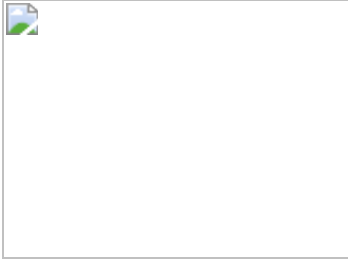


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CF SNAPSHOT



The CF Snapshot is a monthly e-newsletter for Iowa Community Foundations and Affiliates. It provides 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.

Upcoming Events

Peer Learning Call Series

Communications Roundup: Sharing Successful communications and marketing plans

Wednesday, May 24 | 10 am

[Register here!](#)

Community Foundation Legislative Breakfast

Each year, community foundation staff, board members and volunteers from around the state gather at the State Capitol to talk with their legislators about the importance of the two state programs benefiting community foundations - the County Endowment Fund Program and the Endow Iowa tax credit program. This year, the group gathered to talk with more than 30 legislators on March 28 in the Capitol Rotunda. Conversations centered on the proposed increase in tax credits for the Endow Iowa program and the general importance of this program continuing for the benefit of our state. Even though the annual breakfast has past, we continue to ask for volunteers and staff to share the benefits of this program with your state legislators. For information regarding the positive impact of the Endow Iowa program statewide, [click here](#) to access a Fact Sheet developed by ICoF.

Foundations on the Hill

This article is excerpted from the Iowa Council of Foundations, [Council Columns](#). This publication is distributed monthly to members of ICoF. If you are a member and do not receive the e-newsletter, please [contact Kari McCann Boutell](#).

ICoF members Nicole Brua-Behrens (Greater Poweshiek Community Foundation), Monica Chavez-Silva (Grinnell College Office of Community Enhancement & Engagement) and Suzanne Heckenlaible (Delta Dental) joined me in Washington, D.C. March 20-22 for Foundations On the Hill 2017. We were part of a larger group of 250+ philanthropic advocates meeting with members of Congress to discuss issues important to the philanthropic sector.

We were fortunate to meet with Congressman Dave Loebsack, Congressman David Young and Senator Joni Ernst and with staff members from Senator Chuck Grassley, Congressman Rod Blum and Congressman Steve King's offices while we were there. We focused our conversations around the following topics:

charitable tax deduction.

- **PRIVATE FOUNDATION EXCISE TAX:** We asked representatives to support simplification of the private foundation excise tax to a flat rate of one percent.
- **IRA ROLLOVER/DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS:** We asked representatives to expand the IRA charitable rollover to include donor advised funds (DAFs).
- **JOHNSON AMENDMENT:** We asked representatives to support the continued full enforcement of current law that prohibits 501(c)(3) charitable organizations from endorsing, opposing or contributing to political candidates and engaging in partisan campaign activities—also known as the “Johnson Amendment.”
- **2020 CENSUS:** We asked representatives to support full funding of the Census Bureau to ensure a fair and accurate census count in 2020.

Many of these issues are likely important to your work, and certainly the charitable deduction, Johnson Amendment and Census are extremely important to your nonprofit partnership and grantees. Our office will continue to keep you updated as tax reform progresses and bills are introduced around these issues. Please see a specific action alert about the Johnson Amendment below.

Community Foundation Boot Camp: Register NOW

ICoF, in partnership with the Iowa Economic Development Authority, is pleased to offer two comprehensive Community Foundation Boot Camp trainings in 2017. The Boot Camps will be offered May 15-16 in West Des Moines and May 18-19 in Cedar Rapids. Both locations will offer the same programming. Please choose the location most convenient for you.

To register for the West Des Moines training, [click here](#).

To register for the Cedar Rapids training, [click here](#).

COST: *Upon registration, you will be invoiced for the cost of the training.

- Iowa Community Foundations and Affiliates: \$250
- Community Foundations Outside of Iowa: \$575

Space is limited and sessions are filling up, so register today! For questions, please contact Michele Walstrom, Community Foundation Services Coordinator at mwalstrom@iowacounciloffoundations.org.

CF Stories Blog

The Clayton County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque recently helped two sisters create a special fund. MJ Smith, CFGD Affiliate Director blogs about the

Learning Opportunities

2017 Midwest Corporate Giving Webinar Series

Webinars offered bi-monthly by topic April 19 - December 13

Philanthropic associations from four Midwest states have collaborated to present six webinars designed for companies with either a corporate foundation, advised fund at a community foundation, or a giving program. The series is intended to help business professionals think smarter and perform better when it comes to combining their corporate mission with philanthropic action. To view a listing of webinar topics and to register for any of the offerings, [click here](#).

