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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 grant applicants and grantee 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

We are pleased to announce the Council on Foundations has opened registration for the Community Foundations Legal Training at the Quad Cities Community Foundation in **Bettendorf, May 12, 2020!** *Registration is limited and open to community foundations outside of Iowa as well, so we encourage you to register as soon as possible.*

As a reminder, we are offering a subsidized registration rate for Iowa community foundation participants through the Iowa Community Foundations Initiative. You can [use these instructions to register.](#)

[Read full event details here!](#)

Save the Date! Upcoming Endowment Building Training

Tuesday, June 2 | 10 am - 3 pm | Grinnell, IA

We are pleased to partner with the Nebraska Community Foundation to offer this training for Iowa community foundation staff, affiliate volunteers, and board members. The Nebraska Community Foundation leaders have been champions in their state to engage affiliates in building endowments through endowment challenge grants and other effective models. Successful campaigns have benefited communities with a population less than 500 to larger communities with 15,000+. Please look for registration information in upcoming CF Snapshot e-newsletters and on the the events section of the [ICoF website.](#)

Spring Capacity Building Grant Cycle Now Open

Foundations Initiative, awards Capacity Building grants through a competitive grants process. The grants are available each year in a Spring and Fall cycle. The program supports opportunities for qualified community foundations and their affiliates to engage in activities that increase their ability for sustainable endowment growth/building. Past grants have supported marketing, professional development, community leadership, strategic planning and more.

We've recently reviewed and refreshed our grant guidelines and application to further clarify the intent of these grant dollars and simplified our guidelines and application to ensure we are making this grant process accessible and intentional. Our goal is to strengthen and improve the grant process for both grantseekers and grant reviewers.

The Spring Capacity Building Grants Cycle is now open! The first step to participate is to submit a Pre-Application. This Pre-Application is available now and **due as soon as possible or by March 2**. Once your Pre-Application has been reviewed and approved you will receive the full grant application to complete and submit **by March 30**.

[View the grant guidelines and submit your Pre-Application here!](#)

County Endowment Fund Program Annual Report Released

The County Endowment Fund Program Annual Report was distributed to State Legislators and the Governor's Office last week. This Report serves as an annual accounting of how the CEFP funds were distributed throughout the state and granted to local communities. Thank you to all staff and volunteers who completed their reports with the data from their county community foundation. [You can view the 2018-2019 report here.](#)

Again this year, we encourage community foundations to share a local grant impact story when you distribute your copies of the CEFP Report. We have developed this [one-page template](#) to make it easier for you to share how this program has made a positive impact in your county.

copies of the report, please [contact the ICoF office](#).

CF Stories Blog

This month, ICoF President, Kari McCann Boutell, writes about how to connect with your legislators during the 2020 Legislative Session to communicate the impact of Endow Iowa and the County Endowment Fund Program.

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

Learning Opportunities

CF United Conference

April 5 - 7 | Detroit, MI

The 2020 CFUnited Conference creates the space to discover the role you and your organization play in harnessing the Power of Place. Designed as an immersive experience for all professionals within the community foundation field, the goal of the conference is to facilitate dialogue among peers that will enable you to innovate, lead, collaborate, and engage.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

National Standards Monthly Conference Call

Second Wednesday of each month | 12 pm | Next call is February 12

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!](#)

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 **Hardin County Community Endowment Foundation**, an affiliate of the **Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines**, received a 2019 Idea Implementation Grant inspired by Stacy Van Gorp's Connect Conference session. Funds were used to expand on their strategic planning to show their donors how much they appreciate their continued support.

Tam Elerding, HCCEF Program Director shared, "We realized we showcase and celebrate our yearly grantees and the projects they have been awarded grants for, but have never done the same for all our donors, big and small. Some donors may not be looking for the limelight when they support worthy causes, but a small thank you may go a long way in sustaining support."

They hosted an event at a location owned and operated by one of their sustaining donors. Over 100 invitations to donors and professional advisors who have been instrumental in initiating endowments were sent. Several donors and their families, as well as HCCEF Affiliate Advisory Board members, attended. Following the event Tam continues to connect with donors that were unable to attend to share their appreciation for their commitment to their community!





Community Foundations in the News

[Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine concludes 20th Anniversary.](#)

[Community Foundation of Johnson County inaugural Great Give Day included \\$25K challenge/match.](#)

[Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa awards over \\$300K in grants.](#)

[Pella Community Foundation helps fund a new inclusive playground project.](#)

Articles & Items of Interest

Grant Opportunity from The Wellmark Foundation

The Wellmark Foundation's 2020 MATCH Grant offerings are now available. The Large MATCH Grant cycle is for awards/requests up to \$100K with applications due February 21. The Small MATCH Grant cycle will follow with awards/requests up to \$25K, with applications due in June. [Learn more here.](#)

Alliant Energy Foundation Welcomes Grant Applicants

The Alliant Energy Foundation partners with customers and communities in Iowa and Wisconsin to solve problems, create opportunities, and help make life

the program, grants ranging between \$500 and \$5,000 will be awarded to organizations working in the Alliant Energy service area in Iowa and Wisconsin in any of its three focus areas. [Learn more 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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