



April 2025

The *CF Snapshot* is a monthly e-newsletter for Iowa Community Foundations and Affiliates. If you have information you would like included, please [email us!](#)

State Public Policy Update: Endow Iowa

Background

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) announced earlier this year a proposal encompassing [a number of tax credit changes](#), including the elimination of the Endow Iowa tax credit program. With signoff from the Governor, the proposal is designed to align Iowa's incentives with the new, reduced individual and corporate income tax rates. The money currently appropriated for Endow Iowa is intended to be re-appropriated to increase the Workforce Housing tax credit in 2026.

We have also learned part of [HSB 305 / SSB 1205](#) would repeal the Lead Philanthropic Entity contract and funding. As you know, this is the contract and funding that supports the Iowa Community Foundations Initiative work: training, reporting, marketing, convening, and Iowa CF grantmaking programs.

Where Things Stand Now

The House and Senate subcommittees assigned to [HSB 305 / SSB 1205](#) both met March 27 and passed the legislation on to the respective Ways & Means

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Committees in their chambers. We anticipate the House and Senate Ways & Means Committees will each meet on this bill in the coming weeks. Both Committees are scheduled this week (House 4/9 at 9 am & Senate 4/10 upon adjournment of 9 am session), though agendas for the bill hearings have not been published yet. You can look for updates [here](#).

An important update: Endow Iowa tax credits will only be available through June 30, 2025 if the bill is passed as written.

How You Can Help

Please keep reaching out to your legislators, especially if they are on Ways & Means ([lists here](#)). Republicans are our priority, but all outreach is extremely helpful! Please also engage your nonprofit partners and donors who can reach out with impact stories. We have heard that rural impact stories are resonating well! Phone calls or in-person meetings are especially impactful.

- Upcoming town halls and legislator events: [Democrats](#) / [Republicans](#)
- House Switchboard: 515-281-3221
- Senate Switchboard: 515-281-3116 or 515-281-3371

If you will be reaching out via email, keep in mind legislators appreciate receiving individual versus mass emails. You can copy & paste your message, but it's better to send them one at a time.

- [2025 Senate and House Ways and Means Committee members \(XLS\)](#) (Note there are two separate tabs in this worksheet)

Our Ask

There are two main concerns, both found in Division 13 of the bill:

1. Division 13 would eliminate the Endow Iowa tax credit program.
2. Division 13 also repeals the section of Iowa code that provides for the Lead Philanthropic Entity contract and funding. The Iowa Council of Foundations has held the LPE contract since 2004.

Here are some additional resources to help support your outreach:

- [Bill Overview](#)

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- UPDATED [Email template for writing to legislators](#) *Please customize this with your local impact stories about how Endow Iowa benefits your community AND how losing Endow Iowa will negatively impact your work
- [Endow Iowa Fact Sheet](#) & [Endow Iowa Donor & Giving Data fact sheet](#)

Moving Forward

We will keep you apprised of developments as we hear about them via ICoF Public Policy Alert emails. If you hear an update from your local legislator, please [let Kari know](#). She is happy to help answer any questions you may have too. Thank you for all you do to grow philanthropy in Iowa!

Spring Capacity-Building Grants Awarded

The [Capacity-Building Grant Program](#) supports opportunities for qualified community foundations and their affiliates to engage in activities that increase their ability for sustainable endowment building and growth. Three grants were awarded this spring, ranging from \$4,000 - \$7,000, supporting:

- Cedar Falls Community Foundation: Donor Development
- Clive Community Foundation: Board Development for Endowment Growth; Planning Activities; Donor Development
- Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa: Board Development for Endowment Growth; Strategic Relationships; Donor Development

2025 Grantmaker Salary & Benefits Survey Open

The Council on Foundations' [Grantmaker Salary & Benefits Survey](#) provides the sector with the most comprehensive data on staff composition and compensation in the U.S. Through our partnership with United Philanthropy Forum and the Council on Foundations, ICoF members that complete the survey will have direct access to the benchmarking tool and full report. Those who do not complete the survey but wish to obtain benchmark data later will

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need to contact Kari. **We encourage all ICoF members to participate in the survey — the greater the participation, the greater the insights for the entire field.** This is also the data we use to create the Midwest Grantmaker report, which will be made available for members this fall. ***The survey is open until May 14.*** COF membership is not required to participate.

Take the GSB Survey

Disaster Recovery Fund Challenge Grant

The ICoF has received an extension for the [Disaster Recovery Fund Challenge Grant Program](#) application. The new deadline is June 30. The ICoF team continues to monitor and notify CFs when the Governor declares a state of emergency in their county.

Learn more about establishing a fund and other steps you can take to prepare in the [Iowa Community Foundations Initiative Disaster Philanthropy Toolkit](#).

Upcoming Trainings & Events

An important note about our typical programming calendar for community foundations:

By now, planning is usually underway for our fall Connect Conference, in addition to virtual Connect events leading up to the in-person conference. **The ICoF is waiting to see what happens with HSB 305 / SSB 1205, which would eliminate funding for the Lead Philanthropic Entity contract, which supports the Community Foundations Initiative, in addition to repealing the Endow Iowa tax credit.** See the public policy update above, and keep an eye on your inbox for future developments. Thanks for your patience and flexibility while we wait to see what happens this legislative session.

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Community Foundations in the News

[Nancy Van Milligen, Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque: Support nonprofits throughout time of crisis](#)

[\\$95k in grants awarded by the Community Foundation of Marshall County](#)

[O'Brien County Community Foundation receives \\$450k gift](#)

[Quad Cities Community Foundation: Transformation Grant Seven Years Later](#)

Articles & Items of Interest

Career Center Postings

Director of Philanthropy

Community Foundation of Johnson County

Full-time | Coralville, IA

To view all career postings for positions in philanthropy throughout the state, please visit the [Career Center](#).

Washington Snapshot

The latest Washington Snapshot from Council on Foundations is available [here](#).



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