How to Write Winning Grants & Smile While Doing It!

Tuesday, April 25 | 8 am - 4 pm | [Register here!](#)

DMACC, Student Activities Center, Ankeny, IA

Grant Professionals Association, Central Iowa Chapter is hosting a day-long learning opportunity featuring Dr. Bev Browning, author of *Grantwriting for Dummies*. This conference offers Dr. Browning as the keynote speaker, a panel discussion with area grant experts and breakout sessions tailored to attendees' interest areas.

May Peer Learning Call *FREE*

Wednesday, May 24 | 10 am | [Register here!](#)

This month's Peer Learning Series call will focus on Communications RoundUp: What is effective? Colleagues will share their success stories, as well as ideas about communications and marketing initiatives that have been effective for their community foundation. Additional details about the call and speakers will be provided in the May CF Snapshot. The Peer Learning Call offers a good opportunity to learn from your peers, ask questions or share your own success stories or challenges. To register to participate in the call, please click on the link above. To access past PLC recordings, please [click here](#).

Fast-Track Iowa's Future

Wednesday, June 21 | 9 am - 4:30 pm | [Register here!](#)

Iowa Events Center, Des Moines, IA

In partnership with the National Governor's Association Work-Based Learning Grant, the Iowa STEM Council and numerous organizational planning partners, is introducing, FAST-TRACK IOWA's FUTURE: "A Future Ready Iowa Conference to make Work-Based Learning and STEM work for you". Fast-Track Iowa's Future, a conference featuring education-workforce innovations emerging across Iowa, will engage stakeholders in dialogue on how to grow and improve school-business partnerships, especially in STEM. The conference goal is to equip attendees with the knowledge, connections and resources to build school-business partnerships in home communities. It is the state's major work-based learning and STEM Conference.

Annual National Conference for Growing Community Foundations: *Save the Date*

October 1-3, 2017

volunteer-led community foundations in rural, small urban, and suburban America. It is designed to meet the needs of both new and seasoned board members and staff in practical training to enhance skills in all major areas of community foundation management. All board members and other volunteers, executive directors and other staff of community foundations are welcome to attend.

There are fundamental, intermediary and advanced tracks developed to fit diverse learning needs of the attendees and to provide a platform for the exchange of knowledge and practical solutions. Best practices and know-how are shared to help increase a foundation's capacities and impact in the community. For additional information, please [click here](#).

Tri-State Community Foundation Partnership Webinar Series

Monthly, Various dates and times

This monthly webinar series focuses on a variety of topics that are of interest to the community foundation sector. To view the monthly offerings and/or to register for an upcoming webinar, [click here](#).

Community Foundations in the News

Foundations Making Headlines

The **Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines** recently published an op-ed on Endow Iowa with ICoF. [Click here](#) to read the article.

The **Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa** recently published an op-ed on Endow Iowa with ICoF. [Click here](#) to read the article.

The **Clay County Community Foundation**, an affiliate of the **Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines** recently awarded over \$90,000 in grants to 22 organizations in their county. [Click here](#) to read the article.

Thanks to a grant from the **Jasper Community Foundation**, an affiliate of the **Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines**, the Newton Public Library has enhanced their internet service for library patrons. [Click here](#) to read the article.

Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa affiliate, **Winneshiek County Community Foundation** recently awarded grants totaling more than \$120,000 to non-profits in their area. [Click here](#) to read the article.

The **Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine** created an emergency response fund to help local organizations following a tornado. [Click here](#) to read the article.

Articles & Items of Interest

The Johnson Amendment and the Impact on

and nonprofit organizations to fight the repeal or weakening of the Johnson Amendment, which prohibits 501(c)(3) charitable organizations from endorsing, opposing or contributing to political candidates and engaging in partisan campaign activities. We urge you to sign on to the [Community Letter in Support of Nonpartisanship](#), joining more than 2,300 foundation, for-profit, and nonprofit organizations that have signed on already.

The Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers is a member of the collaborative initiative behind the letter, and that group soon plans to send the letter to each member of Congress along with a full list of signers. The Forum has signed on to the letter and has issued a [position statement](#) on the Johnson Amendment. To date, 18 Forum members have signed on to the letter, including the Iowa Council of Foundations. We encourage your organizations consider signing on and urge you to inform your grantees and nonprofit partners about this important issue. If you have any questions, please [contact Kari](#).

Three Trends for Community Foundations to Consider

The Council of Foundations recently published a blog post on this topic. To access this blog, please [click here](#).

Washington Update

The most recent issue of the Council of Foundations' *Washington Update* can be accessed [here](#).

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