

# GREATER GOOD



**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**  
OF NORTHEAST IOWA

2018 IMPACT REPORT

# GREATER GOOD



See the  
introduction  
video at

[cfneia.org/leadership18](https://cfneia.org/leadership18)

Since 1956, the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa has worked tirelessly to inspire people and connect resources to enrich our communities. This mission brings together the heart of generous people, vision of community partners, and leverage of local resources to make powerful impacts across our region. Through connections and collaboration, all of us are part of strengthening our communities and developing solutions for the greater good.

In 2018, CFNEIA and its affiliate community foundations awarded 1,652 grants for a record total of \$6 million. Over our 62-year history, we have granted more than \$90 million to life-changing projects across our 20-county region. As of December 31, 2018, the assets of the Foundation stood at over \$104 million, further establishing we are “here for good.” As you read through our Impact Report, we’re confident you will see the Greater Good reflected in these indicators of success and how the support and philanthropic services we provide are transforming our nonprofit partners, communities, families, and individuals.

While the Community Foundation’s mission has always been focused on creating community impacts through grantmaking and connecting people to the causes they care about, in 2018 we announced our community initiatives to further strengthen and sharpen our community leadership role. Through this focused lens, our Foundation has launched initiatives to help address critical needs and enhance the quality of life throughout our region. The four initiative areas of focus include child care, art and culture, workforce readiness, and nonprofit capacity building. These were chosen because we see the need, we hear about it in our communities, and these issues and areas are impacting the well-being of individuals and families living in the communities we love.

The additional focus on crucial community initiatives does not replace our commitment to our current core areas of grantmaking. Adding these to our portfolio of work extends our goals to become more strategic in our grantmaking and expands our role as a community leader. Our engagement is rooted in the belief that vibrant communities are made up of individual successes that are interconnected. By taking on key issues, we will shape strategies that create successes and make a collective difference for all people.

The Community Foundation is a place for people to come together to address complex issues, and that is why we are bringing community members, nonprofits, experts, and leaders to the table to work on solutions that allow people and communities to thrive. It is an exciting time to be a part of community conversations, whether we are leading the way or a member of collaborations creating a strong, successful region. CFNEIA knows we can't do any of our work alone, and creating relationships and partnerships for the greater good will bring about effective impacts across our region.

Thank you for acting on your vision for your community and for caring for neighbors. Your leadership inspires us to expand and embrace our role as an advocate for all people across our region. Together we are making significant impacts for the greater good.

Sincerely,

  
Kaye M. Englin  
President & CEO

  
Stacie Brass  
Chair, Board of Directors



 Current Chair of the CFNEIA Board of Directors, Stacie Brass (left) and CFNEIA President & CEO, Kaye Englin (right).

## HOW WE WORK FOR THE GREATER GOOD

  
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# GREATER **GENEROSITY**

Featured Donor Stories

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# A LEGACY FOR COMMUNITY & FAMILY

Mark Kittrell has made his mark on the Cedar Valley in many ways. He is an entrepreneur, a lead community advocate, a philanthropist, and maybe most importantly, a family man.

“We care a lot about family and we care a lot about community. I like to say I originally started out Ron Kittrell’s son, and now I’m Audrey Dodd’s and Alaina Kittrell’s dad, and you know, that’s sort of the way things are supposed to be,” said Mark.

Mark moved back to the Cedar Valley in the 1980s after a short time away, and built his first company. He feels a strength of the Cedar Valley is it is a place where innovation thrives, but it’s the people who make it home.

“We’re very involved in the community because of the people. It’s family, it’s friends, it’s the real sense of community,” said Mark.

In 2008, a combination of events prompted the establishment of the Kittrell Family Foundation Fund. Financially, Mark was selling a successful technology company. Personally, he was turning 50 and wanted to get to some things he felt were priorities for his family, including philanthropy, so they began looking for a partner to help.

“We knew we had to be a startup in thinking about how we were going to build our foundation. We looked



See the  
interview  
video at

[cfneia.org/kittrell18](https://cfneia.org/kittrell18)

around and we asked, who are the best people we could partner with who really had the skills that could help us learn how to build a fund? We partnered with the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa. It seemed like absolutely the market leader and the one that we should partner with,” said Mark.

