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The CF Snapshot is a monthly e-newsletter for Iowa Community Foundations and Affiliates. If you have information you would like included, please [email Michele Walstrom](#), ICoF Community Foundations Services Coordinator.

Upcoming Events

Register NOW: Annual Connect Community Foundations Conference

Tuesday, September 18 | 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Hilton Garden Inn | Johnston, Iowa

This conference is designed to provide a framework for thinking about how local community foundations can create positive change in their region. This is a **free** opportunity for affiliate advisory committee members and community foundation staff, sponsored through the Iowa Community Foundations Initiative and the Iowa Economic Development Authority. Registration is now open and the conference agenda can be viewed online.

[Preview the agenda and register here!](#)

November Peer-Learning Call: Conference Shareback

Wednesday, November 14 | 10-11 am

Call for Speakers: The next Peer Learning Call will provide an opportunity for attendees of conferences throughout the year to share back information with their community foundation colleagues. If you've recently attended a

some of your learnings, please contact [Michele Walstrom](#) to be added to the speaker lineup!

Fall Capacity Building Grants Cycle

The Capacity Building Grants Program supports opportunities for qualified community foundations and their affiliates to engage in activities that increase their ability for sustainable endowment growth/building. Capacity building grants 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. The first step in applying is to submit a Pre-Application Form online. The link and additional information will go live on September 18 and can be accessed [here](#).

CF Stories Blog

In this month's post, ICoF's President, Kari McCann Boutell, shares how you and your CF will benefit by attending the Connect Conference this year.

[Read this month's blog here!](#)

Learning Opportunities

National Standards Monthly Conference Call

Second Wednesday of each month | 12 pm | Next call is September 12

The purpose of this monthly call is to offer community foundation staff a venue to voice questions or concerns related to the National Standards program. The input of CF staff is critical to the success of the program. Additionally, this call provides an opportunity for National Standards staff to update CF staff about any upcoming changes or improvements to the accreditation process.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

October 14-16 | Wichita, KS

The Conference brings the West and the East, the North and the South to the center of the country to network, learn and share experiences with other community foundations. This year's theme – *Inspiring Thriving Communities* – will frame three days of 28 concurrent sessions, seven ideas labs, four deeper dives, three plenaries and 12 retreats on topics related to: asset development, legal aspects, governance, marketing, finance and operations, programs, public policy and advocacy, and leadership.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

Peer Pointers

This section of the CF Snapshot features short descriptions of positive work happening at community foundations and affiliates across Iowa. If you'd like more information about these topics, please [contact Michele](#).

- As part of their role as a convener and leader in their community, the **Siouxland Community Foundation** and several community organizations have partnered to launch an initiative "0 to 3: Prime Age to Engage" around early child development to impact literacy and overall educational success. A local marketing awareness campaign including billboards and radio spots started in August, with additional strategies to follow. The goal of the initiative is to make parents, grandparents, older siblings, childcare providers and all those who engage with young children aware of the true power they have in impacting the future success of children. Learn more about this program [here](#).

Community Foundations in the News

[Over \\$27K in grants were awarded to organizations tackling complex human services issues through a collaborative mini-grant program of the **Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines** and other Central Iowa funders](#)

[A forum seeking to identify gaps in child care in Clinton County was held recently in conjunction with a survey by the **Community Foundation of**](#)

[The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa recently announced four new community initiatives to help strengthen Black Hawk County.](#)

[The Pottawattomie County Community Foundation is celebrating 10 years of giving totaling \\$2.2M to date](#)

[The Siouxland Community Foundation has announced it will sponsor an inaugural "Siouxland Big Give Day" to encourage local giving](#)

Articles & Items of Interest

Washington Snapshot

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

Available Resources

New Resources Available at Connect Conference

Connect Conference attendees will walk away with an abundance of new ideas and resources. Two of these resources have been developed by ICoF staff and will be highlighted at the conference. The *Guide to Effective Grantmaking* will provide best practices in building an effective grantmaking program and the *Community Foundations Disaster Philanthropy Toolkit* will offer a variety of tools and resources to use when preparing for or responding to a disaster. Copies of the Grants Guide will be available at Connect and through host community foundations thereafter. The Toolkit will also be available at the conference and then available on the ICoF website. We hope you can [join us!](#)

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