what we do

The Benton County Community Foundation connects people with the causes they care about and makes grants to nonprofit organizations enriching our communities.

We do this by helping to simplify the philanthropic process, giving generous people a way to support what matters to them. Gifts to the Community Foundation become part of a permanent endowment, which means they will benefit your community forever. Donors can make gifts to existing funds or create their own named fund to support the charities of their choosing. We invest gifts so they grow, maximizing the resources for grantmaking that addresses community needs.

Benton County Community Foundation grants provide essential funding to nonprofits and government entities serving Benton County and its residents. Since 2005, we have granted over $1,000,000 to support our partners in making our communities better places for all people.

A Legacy of Good

Planning for a future that benefits your family and community leaves a legacy of good. Go to cfneialegacy.org to find information to help achieve your charitable goals through a planned giving option that’s right for you.
**our 2017 impact**

$796,303 total assets held by BCCF
$691,036 total endowed assets
$137,822 in donations in 2017

**our funds**
- Benton County Community Impact Fund
- Benton County Conservation Foundation Endowment Fund
- Benton County Endowment Fund
- Benton County Expendable Fund
- Benton County Historical Society Endowment Fund
- Philip and Phyllis Borleske Community Impact Fund
- Marilyn and Ann Jorgensen Community Impact Fund
- Marilyn and Ann Jorgensen Family Fund (Quasi)
- Marilyn and Ann Jorgensen Family Scholarship Fund
- Marilyn and Ann Jorgensen Fund
- VGH Home Health Agency Endowment Fund
- Virginia Gay Hospital Health Care Foundation Fund

Make a gift to a fund, or create your own fund with the Benton County Community Foundation at bentonccf.org.

Gifts to the Community Foundation may be eligible for the Endow Iowa Tax Credit. Taxpayers can receive a 25% Iowa tax credit through Endow Iowa in addition to normal federal charitable income tax deductions for certain charitable gifts.

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**2017 Discretionary Grants Awarded**
grantee organization and grant program listed

- **art and culture**
  - Area Community Theater of Benton County, ACT I Palace Theatre Sound System Upgrade
  - Iowa Valley Resource Conservation and Development Association, Public Art Installation for Downtown Belle Plaine
  - Vinton Community Foundation, Art in the Park 2017

- **community betterment**
  - American Legion Post 148 - Thomas F. Bevins, Legion Remodel
  - American Legion Post 167 - Newhall, Building Handicap Accessibility Project Phase Two
  - Benton County Conservation Foundation, Benton City - Fry Playground
  - City of Newhall, Newhall Library - Children's Area Furniture
  - City of Shellsburg, Shellsburg Library Basement Renovation
  - City of Van Horne, Community Center Parking Expansion
  - Friends of the Urbana Public Library, Urbana Public Library
  - Van Horne First Responders, Community AED Project

- **education**
  - Iowa College Access Network - East Central Iowa Student Success Center, Benton County FAFSA Challenge

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$115,118 total grants distributed includes grants from all funds

$112,775 discretionary grants

24% art and culture
38% community betterment
10% education
9% environment
3% health
2% historic preservation
2% human service

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**environment**
- The Nature Conservancy in Iowa, Oxbow Wetland Restoration to Reduce Vinton Flood Risk - Demonstration Site for County Farmers
- Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District, Middle School Prairie Swale

**health**
- Area Substance Abuse Council, Preventing Youth Substance Abuse Misuse in Benton County
- Belle Plaine Area Ambulance, Stryker Power Pro XT 6506 Power Cot
- North Benton Ambulance Service, EMT Training
- Van Horne Firemans Association, Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Bottles
- Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District, Sole Sisters Running Club - Shellsburg Elementary
- Virginia Gay Hospital Health Care Foundation, Hospital Generator

**historic preservation**
- Belle Plaine Historical Society, Museum Collection Preservation

**human service**
- Benton County Volunteer Program, Medical Transportation Assistance Program
- Blairstown Ambulance Service, Inc., Automatic External Defibrillators for Benton Community
- Cedar Valley Friends of the Family, Safe Shelter & Housing Stability
- Garrison Emergency Services, Kid's Healthy & Safety Fair
- Genesis Development, Building Relationships Through Community Inclusion
- Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, Leadership and Character Building for Benton County Girls
- Horizons, Family Service Alliance, Horizons Family Support
- North Star Community Services, Vinton Drop-In Center Program
- Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District, Operation Backpack
- Young Parents Network, YPN Youth Programming

The Benton County Community Foundation is lead by a committee of local individuals from across the county with knowledge of our communities. This group provides guidance and makes decisions regarding BCCF grantmaking. If you are interested in being part of your local committee, call our administrative office at 319-287-9106.