The Kittrell Family Foundation Fund is truly a family fund, with grant decisions being discussed as a family.

“This was really an effort for us to start to understand where we wanted to go with our giving as a family. We put an amount of money into the fund that allowed us to think about what our giving priorities were and understand how we would do that year upon year,” said Mark. “It’s a great way for me to spend time with our girls and put those priorities and plans in place in a more formal way.”

The grantmaking discussions have also emphasized the important role of nonprofit organizations in a community.

“I think it’s really been an eye opener for us to learn about those organizations and to evangelize to others and say this is important work and to have a community that is going to be able to grow and is going to be the kind of place where people are going to want to live and feel good about their quality of life. It’s not accidental. It takes time,” said Mark.

For Mark, the fund is a natural fit with his work of building community as CEO and co-founder of Eagle View, a real estate and property management company in downtown Cedar Falls where he works alongside his daughter, Audrey.

“As I look at what my life’s work is about, community building is one of the things that I understood about myself,” said Mark. “It was something I really wanted to have a long-term impact on. Having this kind of fund and having it partnered with a great institution like the Community Foundation gave us the ability to feel good about having that long-term impact.”

Mark Kittrell (middle) with his two daughters, Audrey Dodd (middle front), Alaina Kittrell (right), and his wife Barb (left). The family uses their fund to discuss and make grants to community needs and personal charitable interests.



“As I look at what my life’s work is about, community building is one of the things that I understood about myself. It was something I really wanted to have a long-term impact on. Having this kind of fund and having it partnered with a great institution like the Community Foundation gave us the ability to feel good about having that long-term impact.”

**MARK KITTRELL**  
Kittrell Family Foundation Fund

# STARTING EARLY ON IMPACTING COMMUNITY



See the  
interview  
video at

[cfneia.org/hannam18](https://cfneia.org/hannam18)

Ross and Megan Hannam believe in the power of strong communities. It is the feeling of support, neighbors helping neighbors, and a desire to make that place better for all people that Ross experienced growing up in St. Ansgar, Iowa, and Megan in Clear Lake, Iowa.

“I have seen the impacts a great community can have on a person’s well-being,” said Megan. “Looking back at my life, from childhood to today, it’s been the people around me who have shaped me the most. Whether it’s family, friends, or organizations, I have been surrounded by incredible people who have invested in me. I want to help others in this way and support our community and planned giving is just one small way to do that.”

Both Ross and Megan moved to Cedar Falls to attend the University of Northern Iowa in 2002 and 2003, respectively. Ross received a degree in Economics and played on the Panther football team, while Megan played on the UNI women’s basketball team and received a B.A. in Interior Design. Upon graduation, both stayed in the Cedar Valley to live and establish careers. Currently, Ross works with Deckworks Cedar Valley, and Megan is the owner of Hannam Design where she provides interior design, construction, and project management services.

“We just really felt like this was going to be our home, and we wanted to build our lives here,” said Ross. “And now, through the Community Foundation, we’ve decided we want to support this community in any way we can.”

As the couple prepared to write their Will, they learned that they could begin to impact their community now and leave a legacy for future generations through a donor advised fund with the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa.

The Hannams started the Ross and Megan Hannam Family Fund with the Community Foundation to accomplish their charitable goals. The couple also decided to become members of CFNEIA’s Legacy Society by making a gift through their Will to further strengthen their fund after they are gone.

“As we researched and learned about leaving a legacy, we thought, ‘Why wait? Why can’t we begin now?’ We wanted to support our current community and past communities,” said Megan. “We love that we can give to this community, but that’s also what we love about the Community Foundation. We can give to St. Ansgar, and we can give to Clear Lake, and we can impact those communities that shaped us when we were little too.”

The couple also understands that as their lives change, their charitable priorities may shift, and their donor advised fund can change with them.

“Just having the flexibility to customize our giving is important. We have certain interests now, but that may be different down the road, or maybe a project comes up that isn’t available right now,” said Ross. “So for us, it gives us a great opportunity to start building our fund and still have flexibility if we want to change our path.”

Megan and Ross are excited to support artistic and leisure service community projects that encourage community collaboration. They are eager to grow their fund and impact and learn more about their community.

“Our hope is that by beginning our fund at a relatively young age, we will be able to grow it over time and be able to not only have an impact during our lives but to have the ability to support the Cedar Valley long after we are gone,” said Ross.





