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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

Peer-Learning Call: Working with Nonprofits to Grow Endowments

Wednesday, February 13 | 10 am

The first Peer-Learning Call of 2019 will provide an opportunity for participants to learn from colleagues on best practices of working with nonprofit organizations to grow endowments. What are some of the ways to engage nonprofits? How do you know if an agency is ready for endowment building? What is the best way to approach them? Join us in February to learn more!

[Learn more and register here!](#)

Fall Capacity Building Grants Awarded

Each year the Iowa Council of Foundations, as part of the Iowa Community Foundations Initiative, awards Capacity Building grants through a competitive grants process. The grants are available each year in a Spring and Fall cycle. The Capacity Building Grant Program supports opportunities for qualified community foundations and their affiliates to engage in activities that increase

- Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine
- Story County Community Foundation
- Wayne County Community Foundation

Funding will support programs to grow awareness of the CF's work in the community, increase efficiencies and effectiveness through new development software and the development of a strategic plan. The Pre-Application for the Spring 2019 cycle will be available on the ICoF website on February 1.

Community Foundation Boot Camp: Registration Now Open!

The Iowa Council of Foundations, through the Iowa Community Foundations Initiative and in partnership with the Indiana Philanthropy Alliance, is pleased to offer the popular Community Foundation Boot Camp training this spring! The Boot Camp will be offered May 22-23 in Altoona.

The two-day training program offers a comprehensive overview of the structure and operations of a community foundation. It is an ideal, in-depth introduction to community foundations for new staff, board members, affiliate advisory committee members or other community foundation staff looking for a refresher. Topics covered include:

- Community Foundation Overview
- Governance
- Fund Management
- Asset Development
- Finance and Investments
- Grantmaking and Community Leadership
- Operational Sustainability
- Community Foundation Lifecycle

Registration is \$250 for Iowa Community Foundations. For questions, please contact Michele Walstrom, Community Foundation Services Coordinator at mwalstrom@iowacounciloffoundations.org.

CF Stories Blog

In this month's blog, we are celebrating 15 years of the Endow Iowa Tax Credit being available to Community Foundation donors in Iowa! Kari McCann Boutell, ICoF President, shares about an event held at the Governor's Office last month to recognize this occasion.

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

Learning Opportunities

Managing Your Investment Manager Webinar

January 8, 2019 | 1 - 2 pm

This FREE webinar, presented by Exponent Philanthropy and in partnership with Glenmede, will cover what you should know and consider before, during, and after the RFP process. We will examine key considerations and the types of questions that should be asked at each stage. We will also place special emphasis on understanding and evaluating investment costs as this is an important but often challenging aspect of financial management. We will look at the various types of costs that investors pay – disclosed and undisclosed – and typical ranges for each cost.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

ICoF Census 2020 Funder Webinar

January 15, 2019 | 2 - 3 pm

Join Iowa funders for a conversation about Census 2020 outreach and engagement efforts funders can be leading in their communities to ensure a fair and accurate count. You will hear from Dave Geenen, Executive Director of the Doris & Victor Day Foundation, about their work on this issue in Illinois. We will

[Learn more and register here!](#)

ICoF Opportunity Zones Webinar

January 17 | 2 - 3 pm

Join us for a webinar with Adam Northup, Senior Vice President at LOCUS Impact Investing. The conversation will focus on the roles foundations – and specifically community foundations – can play in Opportunity Zones. The agenda includes:

- Welcome and Introduction of Adam Northup
- Overview of Opportunity Zones
- Updates on Rules & Regulations
- Roles of Philanthropy in Opportunity Zones
- Roles of Community Foundations in Opportunity Zones
- Examples of Work Happening in Other Communities
- Q+A on Opportunity Zones

[Learn more and register here!](#)

National Standards Monthly Conference Call

Second Wednesday of each month | 12 pm | Next call is January 9

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!](#)

Leading Together: Council on Foundations Annual Conference

April 29 - May 1, 2019 | Miami, FL

you find the time to pause, let your mind go free, and think about big ideas and what's possible.

[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](#).

- Some of the most important relationships for a community foundation to build are those with local professional advisors. Through the use of an Idea Implementation Grant, the Community Foundation of Jackson County, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, developed a brochure to share with professional advisors in their area. Mary Jo Gothard, CFJC Executive Director says, "I've opened doors with a group of Jackson PAs and hope for many more relationships in 2019." To access their brochure, [click here](#).
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Community Foundations in the News

[Jerry Mathiasen's family creates fund at Pottawattamie County Community Foundation as his leukemia battle returns.](#)

[The Jones County Community Foundation an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque announces 13 grant awards.](#)

[The Crawford County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundations of Southwest Iowa, recently made several grants to Emergency Medical Responders \(EMS\) in communities throughout their county.](#)

[The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque brings organizations together for mobile crisis unit and to create a mental health access center.](#)

Articles & Items of Interest

ICoF New Office Location

The Iowa Council of Foundations has moved to a new office location in Des Moines. The office is now located at 501 SW 7th Street, Suite G9. The organization's mailing address and phone number remain the same.

AmeriCorps VISTA project Seeking New Sponsors

AmeriCorps VISTA is seeking new project sponsors for FY19. The next deadline for [FY2019 AmeriCorps VISTA Request for Concept Papers](#) is [January 14](#). There are rolling deadlines throughout the year, so please check out the [timeline](#) for additional details. Additional information about the project can be found [here](#). There is also an [online tutorial](#) available to help your organization determine if a VISTA is the right fit for you. For additional info, please contact Jancy LaFollette at jlafollette@cns.gov or 515-776-4554.

Grant Opportunity for Rural Communities

Thanks to a partnership with the U.S. Economic Development Administration, the [Rural Innovation Initiative](#) is a new project to help more rural communities realize their visions for creating resilient, innovation-based jobs for local residents. Applications will be accepted until [January 15](#). For more information, please visit the [Rural Innovation Initiative's website](#) and explore [CORI's Rural Opportunity Map](#).

Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities Community Partner Sought

The University of Iowa Office of Outreach and Engagement is currently seeking an Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities (IISC) community partner for the 2019-20 academic year. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until [February 1](#). Interested communities are encouraged to contact IISC Director, Travis Kraus, at travis-kraus@uiowa.edu or 319-335-2798.

Washington Snapshot

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

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