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# CF SNAPSHOT



A monthly e-newsletter for Iowa Community Foundations and Affiliates providing information on available grants, educational opportunities, peer learning opportunities and much more. As always, if you have information you would like included in this newsletter, please [email Michele Walstrom](#), ICoF Community Foundations Services Coordinator.

## In this Issue

[ICoF Capacity Building Grants Available](#)

[CF Stories Blog](#)

[2016 Endow Iowa Tax Credit Application](#)

[Learning Opportunities](#)

[Community Foundations in the News Articles & Items of Interest](#)

## **ICoF Capacity Building Grants Available**

**Eligibility applications available online and due February 29. Full grant applications due April 15.**

The Iowa Council of Foundation's Capacity Building Grants Program will support opportunities for qualified community foundations and their affiliates to engage in activities that increase their ability to grow and build sustainable endowments. Capacity building grants will provide community foundations with support to implement projects or programs necessary to enhance their organizational capacity and address important issues of fund development and effectiveness.

## Upcoming Events

**February 18: Peer Learning Series**  
10 - 11 am

[Learn more and register here!](#)

**March 10: Community Foundations Legislative Breakfast**  
State Capitol Legislative Dining Room

7:30 - 9 am

[Contact Kari McCann](#) with questions.

This year, in an effort to assist community foundations and their affiliates with proposal ideas, each applicant is **required** to complete an Eligibility Application. ICoF staff will review these applications on a rolling basis from now until February 29 and will provide feedback to applicants on their idea or project and then provide them with a Final Grant Application. Grant applications are due April 15. [Click here](#) to access the Eligibility Application. Please [email Michele Walstrom](#), Community Foundations Services Coordinator, with questions.

## **CF Stories Blog**

Kaye Englin, President and CEO, Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, blogs about CFNEI's recent strategic planning process and their new branding initiative in this month's feature! [Read more here](#) about the process they used and how an ICoF Capacity Building Grant assisted them along the way.

## **2016 Endow Iowa Tax Application**

The Iowa Economic Development Authority recently released this year's Endow Iowa Tax Credit Application. Since the program began in 2004, Iowa Community Foundations have leveraged more than \$167 million in permanent endowment fund gifts through more than 21,000 donations (2014). The application can be found [here](#).

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## **ICoF Finance Roundup: Database Best Practices and Donor Information Management**

**Thursday, February 18 from 10-11 am**

Recent feedback from our readers has shown an interest in receiving more best practices and peer-to-peer learning opportunities. This month Michelle Beisker, VP of Development and Josie Velles, Director of Development Services for the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation and Rebecca Krohn, President of the Sioiuxland Community Foundation will each share their experiences around this topic. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussion. If you plan to join this month's call, please [RSVP here](#), and you will receive call-in instructions. These calls will be successful with active participants, so please join us!

## **Tri-State Webinar Series**

**Wednesday, February 10 from 1 - 2:30 pm**

You are invited you to participate in this webinar series hosted by the Michigan Council of Foundations. Cost is \$50 for a non-member. Our own Nancy Van Milligan, Greater Dubuque Community Foundation is a featured speaker. [Learn more and register here!](#)

## **2016 National Conference for Growing Community Foundations - Call for Ideas**

Planning is underway for the 2016 National Conference for Growing Community Foundations, hosted by the Kansas Association of Community Foundations this fall in Wichita, KS. They have issued a call for ideas on what potential participants would want to learn. To learn more about this conference and share your ideas, please [click here](#).

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## **Community Foundations in the News**

### **Foundations Making Headlines**

The **Pottawattamie County Community Foundation, Iowa West Foundation and the Omaha Community Foundation** will again partner to host Pottawatamie Gives Day scheduled for February 19. [Click here](#) to read the article.

The largest amount of grants awarded in a single cycle was recently announced by the **Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa** for Blackhawk County. [Click here](#) to read the article.

The Cass County Community Foundation, an Affiliate of the **Community Foundation of Southwest Iowa**, recently made a \$5,000 grant to a local Child Development Center. [Click here](#) to read the article.

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### Washington Snapshot

The most recent edition of The Washington Snapshot from the Council of Foundations is now available. Click [here](#) to access this information.

### COF Announces HUD Secretary's Award for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, in partnership with the Council on Foundations, announce the 2016 Secretary's Award for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships. This award emphasizes cross-sector partnerships between the philanthropic and public sectors. The goal is to recognize the partnership process and its impact as a community strategy to increase the quality of life for low- and moderate-income residents across all American geographies — urban, suburban, and rural. The competition is open to all charitable foundations, including Council members and nonmembers. [Learn more here.](#)

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