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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 Trainings & Events

Peer-Learning Webinar:

Treat Your Grantseekers Like You Treat Your Donors

Tuesday, February 11 | **NEW Time** | 9 -10 am

The first Peer-Learning Call of 2020 will provide an opportunity for participants to learn from Stacy Van Gorp on best practices in working with your partner nonprofits. This webinar is an extension of Stacy's Connect session: *5 Lessons Learned From Our First 15 Years*. You will also hear from colleagues who are implementing new practices in their grantmaking strategies that are strengthening their relationships with grantees and leading to bigger impact.



[Learn more and register here!](#)

Community Foundations Legislative Breakfast

Tuesday, March 24 | 7:30 - 9 am | Iowa State Capitol Rotunda

Each year, community foundation staff, board and advisory committee

benefiting community foundations - the County Endowment Fund Program and the Endow Iowa Tax Credit program. Additional information will be available in the February *CF Snapshot*. We hope you can join us!

[Learn more and register here!](#)

Community Foundations Legal Training with the Council on Foundations

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

\$50 per Iowa community foundation participant

Please join us for a special learning opportunity 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.

We will distribute information on how to register on **Monday, January 13**, when registration opens.

SECURE Act Impacts Community Foundations

The new federal spending bill signed by President Trump on December 20, 2019 contained some provisions of importance to community foundations:

- For tax year 2020 and beyond, the law removes the age limit at which an individual can contribute to a traditional IRA. The Act allows anyone that is working and has earned income to contribute to a traditional IRA regardless of age.
- The law increases the age at which an individual must begin taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) from 70½ to 72. The Act states that this change applies beginning with IRA account owners who will attain 70½ on or after January 1, 2020.
- For situations where the original IRA account owner passes away after December 31, 2019, fewer beneficiaries will be able to extend distributions from the inherited IRA over their lifetime. Many will instead need to withdraw all assets from the inherited IRA within 10 years following the death of the original account holder, with some exceptions.

subject to interpretation by the Internal Revenue Service. IRS guidance will likely be issued within a few months, at which time there will be a comment period where the sector can weigh in on the potential impact of the bill. We will keep everyone updated as we learn more.

County Endowment Fund Grant Press Release Template for 15th Anniversary

We have prepared a press release template for you to utilize to promote your County Endowment Fund Program grant distribution. The press release includes information about the CEFPP as well as details about this milestone, 15th Anniversary year. You can [access the template here](#).

Spring Capacity Building Grants Timeline

Capacity Building grants are available each year in a Spring and Fall cycle. These grants support opportunities for qualified community foundations and their affiliates to engage in activities which increase their ability for sustainable endowment growth/building. Refreshed applications and guidelines will be available for the Spring 2020 cycle. The timeline for the spring cycle is:

- Pre-application will be available on the ICoF website **February 3**.
 - Approved pre-applicants will receive the full application on or before **March 2**.
 - Final applications are due **March 30**.
 - Grant applicants will be notified of grant decisions by **May 1**.
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CF Stories Blog

This month, Jason Neises, Community Development Coordinator at the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, shares his takeaways on presenting at and participating in Upswell in Chicago this fall.

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

The following colleague inquiry responses have recently been updated in our Knowledge Center:

- [Accounting Software Processes and Systems](#)

Please [let us know](#) if you would like us to collect responses to questions or compile resources/templates from your peers across the state.

[Access archived colleague inquiries here!](#)

Learning Opportunities

National Standards Monthly Conference Call

Second Wednesday of each month | 12 pm | Next call is January 8

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](#).

For the past three years, **Kossuth County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa**, has hosted a Free Donuts and Coffee event in conjunction with Giving Tuesday. They coordinate the event with their local Hy-Vee who has generously donated the food and beverages. As part of the event, all advisory committee members attend and greet shoppers as they enter the store. Terry Gaumer, Affiliate

checks which were donated into the Kossuth County Impact Fund." She went on to share that the committee members "had brochures and annual reports to distribute as most people were unaware of the KCCF and its purpose in the community." This year, they added the option for businesses to pre-order donuts for delivery in the local Algona area too. The end result was a very positive impression on the community by the KCCF and securing additional dollars for the impact fund.



Community Foundation of Northeast

Iowa

10 mins · 🌐

If you are in Kossuth County, head on over to **Hy-Vee** this morning until 11 am to jump start your **#GivingTuesday** with a FREE donut and coffee. You'll also have the chance to learn more about how the **Kossuth County Community Foundation** is turning people's passions into impact and is enriching the community through grantmaking. **#hereforgood**

FREE DONUTS AND COFFEE

JOIN US ON **#GivingTuesday**
and receive a free donut and coffee and learn how you can be part of the Kossuth County

HAPPENING NOW
Giving Tuesday Free Donuts and Coffee Event

Causes

INTERESTED



Like



Comment



Share

You might consider hosting your own event on Giving Tuesday in 2020!

Community Foundations in the News

[Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines announces \\$600K in Leadership Grants.](#)

[gift that will fund scholarships in their county.](#)

[Quad Cities Community Foundation is addressing workforce development issues in their region with two recently announced Transformation Grants.](#)

Articles & Items of Interest

Update on Endow Iowa Program

As of December 24, all 2020 credits have been allocated. All applications submitted now through December 31, 2020 will be added to the 2021 waitlist. IEDA will be mailing the 2020 tax certificates out in May and foundations will continue to receive their scheduled reports.

Iowa Rural Development Council Grants Now Available

At a recent Council meeting, the IRDC announced the launch of the Power of Connection grant program. The program will provide support of up to \$5K for local capacity-building and project soft costs. More information about the program is [available here](#), and the grant application is [available here](#).

Career Center Postings

To view the most up-to-date career postings for positions in philanthropy throughout the state, please visit the ICoF's [Career Center](#) page.

Washington Snapshot

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

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