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Iowa Council of Foundations Elects New Board Officers, Directors

Association commits to advancing racial equity in Iowa

The state's largest network of philanthropic and grantmaking organizations has elected three new directors to its board for fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023).

Newly elected directors are **Rob Barron**, executive director of Iowa & Minnesota Campus Compact; **Beth Jones**, director of community impact for the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation; and **Dr. Malena Rousseau**, program officer with the Iowa West Foundation.

Returning board members elected to officer positions are: Chair **Dr. Matt Mendenhall**, president and CEO of the Regional Development Authority; Vice Chair **Nicole Brua-Behrens**, executive director of the Greater Poweshiek Community Foundation; Treasurer **Gina Rooney**, foundation manager for The Wellmark Foundation; Secretary **Kaye Englin**, president and CEO of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa; and Past Chair **Karla Twedt-Ball**, senior vice president of programs and community investment at the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation.

"I am thrilled to welcome our new directors to the board, and for continued, strong leadership with our new officers," said ICoF President Kari McCann Boutell. "As a network we have been working hard to increase the impact of philanthropy in Iowa, and we do that best when our members step into these roles and lend their expertise and knowledge to the field."

The Iowa Council of Foundations represents member organizations from all facets of philanthropy: community foundations, corporate foundations and giving programs, private and family foundations, as well as individuals associated with philanthropy. Collectively, ICoF members annually grant more than \$65 million in Iowa.

In recent years, the ICoF and its members have made a concerted effort to advance racial equity in philanthropy in Iowa. The ICoF has provided numerous training opportunities for its members in recent years, bringing such notable nationwide trainers as Race Forward and Edgar Villanueva, while also connecting members with local leaders in diversity in Iowa. Deep-dive cohorts and extensive resources and tools have also been provided so that foundations and grantmakers in the state may take a closer look at their policies, practices and processes to best serve communities of color and all Iowans.

McCann Boutell shared, “The leaders we are welcoming to the Board this year will help us deepen our commitment to our racial equity strategies and other strategic priorities by bringing their diverse lived experience and expertise to the work. We’re excited for what lies ahead for our network and the incredible nonprofits our members have the privilege of supporting across the state!”

About the Iowa Council of Foundations (ICoF)

The ICoF is a membership network for Iowa foundations and grantmakers. Members are a diverse mix of Iowa community foundations, private foundations, family foundations, corporate foundations, and other giving programs. The only professional organization convening the funding community on a statewide basis, the ICoF strives to strengthen and grow philanthropy in Iowa. Since 2004, the ICoF has served as the state of Iowa’s Lead Philanthropic Entity.

To learn more about the ICoF and inquire about membership opportunities, please visit the website (www.IowaCouncilofFoundations.org) or call 515-989-1188.

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