community foundations and regional associations of grantmakers in a ten-state Midwestern region to explore disaster preparedness and response in a unique learning cohort. ICoF member participants include: Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, Community Foundation of the Great River Bend and the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation. In September 2018, Iowa PPREP participants will share this learning back with the broader Iowa Community Foundations Initiative network at the Annual Connect Community Foundations Conference.

IOWA CAMPAIGN FOR GRADE-LEVEL READING

With support from an anonymous donor, the ICoF continues to convene and support the Education Funders Network and Iowa Campaign community leads by providing capacity building, training, national technical assistance and coaching. Since 2014, 23 ICoF members have made at least one grant to support Campaign-related activities in their communities. In addition, several United Way funding partners have also supported their local campaigns. The Iowa Campaign continues to shine brightly at the national level.

PRIORITY 3

Increase philanthropic **RESOURCES** connected to ICoF:



\$263.4 K TOTAL leveraged in FY18

Since 2004, ICoF has served as the state's **Lead Philanthropic Entity (LPE)**, helping market and administer the County Endowment Fund Program and the Endow Iowa Tax Credit program in partnership with the Iowa Economic Development Authority.

Both state-legislated programs were designed to capture a percentage of the state's transfer of wealth. In FY18, Iowa community foundations reported **6.89%** growth in endowed funds and **10.48%** growth in overall assets. In addition, Iowa community foundations granted **\$84 million** back out into their communities in FY18!

To learn more, visit www.iowacounciloffoundations.org/iowa-community-foundations-initiative/.