



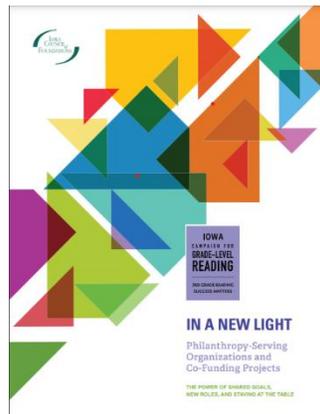
# COUNCIL COLUMN

May 2022

Greetings!

I am delighted to share that we have recently published two new reports for the ICoF network and the broader philanthropic field! These reports capture the success and learnings of two different bodies of work that, while quite different in scope, together show just how much we accomplish as a network.

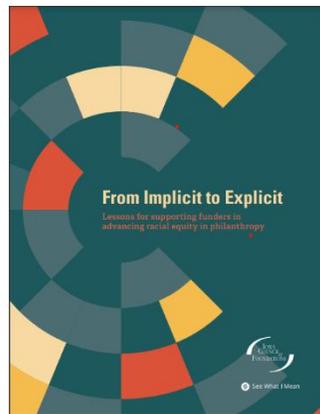
***In a New Light: Philanthropy-Serving Organizations and Co-Funding Projects*** looks at eight years of work the ICoF Education Funders Network dedicated to the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. The report shares the outcomes of this collaborative funding effort and also examines more closely just *how* we got the work done -- together. Deep appreciation for all (31!) ICoF members who contributed to this work. Bravo!



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**[From Implicit to Explicit: Lessons for Supporting Funders in Advancing Racial Equity in Philanthropy](#)** details what we learned and accomplished in our 2021 ICoF Racial Equity Cohort, in which nearly 40% of our members participated. This report will also serve as a guide to support other funders and philanthropy-serving organizations (PSOs) in advancing racial equity in philanthropy. Stacy Van Gorp, co-facilitator for the cohort, and I will present the report at the United Philanthropy Forum National Conference in July. We're excited to share what we've learned and what lies ahead with you all -- and the PSO field.



While I am proud of the work that is recapped in these reports, what has me most excited is the possibilities they suggest for our future. We have seen the powerful impact of what happens when we work together, committing to long-term goals, engaging in hard conversations, and stretching to serve our communities in new and evolved ways. As we begin strategic visioning for the ICoF's future over the next several months, I hope you'll join us in dreaming BIG about what's next for our network and philanthropy in Iowa!

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Press on with your good work,

**Kari McCann Boutell**

*President*

Iowa Council of Foundations

## **It was great to see you IN PERSON!!**

A big thank-you to all of the members who were able to attend our first in-person membership meeting in over two years! About 60 of us gathered for our Spring Quarterly Membership Meeting + Annual Meeting. We had a wonderful time reconnecting, reflecting, and reenergizing with you. See below for our next Quarterly Membership Meeting date.

Information from the spring meeting is captured [on our website](#). We also wish to extend our gratitude to the day's presenters:

- Becky Miles-Polka, Iowa Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (and our breath work guide for the morning!)
- Stacy Van Gorp, See What I Mean Consulting
- Ron Barron, Iowa & Minnesota Campus Compact, speaking on behalf of the Iowa Latinx Project
- Dr. Nalo Johnson, Mid-Iowa Health Foundation
- Dr. Malena Rousseau, Iowa West Foundation

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## Upcoming ICoF Events

### **Summer Quarterly Membership Meeting:**

#### ***Racial Equity & Housing Justice***

Thursday, July 28 | 10 am - 2:30 pm

Iowa Credit Union Foundation

7745 Office Plaza Dr N Suite 170 | West Des Moines, IA 50266

Join us as we welcome Amanda Andere, CEO of Funders Together to End Homelessness! *More details and a full agenda will be released soon.*

[Register](#)

### **Rural Equity Leadership Series**

*2 sessions remaining:* June 14, July 12 | 10 am - 11:30 am | Zoom

*We had a terrific kick-off session in May for the Rural Equity Leadership Series. You can still register if you are interested in joining! A recording of the first session is available [here](#).*

[Learn More & Register](#)

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## Public Policy Update

**State:** The Legislature convened last week and passed several budget bills. It is anticipated they will adjourn this week.

**Federal:** The [Nonprofit Sector Strength and Partnership Act](#) was introduced by Reps. McCollum (D-MN) and Upton (R-MI). The bill will establish formal structures and policies to leverage the knowledge, trusted status, and reach of the nonprofit sector. The ICoF has signed onto this [letter of support](#). We will monitor this bill.