Ross and Megan Hannam chose to start their donor advised fund to give to the projects they want to support now and so they could start building their charitable legacy for the community they love early.

“ We have learned that strong communities only build stronger communities. Our hope is that by beginning our fund at a relatively young age, we will be able to grow it over time to be able to not only have an impact during our lives, but to have the ability to support the Cedar Valley long after we are gone. ”

**ROSS & MEGAN HANNAM**  
Ross and Megan Hannam Family Fund

# A FAMILY PHILOSOPHY OF GREATER GENEROSITY

Five generations of the Thomson family have called Cresco, Iowa home, and all five generations have been part of leading the family business, CUSB Bank, with a philosophy focused on community.

“My family has always been very philanthropic with the community because we felt the bank only does as well as the community does, so it was our responsibility to give back our time, talents, and of our monetary abilities,” said Scott Thomson, President of CUSB Bank. “It’s been an important generational philosophy of our family.”

Scott and his wife Stephanie have lived their life by this philosophy, volunteering for organizations, leading community projects, and treating their bank employees like family. These are all a way of life Scott learned from his dad, Jack, whose example of leadership in business and community inspires the couple. It also prompted a conversation to ensure his legacy would be carried out the way he wanted after he was gone.

“Two years before he died, we sat down and talked about the fact that I was very fortunate to be born into a community-minded banking family,” said Scott. “I just said to him I don’t want your money. I don’t want your stocks or your bonds. Together my dad and I agreed we could put it to work in the communities we serve.”

Scott and Stephanie are now honoring Scott’s father’s wishes. One of the organizations Jack wanted to

support was the Howard-Winneshiek Community Schools Foundation. So, in December of 2018, Scott and Stephanie hand-delivered a check for \$100,000 to the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa offices for the Howard-Winneshiek Community Schools Foundation Fund, held with CFNEIA, in honor and memory of Jack.

“It’s so important for us to have a school in our community. With all the budget cuts to education, there isn’t a budget for the extra experiences. The Schools Foundation is able to help teachers get needed supplies, IT hardware and software, and furniture and furnishings for the classroom that enhance the student learning experience,” said Stephanie.

Scott, who serves as president of the Howard-Winneshiek Schools Foundation, added, “We’re looking at this long-term and trying to build the fund by leading by example and asking people to follow.”

The long-term outlook of the Howard-Winneshiek Community Schools Foundation Fund, the benefit of the Endow Iowa 25% state tax credit to donors of the fund, and the Foundation’s rate of return are some of the reasons Scott values the Community Foundation.

“By investing in the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa long-term, we’re making a bet on our community that we’re going to be here in the next 20, 30, 40, 50 years and we’re going to have a school. We think it’s a good bet, and the money is in a good place,” said Scott.

Scott and Stephanie believe in Cresco and work as business owners, employers, and community members to strengthen the town of around 3,800 residents. It’s a family legacy of treating the community like family.

“That’s what makes our community great, people with the ability or good fortune to give back however they can. It makes us feel good that we are doing our part for the community,” said Scott. “I want to make sure local organizations keep thriving after I’m gone. They are all important pieces of our community and what makes our community so great.”





Scott and Stephanie Thomson delivered a \$100,000 check for the Howard-Winneshiek Community Schools Foundation Fund in memory of Scott's dad, Jack. The couple is carrying out the family legacy of philanthropy.

“ My family has always been very philanthropic with the community because we felt the bank only does as well as the community does, so it was our responsibility to give back our time, talents, and of our monetary abilities. It's been an important generational philosophy of our family. ”

**SCOTT AND STEPHANIE THOMSON**  
Donors, Howard-Winneshiek Community  
Schools Foundation Fund



# A LEGACY OF CARE AND COMPASSION

Stu and Ray Stitchman gave quietly throughout their lives. Now their understated generosity is creating a legacy of care and compassion by supporting students entering the nursing field.

Stu was born March 29, 1922, was raised in Waterloo, and graduated from West High. Ray was born on June 12, 1924, in North Carolina and later moved to Virginia. It was in Virginia while serving in World War II that Stu met Ray.

