



# COUNCIL COLUMN

March 2022

Greetings!

As our Board prepares for strategic planning, we've been reflecting on our ICoF mission, vision and values. As a staff and Board, we are committed to fulfillment and embodiment of those statements and values in our respective roles. While we've never "said it aloud," we rely on members to maintain these commitments as well, to support a vibrant and inclusive philanthropic network.

To that end, I am sharing with you today our new [ICoF Member Commitment](#). This statement helps formalize our expectations of member organizations. Moving forward, members will annually review and commit to this in the renewal process. We thank you, in advance, for supporting this new process and all that you do to support the professionalism and integrity of our network.

Press on with your good work,

**Kari McCann Boutell**

*President*

Iowa Council of Foundations



## Upcoming ICoF Events

### **New Member Mixer**

Thursday, April 14 | 10 - 11:15 am | Zoom

Are you new to the ICoF network? We hope you will join us for our virtual New Member Mixer. This event is especially for new network members and also people who are new to their roles or their organizations. Or, if you have been a member for awhile but would like a refresher on your ICoF membership benefits, please join us!

Kari and Laura wanted to provide this space so you can make the most out of your ICoF membership. You will learn more about what we do, membership benefits, and what's on the horizon. There will also be plenty of time for asking questions and getting to know some of your peers in Iowa's philanthropic community.

[\*\*Learn More and Register\*\*](#)

### **Cybersecurity Training**

Wednesday, April 27 | 10 - 11 am | Zoom

While it may not be the most fun topic, multiple incidents in [our state](#) and [our field](#) have shown that cybersecurity is something we should all be aware of. The ICoF has been doing our own work in this area and have learned a lot -- there was so much we didn't know that we didn't know!

We wanted to bring this introductory training to our members and Iowa community foundations to help raise awareness and answer your questions about where to start with cybersecurity. This session will be of benefit to all ICoF members -- no matter what your IT/security responsibilities are at your organization, or the type or size of the organization where you work.

Training will be provided by Twin State Technical Services and will be held over Zoom. A link will be provided in your registration confirmation email and

an emailed reminder the day before. This event is free for ICoF members and Iowa community foundations thanks to a grant from the The Funders' Network.

[\*\*Learn More and Register\*\*](#)

**Spring Quarterly Membership Meeting + Annual Meeting:  
*Reconnecting, Reflecting, and Reenergizing***

Thursday, May 12 | 10 am - 2:30 pm  
Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden

You read that right. We're going to meet – IN PERSON – in May! We look forward to bringing everyone back together after spending over two years apart. This membership meeting will be a bit different than a typical content session. Here's what you can expect when we gather:

**Reconnecting:** Plenty of unstructured, unscheduled time to reconnect with your colleagues.

**Reflecting:** Space to reflect on the past two years, what we collectively experienced both personally and as philanthropy practitioners.

**Reenergizing:** Time to hear from your colleagues about what they have been up to and what's on the horizon.

We will also conduct the FY22 ICoF Annual Meeting and elect new board members. Please register now to join us!

[\*\*Learn More and Register\*\*](#)

**Rural Equity Leadership Series**

May 17, June 14, July 12 | 10 am - 11:30 am | Zoom

Leaders in Iowa know the importance of making their communities welcoming and inclusive places to live, work, raise families and retire. Successful communities understand that centering equity in these conversations ensures that reality for all Iowans and newcomers. Census data tells us that demographics in Iowa are shifting, and we must adapt and evolve as our communities change.

Understanding rural equity and leading racial equity conversations in rural Iowa is good, important and sometimes challenging work. Leaders have been asking us questions like:

- Where do we start? What language do we use?
- How do we support newcomers and diverse populations in our rural towns?
- How do we lead these conversations with business and community partners?

If you've been asking these questions, this three-part series is for you! These interactive conversations will give rural Iowa leaders knowledge and tools to apply in their work. The series will equip leaders to bring their communities/counties together around what they love most about their unique place and the people who call it home.

This series will create a network of regional leaders committed to rural equity who will continue to be allies for each other, as we collectively build bridges and learn to communicate across cultures in rural Iowa. We will use tools developed for the Community Heart & Soul® process that are designed to do meaningful community engagement work in small, rural towns. The tools involve all voices and bring people together around the things that matter most. We hope you will join us - and consider inviting a colleague or fellow community leader to participate with you as well!

[Learn More and Register](#)

## Public Policy Update

**State:** [HF2566](#) passed a House floor vote 87-6. It now heads to the Senate.

**Federal:** As you may know, the Senate Finance Committee held a hearing last week focusing on charitable giving and the nonprofit sector. You may watch the hearing, read member statements, and read testimony from witnesses [here](#). The ICoF, in partnership with United Ways of Iowa, will be

submitting a statement to the Committee and directly to Senator Grassley's office this week. We encourage the following:

- support of the **Universal Giving Pandemic Response and Recovery Act (S. 618)**;
- support the retroactive restoration of the Employee Retention Tax Credit, as proposed in the bipartisan **ERTC Reinstatement Act (S. 3625)**; and
- an **increase the Volunteer Mileage Rate for nonprofit volunteer drivers** to the business rate (58.5 cents/mile) for 2022 and elimination of the tax on mileage reimbursements up to the business rate.

#### **Foundations on the Hill Update**

Kari and Iowa foundation representatives will meet with each of Iowa's Congressional offices virtually next week as part of Foundations on the Hill.

