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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.

Celebrating 15 Years of Impact Through the County Endowment Fund Program



We were pleased to partner with the Iowa Gaming Association to produce this CEFP 15th Anniversary video. Please use it in your social media and marketing to help mark this important milestone for this innovative statewide program!

The annual Connect Community Foundations Conference was held on September 17. Community Foundations and affiliates from across the state came together to learn about: rural housing, how to strengthen your CEFP grantmaking and endowment-building efforts, donor stewardship, impact investing, endowment challenge campaigns, and much more!

You can access the speakers content and supporting materials [here](#).

As a reminder, [Idea Implementation Grant Applications](#) and [Mileage Reimbursement Forms](#) are **due October 7** for those community foundations who had two or more people attend Connect.

Here is a quick list (not comprehensive) of ideas for implementation grant requests which were shared at Connect:

- A detail of projects from the [Idea Implementation Grant Exchange](#);
- Conducting a housing study or hosting community listening sessions;
- Using creative marketing materials to communicate with/steward donors;
- Working with a local donor to issue an Endowment Challenge Campaign;
- Creating an Asset Development Plan and/or Communications Plan; and
- Educating your community about a specific issue like brain health.

If you have any questions before you submit your application, [contact Michele](#).



Upcoming Trainings & Events

November Peer Learning Call: Conference Shareback

Wednesday, November 13 | 10 am

Save the date for our final Peer Learning Call of the year which will feature a variety of your colleagues sharing information, ideas and learnings from conferences they've attended this year. This annual PLC is always full of good

[Learn more and register here!](#)

***Save the Date!* 2020 Community Foundations Legal Training with the Council on Foundations**

Tuesday, May 12 | Quad Cities Community Foundation | Bettendorf, IA

Please plan to join us for a special learning opportunity in partnership with the Council on Foundations. You will learn from COF's legal team right here in Iowa! This day-long workshop is designed to answer your broad legal questions on administering funds, grants, and community foundation activities. A reduced fee of \$50 will be available for Iowa Community Foundations.

Registration will open in early 2020, but mark your calendars now!

Fall Capacity Building Grant Pre-Applications

The Capacity Building Grants Program supports opportunities for qualified community foundations and their affiliates to engage in activities which increase their ability for sustainable endowment growth/building. These 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 is submitting a Pre-Application **by 5 pm October 11**. You can view the full timeline and grant guidelines on our website. The Spring cycle will open in February 2020.

[Learn more and apply here!](#)

CF Stories Blog

This month, Jerry Burke and Bev Rahe, Advisory Committee members for the Foundation for the Future of Delaware County, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, share about how they have made their grantmaking more strategic to support community needs.

Learning Opportunities

National Standards Monthly Conference Call

Second Wednesday of each month | 12 pm | Next call is October 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!](#)

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 to, 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, volunteers, and staff of community foundations from the USA and beyond.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

***FREE!* Journeys to Equity: Bringing Inclusive Practices to Your Philanthropy**

October 30, 2019 | 9:00 am - 2:00 pm | Chicago, IL

Join Exponent Philanthropy and Forefront in exploring the different approaches lean funders can take to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in your work. Hear from peers in your community about what their journey has been like and reflect on how to adopt these practices to amplify your impact. Their goal is that

strategies and tactics in your work moving forward. This program is complimentary to both members and nonmembers of Exponent Philanthropy and Forefront.

[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](#).

At the 2019 Connect Conference, participants had the opportunity to hear from Ben Winchester, University of Minnesota Extension, about the future of housing in rural communities. Here are some highlights from Ben's session:

- Statistics show that many rural communities while decreasing in population are actually gaining in number of households. Ben emphasized that we need to shift indicators of success from population to households. He says housing stocks are an indicator of community wealth, individual wealth and persistence over time.
- He also notes the importance of the story citizens tell about their town - it is not dying, it is changing! He said there are no indicators that a town will fold if a large employer closes their doors. In fact, these moments are an opportunity to create a new vision for a community!
- An important step is an economic visioning process which includes helping people envision their life in their community, but maybe not their job, because jobs now can be remote, self-employed or regional. Ben says it's important to focus on housing in a community since people don't necessarily have to live in the same community where they work.
- Ben referenced, "[If You Lived Here, You'd be Home by Now](#)," by Christopher Ingraham a *Washington Post* writer who traded in his big city life for a rural community to work remotely and raise his family.

[Learn more about Iowa resources to support this important work!](#)

[The Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines recently announced a multi-million dollar gift that will benefit the town of Belmond in perpetuity.](#)

[The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque and their affiliate, Foundation for the Future of Delaware County, recently hosted a peer-learning exchange with the Nebraska Community Foundation.](#)

[The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa funded a study to understand cultural differences in accessing childcare.](#)

Articles & Items of Interest

Washington Snapshot

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

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Our mailing address is:

6919 Vista Drive West Des Moines, IA 50266

Office address:

1200 Grand Avenue, Suite #300 Des Moines, IA 50309

Phone number: 515-989-1188

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