During Stu's service in the U.S. Navy in World War II, he was severely wounded and hospitalized for 16 weeks. As he healed from his injuries, he experienced first-hand the difference a nurse can make in the stay, and life, of a patient. His hospital stay raised his awareness of the excellent service provided by well-caring nurses, and it is a memory he would carry throughout his life.

The couple eventually settled in Waterloo. Stu owned Heating and Cooling Supply Company in Waterloo, working alongside his wife who served as the business' Executive Vice President.

As the years went by Stu never forgot about the treatment his nurses provided during his recovery, and he became concerned about the increasing shortage of skilled nurses. To help others as he had been helped, Stu and Ray established the Stitchman Education Fund to provide scholarship opportunities for students from



northern Iowa to enroll in nursing programs within the state of Iowa.

Stu passed away in 2003 and Ray in 2017. While the couple created the fund during their lifetime, their plan to give to the fund through their estate after they were gone increased the impact they are having on the lives of students. In 2018, the Stitchman Education Fund awarded 14 scholarships to deserving students.

Even though the Stitchmans gave quietly during their lifetime, their legacy will speak volumes to nursing students who will someday make a difference for patients in need of compassionate care. The Stitchman Education Fund with the Community Foundation is a permanent legacy to Stu and Ray's true giving spirit.



Caitlin Kennedy, a Stitchman Education Fund scholarship recipient, is currently finishing her last semester at the University of Northern Iowa and will continue her education at Allen College in Waterloo.

# SCHOLARSHIP IMPACTS

At age 10, Caitlin Kennedy was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. Instead of letting the diagnosis define her, Caitlin took it and allowed it to inspire her to help others.

"I had some great nurses in the hospital, and that really inspired me," said Caitlin, a freshman at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI). "Then I went to diabetes camp for eight years and I just fell in love with the nurses and how they wanted to improve our lives."

Since that early career decision, Caitlin has put her life on a track to accomplish her goal of becoming a nurse practitioner. She became a Certified Nursing Assistant as a sophomore in high school and is now in her last semester at UNI before moving on to Allen College in Waterloo, Iowa.

Caitlin was the recipient of a Stitchman Education Fund scholarship, and for her, the scholarship is not only about helping alleviate some of the financial burden of college. It helps motivate her to do better and to keep following her dream of giving back in her own way.

"The Stitchman scholarship shows me someone was determined and dedicated, and I think they would want to see me become a nurse and want to see me succeed," said Caitlin. "There's no greater feeling in the world when you know somebody supports you like this. It shows they were so compassionate, and that's how I try to be. That's why I want to become a nurse because I want to be compassionate to people, and I want to give back."

## 2018 SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACT NUMBERS

### Total Amount Awarded



# \$435,328

This is an increase of over \$38,000 from 2017. New scholarship funds are created every year as generous people take an active role in helping lessen the financial burden of education for tomorrow's leaders.

### Number of Scholarships Awarded



# 294

262 individual students were impacted by receiving at least one scholarship award. Over the past five years, the number of scholarships awarded has increased by 55 awards and 77 student recipients.

### Average Award Amount



# \$1,481

Our average scholarship award amount has increased by over \$500 since 2013, creating more meaningful impacts for students. Starting in 2019, a minimum scholarship award of \$500 will begin a process of increased individual scholarship amounts.





# GREATER **PARTNERS**

Featured Grantee Stories



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## STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY **TOGETHER**



A group of young Burmese students study to better navigate the health care system in the United States for themselves, their families, and their community.



See the  
interview  
video at

[cfneia.org/embarc18](http://cfneia.org/embarc18)

**EMBARC**, a Des Moines based nonprofit, started small in Waterloo, but from those beginnings, has grown into a leader in strengthening the refugee community in the Cedar Valley.

“We opened our doors here in Waterloo in 2014, which is actually thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation,” said Mallory Petsche, Waterloo Program Coordinator with EMBARC.

The organization’s mission is to improve the world of possibilities for refugee families through advocacy, education, and community development. Currently, EMBARC in Waterloo is focusing on two main areas: health programming and family development. At the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa’s Celebration of Community, EMBARC received an \$80,000 mission fulfillment grant and a \$10,000 Women’s Fund grant for its parent navigators program.

