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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.

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## Upcoming Trainings & Events

### ***Register Today! Annual Connect Community Foundations Conference***

Tuesday, September 17 | 9 am - 4:30 pm

Hilton Garden Inn | Johnston, Iowa

Join us to learn from state and national experts about trends in philanthropy and best practices for community foundations! This conference is designed to provide a framework for thinking about how local community foundations can create positive change in their region and give volunteers and staff an opportunity to learn from one another. This is a FREE opportunity sponsored through the Iowa Community Foundations Initiative and the Iowa Economic Development Authority.

Again this year, community foundations who send at least two representatives to Connect will be eligible for mileage reimbursement (up to \$75 per CF) and to apply for Idea Implementation grant funding (up to \$1,500 per CF). Join us!

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

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Wednesday, August 14 | 10 am |

Call: 866-740-1260 & Enter Passcode: 9891188

The August Peer Learning Call will feature a variety of your colleagues sharing successful communications and marketing tools, rebranding campaigns, social media strategies, effective use of videos in storytelling and successful donor development ideas for anniversary celebrations. Join the call and learn from community foundations who have benefited from implementing strategic communications to better inform and engage their community and donors about their good work.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

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## County Endowment Fund Program Reports Due August 16

Each year, ICoF collects information about the grantmaking and endowment building taking place in Iowa in the counties that participate in the County Endowment Fund Program. A detailed email with instructions for the reporting process has been sent to host and standalone community foundations. All reports are due on or before August 16. Please [contact us](#) with questions.

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## CF Stories Blog

In this month's blog post, Julie Hitchins, Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Marshall County, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, blogs about the one year anniversary of the tornado that devastated Marshalltown and how the community foundation responded. Julie shares how they brought together community members to create the Rebuild Marshalltown Fund and also provides insight into what she's learned over the past several months about disaster grantmaking and recovery and rebuilding efforts.

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

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### **National Standards Monthly Conference Call**

Second Wednesday of each month | 12 pm | Next call is August 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.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

### **Exponent Philanthropy Annual Conference**

October 2 - 4 | St. Louis, MO

Exponent Philanthropy's Conference is an empowering space designed to support deep learning for philanthropy professionals around a variety of topics related to their funding. This intimate, workshop-like environment allows for structured networking in which you build real, lasting relationships and acquire skills in funding that will serve you well beyond your conference experience.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

### **2019 Annual National Conference for Growing Community Foundations**

October 27 - 29 | Wichita, KS

The Annual Conference is sponsored by the Kansas Association of Community Foundations. It is tailored but not limited to small-staffed and 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. They welcome all board members and other volunteers, executive directors and other staff of community foundations from the USA and beyond.

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## 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](#).

Working with board or advisory committee members is both rewarding and challenging for community foundations and affiliates. Often the hardest part is identifying board members that will serve and help support your mission to continue growing the assets of your organization. Consider some of these suggestions from our colleagues at the **Indiana Philanthropy Alliance**:

- Have board/advisory committee members fill out a conflict of interest/disclosure form *annually*. While many members may think they don't need to sign one each year, life circumstances change and it is for them to think of all the organizations they are connected to in some way that could influence their work with the CF. Additionally, it serves as a reminder to them of their role in serving the CF without influence from other organizations they may also volunteer for.
- Use name table tents at your board meetings. Move them around for each meeting so members sit next to different people each time. This will help increase board interaction and build relationships.
- Have the board vice chair or someone on the committee be in charge of the "culture of the meetings". This person's role can be to make sure all voices are being heard, identify someone who may not be understanding a topic and generally making sure everyone is participating. It is difficult for the chair to do these things, as they are facilitating the meeting.

To learn more, listen to [Building an Effective Board](#) and [Your Board as Resource Builders](#), two webinars the ICoF hosted with consultant, Tony Macklin.

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## Community Foundations in the News

[The Siouxland Community Foundation recently awarded grants from their Fund for Siouxland to benefit organizations in their community.](#)

[The Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines recently awarded their Community Leadership grants.](#)

[The Clayton County Foundation for the Future, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, provided a grant to support energy initiatives in their area.](#)

[Nearly \\$400K in grant awards were issued to organizations in Blackhawk County by the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa.](#)

[The Cerro Gordo Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa recently awarded its annual grants.](#)

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## Articles & Items of Interest

### Former ICoF Leader Expresses Appreciation

Many of you have worked with Jerry Mathiasen of Council Bluffs as he served as President & CEO of the Pottawattamie County Community Foundation and was Iowa West Foundation's Senior Vice President. In addition, Jerry filled key ICoF leadership roles as board chair, vice chair, and secretary, as well as being one of the key authors and proponents of Endow Iowa and transitioning ICoF into the leading philanthropic organization in the state with an office and staff. You also may know Jerry is currently a cancer survivor and is doing very well. He has recently been in touch with Kari and passed on this update and note of appreciation.

*"It's been quite a journey since I was shocked with the news of having acute myeloid leukemia (AML) in September of 2017. The treatments went well and I went into remission, but then had a re-occurrence in late November of 2018. The only option was a stem cell transplant, which was done on February 28 of this year. It was successful, and I'm in remission again - feeling good, too. I couldn't have done it without all the support, thoughts, and prayers from thousands of people. In particular, I sincerely appreciate ICoF being in my corner. So many colleagues from foundations across our state continuously contacted me with 'caring bridge' messages and encouraging greeting cards. Thank you so much to my friends at ICoF."*

be accessed [here](#).

## Philanthropy Career Center

**Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa** - Vice President of Finance  
and Operations

*Cedar Falls, IA | Full-Time*

**Farm Rescue** - Development Director

*Fargo, ND | Full-Time*

[Learn more about applying here!](#)

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