## New Board Members, Officers Elected for FY23

During the FY22 Annual Meeting of the membership, the following candidates were elected to the ICoF Board of Directors for terms beginning July 1, 2022:

- Rob Barron, Executive Director, Iowa & Minnesota Campus Compact
- Beth Jones, Director of Community Impact, Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation
- Dr. Malena Rousseau, Program Officer, Iowa West Foundation

We also shared our appreciation for outgoing board members Jaimie Miller, Iowa Credit Union Foundation, and Denise Swartz, Mid-Iowa Health Foundation. We are welcoming back to the board for their second terms Nicole Brua-Behrens, Greater Poweshiek Community Foundation, and Dr. Matt Mendenhall, Regional Development Authority; and for her third term, Kaye Englin, Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa. ***Thank you all!***

At the ICoF Board meeting on May 11, the following members of the board were elected to officer positions for FY23:

- Chair: Dr. Matt Mendenhall, Regional Development Authority
- Vice Chair: Nicole Brua-Behrens, Greater Poweshiek Community Foundation

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- Secretary: Kaye Englin, Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa
- Treasurer: Gina Rooney, The Wellmark Foundation

Thank you to all who have served, are serving, and will serve in these important leadership positions! If you are interested in joining the ICoF Education or Public Policy Committee, [please let Kari know!](#)

## Welcome, New Members!

The Iowa Council of Foundations is pleased to welcome two new members to the network.

**The Mechdyne Corporation's** operations for the Americas are headquartered in Marshalltown. Their current charitable giving priorities are social and human service organizations, especially those assisting low- and moderate-income individuals; youth, especially those disadvantaged in some way; community improvement and investment; education; and arts and culture. Welcome to Mary Clover and colleagues!

**See What I Mean Consulting** is no stranger to many ICoF members. Stacy Van Gorp and her team facilitated our 2021 ICoF Racial Equity Cohort, as well as conversations this year about what's next for the ICoF Education Funder's Network -- among many other projects over the years. See What I Mean has joined as a Philanthropic Consultant member. Welcome SWIM team!

## Grade-Level Reading Initiative Updates

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

June 16 | 12 pm | Zoom

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This month's topic is digital equity and the Affordable Connectivity Program. If you have questions about GLR or need the Zoom login information, please [contact Becky Miles-Polka](#).

## Resources

### **Cybersecurity Training & Tips**

On April 27 we hosted a free cybersecurity training for members. A recording can be [viewed here](#), and we created this [PDF of Cybersecurity Tips](#), collected from our own experience and the helpful guidance provided by Twin State Technical Services during our webinar.

### **CFGDM Invites ICoF Members to Cryptocurrency Webinar**

The Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines invites their nonprofit partners to join the June 1 DonorConnect conversation, *Everything You've Ever Wanted to Know About Cryptocurrency*. There will be a follow-up discussion on June 7 regarding the nonprofit perspective. [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](#).

## Career Center Postings

### **Foundation Director**

Iowa Architectural Foundation  
*Full-time | Des Moines, IA*

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

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

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

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

[Visit the Philanthropy Career Center](#)

## Educational Opportunities

### **Philanthropy and COVID-19: Examining Two Years of Giving and What's Next**

*Candid, Center for Disaster Philanthropy, and COF*  
June 1 | 1 - 2 pm | Zoom | Free

Candid and the Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP) are releasing a report "Philanthropy and COVID-19: Examining two years of giving" to see how philanthropy has responded to the pandemic. In partnership with the Council on Foundations, CDP, and Candid are pleased to present a webinar to highlight the key learnings and provide recommendations for funders as the world continues to struggle with the impact of COVID-19.

[Details and Registration](#)

### **Responding to Extremism -- New Thinking about Norms and Trust**

*Grantmakers Council of Rhode Island*  
June 7 | 12 - 1 pm CT | Virtual | Free

In the wake of rising domestic extremism, hate-fueled attacks, and global attention to the atrocities in Ukraine and Tigray, how should funders respond? Join us for a conversation with Dr. David Frey, Founding Director of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the United States Military Academy,

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West Point, about preventing and responding to extremism, and supporting communities in charting new paths forward.

## Details and Registration

### Colleague Inquiries

A colleague has asked: Do you have examples of **grant scoresheets and/or other evaluation tools** committees use when evaluating grants?

Another colleague has asked: Do other organizations have an indirect policy they use (i.e., **limiting the amount of indirect charges allowed in a grant application**)? If so, would you share copies of your indirect charges policy?

Please send your response/examples for either or both inquiries to [Laura](#) by noon on Friday, May 27!

*Do you have a question for your 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

[Black Hawk County Gaming Association awards more than \\$7.3M](#)

[Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines receives a record \\$45M gift](#)

[Iowa school district adding STEM learning projects thanks to funds from the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council](#)

[Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust and Regional Development Authority funders of a new Ability Garden in the Quad Cities](#)

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**Wellmark Foundation awards over \$2M in community health matching funds**

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