“On one side we’re working on a community needs assessment. It really focuses on the workforce and barriers to members of the refugee community to getting jobs and really narrowing down how child care affects that,” said Mallory. “On the other side, we’re working on having a walk-in clinic for social services where individuals are able to come in and get their needs met and also gain skills for employment, fill out applications, and learn about different job opportunities.”

According to Mallory, the primary motivation for parents who have overcome many hardships to come to the

“I really want to touch on how important the Community Foundation is to the history of EMBARC. It was that first grant that brought us here, and we really would not be in Waterloo if it wasn’t for that support that launched us. Everywhere we’ve grown and everything we’ve become, it all started with this Foundation believing in EMBARC.”

**MALLORY PETSCHÉ**  
EMBARC

United States is to give their children a better life with opportunities to thrive. The information gathered from these surveys will help provide better opportunities for families and children and create self-sufficiency.

At the heart of all the successes has been two communities coming together to strengthen each other.

“I feel truly honored to work for an organization with this mission and value of empowerment for the refugee community and have seen just all of the wonderful things that this community has brought to Waterloo,” said Mallory. “I’m also thankful that Waterloo is dedicated to becoming more welcoming and to working on expanding their services and to make it so families here are able to get the care they really need.”



# INCLUSION EMPOWERS EVERYONE



Clients and volunteers rehearse the finale of *Shrek the Musical* at North Star Community Services in Waterloo, Iowa.



See the interview video at

[cfnea.org/northstar18](http://cfnea.org/northstar18)

The curtain opens, the stage lights come on, and the actors take their spots. At **North Star Community Services**, inclusion takes many forms, including theater.

“One of the things we do at North Star that I’m incredibly proud of is our theatrical production,” said Valerie Schwager, North Star Executive Director. “It gives clients the opportunity to practice their speaking skills, display emotions and drama in a way that is appropriate within our society, and at the same time, gain confidence because their talents, their singing skills, their dancing skills, their acting skills, all get to shine. Nobody sees it as anything different than an actor or an actress on the stage.”

For nearly 45 years, the organization has served people with disabilities in the Cedar Valley, and over the years has expanded its reach to seven additional counties in an effort to help individuals live fully inclusive lives.

The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa and its affiliates have been helping North Star fulfill its mission by granting over \$665,000 since 2003 to programs and services like its Inclusion Through Theater program, client technology aids, and to support transportation needs in shared rural areas, to name a few. These programs are all pieces to the much larger picture of inclusion in our communities.

“Each person, no matter whether they have a diagnosis of a disability or not, has purpose. They can contribute in a manner that fits for them. As a community, we should

“The support we’ve received from the grants, I don’t even know that I can honestly put it into words that express the impact it makes. To know our community does recognize that our persons need additional supports to be successful in their communities speaks volumes.”

## **VALERIE SCHWAGER**

North Star Community Services

embrace each person’s strengths or talents and their skills,” said Valerie.

North Star also partners with CFNEIA to ensure long-term stability, holding an endowed and a quasi-endowed nonprofit fund with the Foundation.

“Without these, we’d probably be at higher risk, especially now with the Medicaid funding and some of the challenges that come with that. We have this kind of fall back if we need it until we are able to establish alternative funding to sustain ourselves,” said Valerie. “I know the fund is well maintained. I know it’s well protected and reviewed. So to me, it’s incredibly valuable for us and our sustainability for the services we provide.”

## SAVING LIVES CLOSE TO HOME



Kathy Atkinson (left) stands with Meggan Cearley, Radiology Manager, next to the machine that was critical in detecting her breast cancer in the early stages.

Sometimes things happen for a reason, and for Kathy Atkinson, the timing of her start on the board of trustees of **Franklin General Hospital** in Hampton, Iowa may have saved her life.

"I think it's really kind of a God thing for me. Being a religious person, I think what are the chances I am just new on the board and they need test people," said Kathy.

With a history of breast cancer in her family, she decided to volunteer. The hospital's new 3D mammography technology showed early stages of breast cancer, and a few weeks later, Kathy had a lumpectomy and radiation treatments. She credits a combination of the new technology and a persistent radiologist and medical team for identifying the disease before it spread and ultimately for the positive outcome for her and her family.

Since August 2018, Franklin General Hospital has conducted over 635 mammograms using the new 3D mammography machine.

"The three-dimensional mammography is catching cancer earlier because it is detecting those smaller cancers that are hiding under the dense tissue," said Meggan Cearley, Radiology Manager at Franklin General Hospital.

