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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

### Impact Investing During COVID-19 Response and Recovery

Tuesday, June 2 | 2 - 3 pm | Zoom Webinar

Philanthropic investors are seeking innovative ways to respond to the crisis, aid the recovery, and build long-term resilience in communities. Susan Hammel, Founder, Cogent Consulting PBC and a Minnesota Council on Foundations Executive in Residence on Impact Investing, will share concrete examples of ways funders from around the country are using impact investing strategies to support COVID-19 response and recovery. She will also highlight the renewed interest in impact investing including the following topics:

- Integrated Capital approach;
- Innovation and retooling responses; and
- Place-based initiatives with community foundations.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

### June Peer Learning Call: Economic and Community Development

Wednesday, June 10 | 10 am | Conference Call

can participate in community and economic development activities in your area. Learn from rural development experts about what is currently happening in Iowa and also from colleagues who have formed strategic partnerships for the betterment of their communities. On this call you will learn from:

- Bill Menner, Executive Director, Iowa Rural Development Council
- Grant Menke, State Director, Rural Development, USDA
- Jason Neises, Heart & Soul Director, Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque
- Charla Schafer, Executive Director, Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine
- Shelly Maharry, Executive Director, Community Foundation of Johnson County

[Learn more and register here!](#)

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## ***Update!* 2020 Connect Conference Going Virtual**

The Iowa Council of Foundations staff and Board of Directors have decided to move all in-person events through the end of 2020 to virtual, when possible. As a result, the 2020 Connect Community Foundations Conference will be offered in a virtual, condensed format this year. While the agenda is currently being finalized, the conference will likely span over three days, September 22, 23 and 24, with 1-2 sessions each day for conference participants. A similar format will be followed as utilized at past conferences, offering separate sessions for Host and Affiliate audiences.

[A final agenda and registration details will be available in July's \*CF Snapshot\*.](#)

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## **Sign-On Opportunity: State Nonprofit Advocacy**

We know our community foundation partners, and the grantees and communities you support, have faced unprecedented impacts as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonprofit infrastructure has never been more vulnerable.

As a supporter of Iowa nonprofit organizations and the critical services and

this [Iowa Nonprofit Coalition Letter](#) and consider signing on to demonstrate your organization's support.

[Please confirm your sign-on here](#) and encourage your grantees and partners to sign-on as well. Please do so **by noon on Wednesday, June 3**.

This letter can be signed by funders, nonprofits, business partners, or any other supportive voices for Iowa's nonprofit sector. The letter makes no specific legislative asks and is therefore considered grassroots advocacy, not lobbying, under 501(c)3 guidelines.

[Sign-On Here!](#)

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## Momentum Fund to Help Build Capacity of Nonprofits Managing COVID-19 Funds

The recently launched Momentum Fund will support nonprofit organizations managing active COVID-19 relief and recovery funds that are helping communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Fund will award grants of up to \$100K to 501(c)(3) organizations managing COVID-19 funds that are providing grants to other 501(c)(3) organizations meeting the needs of communities and populations whose health and/or financial situations have been most severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and who have been historically marginalized in our country.

The Fund will award a total of \$8.5M in grants to help these organizations build their internal capacity to more effectively grow, promote, manage and sustain their funds. The grants can be used to add new staff, acquire new cutting-edge technology, or address other pressing capacity needs. **Applications will be accepted through 2 pm CT on Thursday, June 18.**

The Momentum Fund is managed by United Philanthropy Forum and has been made possible by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. To learn more, visit [www.momentumfund.org](http://www.momentumfund.org).

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The ICoF has created a hub for the philanthropic response to the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the state of Iowa. This site includes a Response Fund listing as well as resources available to assist funders in their response efforts. [If you have opened a fund that is not on the list, please let us know.](#)

[Learn more here!](#)

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## State Legislature to Reconvene June 3

The Iowa Legislature will return to the State Capitol Building for the legislative session on June 3. We will continue to provide updates to our members on an as needed basis, should topics of interest emerge from legislative discussions. If you have any questions, [please contact us.](#)

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## CF Stories Blog

Kari McCann Boutell, ICoF President, blogs this month about the steps that you can take to effectively plan for grantmaking amidst a pandemic, including the resources provided by the Iowa Community Foundations Initiative.

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

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## Learning Opportunities

### **Ratcheting Up Rural Response, Recovery and Resilience: Five Good Ideas for Philanthropy Right Now**

Tuesday, June 2 | 1 - 2 pm | Webinar | FREE

Hosted by: *United Philanthropy Forum and Aspen Institute*

Seasoned rural action leaders will share how they are already thinking about long-term ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic. In Hour 1: For each idea, we'll explain why it is especially important for rural recovery, and feature on-the-ground experience of funders and/or practitioners engaged in implementing the Idea. In Hour 2 (optional): Join a breakout room for open conversation about

the room that best fits your interests.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

## How Foundations are Shaping Policy During COVID-19

Thursday, June 11 | 1-2 pm | Webinar | FREE

Hosted by: *Council of Foundations*

The philanthropic sector's ability to influence public policy has been a pathway to significant social change in the United States. Using the current global crisis as a backdrop, this session will focus on a discussion of policy engagement through a health policy lens.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

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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](#).

Community Foundations and affiliates across the state are continuing to support needs in their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. As needs and resources continue to evolve, each CF may want to consider how responsive their grantmaking program is to their community's current needs. Now may be a good time to reflect, review and re-adjust grantmaking programs to better respond to needs

The **Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation** announced recently that it will adapt its grantmaking to meet the needs of the nonprofit sector as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. Their summer grant cycle deadline will be extended by nearly a month, and their COVID-19 Disaster Response Fund is now accepting applications.

The summer grant cycle includes competitive funding from their unrestricted

altering programs and program delivery models, constituency retention strategies, and planning for extended closures and/or phased reopening.

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## Community Foundations in the News

[The Community Foundation of Johnson County collaborated with area nonprofits and restaurants to provide prepared meals to people in need.](#)

[Kaye Englin, Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa President/CEO recently wrote an Op-Ed detailing their support of childcare providers and the work they have done to address the childcare crisis.](#)

[The Jasper Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines supports small business recovery.](#)

[The Pottawattamie County Community Foundation hosted another successful \*Pottawattamie Gives!\* online giving day to support area nonprofits.](#)

[The Quad Cities Community Foundation was featured in an article in the March 31 edition of \*The Chronicle of Philanthropy\*.](#)

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## Articles & Items of Interest

### DHS Launches COVID Recovery Iowa

The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) received nearly \$1M in funding from FEMA to offer free crisis counseling to any Iowan who has been affected, in any way, by the COVID-19 public health emergency. [Learn more here](#) or visit the [COVID Recovery Iowa Site](#).

### GEO Article Ponders, *What's Next?*

Grantmakers for Effective Organizations released this [article](#), which suggests four steps grantmakers can consider in the current environment.

### USDA Federal Rural Resource Guide

The United States Department of Agriculture released the [COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide](#), which provides information about federal programs to assist rural communities throughout pandemic response and recovery.

[Rural Innovation Grants and Rural Housing Assessment Grants](#) are open and on [www.iowagrants.gov](http://www.iowagrants.gov) with a June 5 deadline.

### 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](#).

### Washington Snapshot

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

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