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. Our work is guided by the three strategic priorities outlined below.

1. Increase philanthropic AWARENESS in Iowa:

   The ICoF Board and Public Policy Committee utilized several public policy strategies in FY19:
   - Signed onto two national advocacy letters
   - Signed onto two statewide advocacy letters
   - Submitted comment to the Department of Treasury
   - Participated in Foundations on the Hill
   - Hosted the Iowa Community Foundations Legislative Breakfast

2. Increase philanthropic IMPACT through ICoF members:

   - Foundation Openness Cohort
     We convened this cohort through grant support from the United Philanthropy Forum and the Fund for Shared Insight. A special thanks to our facilitator Stacy Van Gorp, See What I Mean and Visual Logic Group for their in-kind contributions. The work is detailed in the Foundation Openness Cohort Report on the ICoF website.

   - Iowa Campaign for Grade-Level Reading
     With support from an anonymous donor, we continue to convene and support the Education Funders Network and Iowa Campaign community partners by providing capacity building, training, national technical assistance, and coaching. This year, Iowa communities received eight national Pacesetter Awards.

   - Iowa Youth Philanthropy Conference
     We partnered with several of our member organizations to plan and host the Annual Iowa Youth Philanthropy Conference. This year, young people and adult advisors from across the state gathered for a day of learning about mental health, advocacy, public relations, and effective grantmaking.

   - PPREP Cohort
     Our staff participated in The Funders’ Network’s Philanthropic Preparedness, Resiliency, and Emergency Partnership cohort for a third year. We leveraged PPREP grant funding to produce the Iowa Community Foundations Initiative Disaster Philanthropy Toolkit (available on the ICoF website) and updated our Continuity of Operations Plan.

3. Increase philanthropic RESOURCES connected to ICoF:

   - $95.5 K Grants received
   - $2.5 K Sponsorships received
   - $15.1 K In-Kind contributions received
   - $92.6 K Match contributions
   - $205.7 K LEVERAGED IN FY19

Based on increased efforts of our members in their own communities and interest in additional learning and engagement around racial equity through our network, the ICoF board and staff are committed to advancing this new strategic priority in FY20. We will use the Alliance on Race & Equity’s definition of racial equity: “closing the gaps so that race does not predict one’s success, while also improving outcomes for all.”
Since 2004, the 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 FY19, Iowa community foundations reported 7.21% growth in endowed funds and 7.52% growth in overall assets. In addition, Iowa community foundations granted $68 million back out into their communities in FY19!

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

We were pleased to welcome three new members into our network this year: Medica Foundation • United Way of the Quad Cities • United Way of Story County

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