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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

November Peer-Learning Call: Conference Shareback

Wednesday, November 14 | 10am

The next Peer-Learning Call will provide an opportunity for attendees of conferences throughout the year to share back information with their colleagues. Join us to hear the highlights from a variety of conferences including the Annual Conference for Growing Community Foundations, Grantmakers for Effective Organizations (GEO) Annual Conference, and the Council on Foundations Inclusive Economies convening. This is a great way to learn about what's new in the field without having to leave your office!

[Register here](#)

New Communication Tools Available!

New communication tools have been added to the ICoF Communications Toolbox to help you with outreach to your donors and community. We've recently developed fact sheets and postcards for you to use with donors when discussing the IRA Charitable Rollover and Donor-Advised Fund Bunching

Word Document Templates can be easily customized to include your logo and organization's contact information. If you have any problems utilizing these tools, please let us know.

- [Charitable IRA Rollover Fact Sheet & Charitable IRA Rollover Postcard](#)
- [Bunching Fact Sheet & Bunching Postcard](#)

Additionally, in an effort to assist you in sharing the impact of the County Endowment Fund Program through your local media, we have developed a [sample CEFP grant awards press release](#) for use in announcing your annual grant awards. This release can be sent directly to the newspapers in your county, local radio stations and also utilized in your social media activities. The press release template allows you to customize your message to your community, which gives you one more opportunity to share the good work of your community foundation.

Idea Implementation Grants Recap

As part of the Connect Community Foundations Conference, Idea Implementation Grants are available to fund an idea that was sparked at the conference. Some of the grant programs that were submitted and approved for funding this year included:

- Buchanan County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, for creating a positive rural community marketing campaign (sparked from Ben Winschester's session on *Changing the Heartland's Narrative*).
- Wayne County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the South Central Iowa Community Foundation, will be working on strategic planning and organizational assessments (sparked by attending Stacy Van Gorp's session on *Strategic Planning for Growth*).
- Jones County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, will develop a plan for outreach to their local professional advisors (sparked by listening to Lynn Gaumer's session on *The Tax Cuts & Jobs Act*).

Grant applications are available immediately following the Connect Conference each year. Consider applying following next year's conference!

ideas to consider when planning your year-end communication strategies with donors.

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

Learning Opportunities

ICoF Member Convening: Fostering Innovation in the Nonprofit Sector

December 13 | 11 am - 2 pm

Creative Adventure Lab | Dubuque

Innovation is a hot topic, especially in the business world. Yet, innovation in the nonprofit sector is more critical than ever as the challenges we face in our communities become more complex and the pressure to have impact at scale becomes greater. How are nonprofits keeping up? What strategies are there for supporting innovation in the sector? Who are the social entrepreneurs and innovators working on this? How can philanthropy play a role in fostering innovation?

This 3-hour session will include presentations from Creative Adventure Lab (Dubuque, IA) and NewBoCo (Cedar Rapids, IA) staff. Both organizations will share their work to foster innovation in the nonprofit sector. Funders will also have the opportunity to participate in two ideation exercises to put these practices and concepts into action.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

National Standards Monthly Conference Call

Second Wednesday of each month | 12 pm | Next call is November 14

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.

Collaborative Grantmaking: Aligning Funders for Greater Impact

FREE Webinar

November 13 | 1 - 2 pm

This webinar will highlight the role of funder collaboration in supporting nonprofits and making a bigger impact. Three Foundant Technologies clients will share real-world stories of how they have worked with other funders to drive change. With a focus on collaborative grantmaking, attendees will gain perspective on initiatives at both the national and local level. Attendees will hear:

- How 6 funders worked together to streamline grantmaking within their community
- Insight on how joining forces on large initiatives makes a bigger impact
- Lessons learned and advice for others seeking to collaborate effectively

This webinar is complimentary on behalf of Exponent Philanthropy and Foundant, a provider of online grant management software and an Exponent Philanthropy Platinum Sustaining Partner.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

Council on Foundations: Leading Together

April 29 - May 1, 2019 | Miami, FL

Leading Together is a gathering of smart and pioneering people exploring the intersection of philanthropy and driving communities forward. It's a place where you find the time to pause, let your mind go free, and think about big ideas and what's possible. Early bird registration opens October 2.

[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

Following last year's Connect Conference, the Clayton County Foundation for the Future received Idea Implementation Grant funding to engage new and emerging leaders in their community in philanthropy. Last spring they attended a summit offered by their Host Foundation, the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, on better positioning rural communities to welcome new residents. The following is a synopsis of their year-end grant report:

"In June, our board met with a co-founder of the Upper Mississippi Under Forty (UMUF) Young Professionals Group to better understand the needs of young people in rural communities and to gain insight on engaging with young people. UMUF shared the results of a survey of their membership to shed light on the generational differences in leadership and meeting protocol preferences. This fall, the information on engaging young people and community newcomers was compiled into a tool that CCFF sent to city councils, chambers of commerce, nonprofit partners, and church councils. It is our hope that this tool will help local groups engage young people and newcomers on their boards and in their groups, continuing the effort to build communities. This year, several long-serving CCFF board members' terms will end, and the information we learned about engaging young people will help us as we seek to fill their positions with individuals committed to philanthropy in Clayton County."

[View the Engaging Newcomers Guide here!](#)

Community Foundations in the News

[The Siouxland Community Foundation raised more than \\$100K during their Big Give celebration.](#)

[The Community Foundation of Johnson County recently awarded 64 grants to nonprofit organizations throughout their county.](#)

[The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque is convening a cross-section of stakeholders to work on the issue of childcare for their region.](#)

Articles & Items of Interest

Foundation of Greater Des Moines is seeking a new Executive Director. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Washington Snapshot

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

Available Resources

Community Foundations Week begins November 12th!

To help supplement your own plans for celebrating Community Foundations Week, the Council on Foundations has several communication ideas and tools available to you on their website. They have created a Community Foundations' Week Toolbox that will provide you with communications related resources for sharing your work with the media and your community during this annual spotlight on our field. [Access the Toolbox here!](#)

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