## **2022 Grantmaker Salary & Benefits Survey Open**

The Council on Foundations' [Grantmaker Salary & Benefits Survey](#) provides the sector with the most comprehensive data on staff composition and compensation in the U.S. Grantmakers rely on this annual report to plan budgets, benchmark personnel policies and practices, determine salary levels for new and existing staff, and more. **Through our partnership with United Philanthropy Forum and the Council on Foundations, ICoF members that complete the survey will have direct access to the benchmarking tool and full report.** Those who do not complete the survey but wish to obtain benchmark data later will need to contact Kari. **We encourage all ICoF members to participate in the survey** — the greater the participation, the greater the insights for the entire field. The survey is open **until May 10**. COF membership is not required to participate.

**Take the GSB Survey**

## COVID-19 Impact Survey

The Iowa Economic Development Authority is once again partnering with the University of Northern Iowa to undertake a survey to assess the current economic conditions and ongoing impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on Iowa's businesses and nonprofit organizations. **Responses due by April 8.**

[Take the COVID Impact Survey](#)

## Grade-Level Reading Initiative Updates

### ***Member Check-in Call***

April 14 | 12 pm | Zoom

Campaign communities will discuss planning for summer learning programs. If you have questions about GLR or need the Zoom login information, please [contact Becky Miles-Polka](#).

## Resources

### **Registration open for the Give Back Iowa Challenge**

Give Back Iowa is an eight-week competition running from April 1 - May 31, designed to engage Iowans in employer-supported volunteering. [Learn more here](#).

### **Volunteer Iowa Seeks Nominations for National Service Fellowship**

Community leaders representing rural areas or BIPOC populations are encouraged to apply. Nominations due April 12. [Learn more here](#).

## **Iowa Arts Council Opens FY2023 Grants and Designations**

Get ready for new and returning grant offerings from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs beginning July 1. [Learn more here.](#)

## **Iowa Rural Development Summit '22**

The sixth Iowa Rural Development Summit will be held April 12-13 at the Gateway Hotel in Ames. [Learn more and register here.](#)

## **Career Center Postings**

### **Grant Program and Community Engagement Coordinator**

DRA (Dubuque Racing Association)  
*Full-time | Dubuque, IA with Remote options*

### **Program Officer**

Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation  
*Full-time | Cedar Rapids, IA*

### **Charitable Giving Advisor**

Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines  
*Full-time | Des Moines, IA*

### **Manager of Donor Relations and Data Services**

Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa  
*Full-time | Cedar Falls, IA*

### **Assistant/Associate Director**

University of Iowa - Larned A. Waterman Iowa Nonprofit Resource Center  
*Full-time | Iowa City, IA*

### **Investment Operations Analyst**

Grinnell College  
*Full-time | Grinnell, IA*

### **Administrative Assistant - Grantmaking and Development**

Quad Cities Community Foundation  
*Full-time | Quad Cities/Bettendorf, IA*

### **Development Officer - Gift Planning**

Iowa State University Foundation

*Full-time | Ames, IA, hybrid work arrangement available*

### **Executive Director**

CEONet

*Part-time | Remote*

### **Program Officer**

Humanities Iowa

*Full-time | Remote (Iowa)*

*ICoF Member Benefit: We'll list your job openings for free! [Submit your posting here.](#)*

**[Visit the Philanthropy Career Center](#)**

## **Educational Opportunities**

### **Participatory Grantmaking and Trust-Based Philanthropy Webinar**

*Participatory Grantmaking Community and Trust-Based Philanthropy Project*

Apr. 19 | 12:30 - 1:30 pm | Free

Participatory grantmaking and trust-based philanthropy have gained sector-wide recognition over the last several years as more and more funders explore ways to alleviate power imbalances by centering the expertise of nonprofit and community leaders. While the two approaches are neither identical nor mutually exclusive, they are grounded in many shared values: equity, relationship-building, power-sharing, and collaboration. As a result, many trust-based funders are exploring participatory grantmaking as a strategy to redistribute power; and on the flipside, many participatory grantmakers are exploring ways to embed trust-based grantmaking practices such as multi-year unrestricted funding and streamlined paperwork.

So what does it look like to do this well? This webinar explores the intersections of these two approaches, as well as the opportunities and challenges of taking an integrated approach.

**[Details and Registration](#)**

## **The Whole Story: Financial Analysis for Grantmakers**

*The Grantmaking School*

Apr. 20-21 | 11:30 am - 3:30 pm | \$720-750

Financial Analysis for Grantmakers takes you on a deep dive to explore grant proposal financial review and analysis fundamentals, including organization and project budgets, financial statements, audits, and the IRS Form 990/990EZ.

This course is grounded in understanding and practicing financial analysis through an equity lens. Throughout each stage of the due diligence process, participants work together to analyze and interpret data relevant to a real-life proposal and arrive at a decision to recommend funding (or not).

This robust course provides grantmakers of any experience level with valuable tools and insights to facilitate funding decisions. Course content is consistently updated to account for changes in FASB regulations and the financial implications of current events.

### **Details and Registration**

## **Colleague Inquiry**

*Do you have a question for your philanthropy colleagues? Please [let us know](#) and we will compile responses and resources from your peers across the state.*

### **Archived Colleague Inquiries**

## **ICoF Members Making Headlines**

[Community Foundation of Carroll County awards nearly \\$200K in grants](#)

[Iowa & Minnesota Campus Compact and Tyson Foods announced 22 nonprofit partners will receive nearly \\$100K to support 23 summer internships](#)

[Ottumwa Regional Legacy Foundation awards more than \\$600K to local school district for new Learning Center](#)

**Verizon Foundation** makes \$10K donation in response to Iowa tornadoes



This is an online, archived version of our email newsletter originally sent 3/28/22. This newsletter is intended only for members; please do not forward outside of your organization.

Mailing address: 6919 Vista Dr, West Des Moines, IA 50266  
515-989-1188 | [www.lowaCouncilOfFoundations.org](http://www.lowaCouncilOfFoundations.org)