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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.

Preview: 2020 ICoF Learning Opportunities

In 2020, the ICoF will continue to offer a variety of learning, networking and training opportunities for Iowa community foundations.

- **Quarterly Peer-Learning Calls** will be quarterly at 10 am:
 - February 11: Treat Your Grantseekers Like You Treat Your Donors
 - June 10: Rural & Community Development Partnerships
 - August 12: Year-End Appeals
 - November 13: Donor Development & Endowment Challenge Grants
- **Council on Foundations Community Foundations Legal Training** on May 12 at the Quad Cities Community Foundation
- **Annual Connect Community Foundations Conference** on September 22 in Johnston

Additional opportunities will be available throughout the year and shared through *CF Snapshot* e-newsletters as well as on the ICoF website. Stay tuned!

Upcoming Trainings & Events

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, in partnership with the Illinois Alliance of Community 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 foundation participants. Registration will open in early 2020, but mark your calendars now!

CF Stories Blog

This month, Kari McCann Boutell, ICoF President, shares a Year In Review of the learnings and details successes of Iowa community foundations network throughout 2019.

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

Learning Opportunities

Make the Most of Your Giving With the 10-Minute Impact Assessment

Thursday, December 5 | 1 - 2 pm CT

This is a complimentary webinar from Exponent Philanthropy and Fidelity Charitable.

Foundations often ask themselves, "Could we be making a bigger difference?" But with limited time, the challenge then becomes how to know. During this interactive webinar, participants will identify where they are meeting their goals for impact as well as opportunities for increasing their impact. Participants will gain tips, set benchmarks, hear case studies, and get recommendations for resources on measuring and increasing impact moving forward.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

Second Wednesday of each month | 12 pm | Next call is December 11

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!](#)

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](#).

The Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine recently received a Future Ready Iowa Employer Innovation Grant to implement a program spearheaded by the foundation that involved a collaborative effort with their community partners. The initial work to obtain the grant first began when Charla Schafer, Executive Director began conversations with her board regarding how to increase impact with the funding they're awarding.

Following her board's positive response, Charla brought together a variety of service providers that could support a multi-generational approach to support families of kids receiving food backpacks. They connected the issue of stable employment to food security and decided to apply for the Future Ready Iowa Grant. They're working with the community college to offer job training, which assures a job upon completion. To continue their success there is a "navigator" assigned to each employee to assist them with overcoming any barriers to staying employed (ie. child care, rent, etc.). Charla sees CFGM's continued role to be convening the partners and working with the community college to identify other educational opportunities, as well as to continue to seek a funding stream longer-term.

You can learn more about the Future Ready Iowa Grants Program and the work of the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine [here](#).

Community Foundations in the News

[The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa recently awarded their special mission fulfillment grants to seven area nonprofits at their annual Celebration of Community event.](#)

[Foundation for the Future of Delaware County, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque was recently featured in their newspaper regarding endowment gifts to better their communities.](#)

[The Siouxland Community Foundation helped raise \\$115K for 99 nonprofit organizations during their annual "Big Give Day".](#)

Articles & Items of Interest

Update on Endow Iowa Program

The most recent update provided by IEDA indicates there are \$1.7M available in remaining 2020 tax credits.

Community Grant Program RFPs now Available

The University of Iowa College of Public Health and the Business Leadership Network are excited to release the Community Grant Program Request for Proposals (RFP) for 2020. The College has an ongoing interest in collaborating with Iowa communities to meet the increasing needs for public health-related initiatives and projects. Any nonprofit or local government entity within the state is eligible to apply. For full details, [download the RFP here](#). If you have questions, please direct them to tara-mckee@uiowa.edu.

Impact Investing for Place-Based Foundations

GreenMoney Journal published its November edition focused on community impact investing, and it features an article that examines local impact investment funds and how they relate to the vital work performed by philanthropies. The article also highlights steps foundations can take when tackling impact investing for the first time, whether that involves taking the plunge with an actual investment or actively exploring organizational policies and capacity for local impact investing. You can [access the article here](#).

Career Center Postings

To view the most up-to-date career postings for positions in philanthropy

Washington Snapshot

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

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