The Franklin County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, understands the importance of having this technology for its local rural communities and granted \$10,000 to the purchase of this expensive piece of equipment.

"Receiving grants helps keep us in the loop with what the bigger hospitals are doing and builds trust with the patients. Knowing we can provide the service to a rural community and that we have the best quality here for them is absolutely fantastic."

**MEGGAN CEARLEY**  
Franklin General Hospital

It is an example of how rural communities are making sure their residents can receive high-quality healthcare in a setting near them with people they know and trust.

"I love being able to take the time to sit and talk to our patients and find out more about them and their families, and I think it's important that we can provide these services to keep our patients here," said Meggan. "They do feel comfortable coming to see us and know that we can provide top quality service to them, but yet still feel like we're family and we'll take the best care of them."

"For me, and I think for many people, to have healthcare so readily accessible is just a huge benefit," said Kathy. "It's a peace of mind. The access for me, it's just great, and I wouldn't want it to not be there, that's for sure."



# INNOVATION INCREASES STUDENT SUCCESS



Middle school students in Waterloo show off their robotics project at the Career and Technical Education Center, the only stand alone learning facility of its kind in Iowa.



See the interview video at

[cfnea.org/wlooschools18](http://cfnea.org/wlooschools18)

For a school district like the **Waterloo Community Schools**, innovation is an important part of setting students up to succeed not only in the classroom but for life after high school.

With over 10,000 students, the district is one of the largest in the state. It is also unique in the amount of diversity in its student population, boasting a minority rate of approximately 45 percent. It also has a free and reduced lunch rate of between 65 and 70 percent.

"I think people don't realize the challenges that exist in Waterloo, but also, because of those challenges, there are unique opportunities that exist," said Emily Hanson, Executive Director of the Waterloo Schools Foundation.

To turn challenges into opportunities takes creative approaches that financially are often above and beyond the funding the district receives from the government. That's the role of the Waterloo Schools Foundation, to work with community partners to ensure funds are available for student success.

Waterloo is a leader in the state in innovative programs, including the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program which received a \$10,000 grant from CFNEIA. The program impacts students in all four middle schools and gives hands-on opportunities to try out career paths.

"I think the Career and Technical Education, in particular, is really important for the Cedar Valley because it directly connects to our economic development," said Emily.

**"The Waterloo Schools Foundation is just incredibly thankful and grateful for the Community Foundation support and also all of their donors, who time and time again give back to the community and understand the importance of public education. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without you."**

## **EMILY HANSON**

**Waterloo Schools Foundation**

"Career and Technical Education is a way to fulfill the needs that we have in our community, and it's also a way to really make sure we're giving students the tools they need to graduate and to be successful."

Since 1996, Waterloo Community Schools and the Waterloo Schools Foundation have received nearly \$500,000 in CFNEIA grants to support student success.

"If we hadn't received the grant from the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, we wouldn't have been able to have this project in the schools. It was something on the district's radar, but because state tax funding is limited, they wouldn't have been able to do it for at least five to 10 years," said Emily. "Having the support from CFNEIA really fast tracked the project so it could be implemented in our schools and impact kids today."

## CULTIVATING ART IN RURAL COMMUNITIES



A class convenes at Upper Iowa University's art studio in Fayette, Iowa. The Art for a Lifetime class consists of community members and Upper Iowa University art students.

Creating art is something very human, and it happens across the world in places like Paris, Rome, New York City, and Fayette, Iowa. Thanks to a new program at **Upper Iowa University**, art is becoming a bigger part of life in Fayette County.

Art for a Lifetime was developed by Elissa Wenthe, Associate Professor of Art at Upper Iowa University, to bring community access to life-enhancing arts education for residents of Fayette County. The program is supported by a grant from the Fayette County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa.

"I firmly believe that anyone can engage in the arts, and I find that individuals in northeast Iowa, they thrive, they want, they love the arts," said Elissa. "They love painting, they love drawing, they love ceramics, they love doing all this and want the opportunities to express themselves."

Art for a Lifetime is exactly what the name implies with programs spanning a wide spectrum of ages focusing on a high school arts camp, adult workshops on the Upper Iowa Campus, and bringing art to residents of senior living facilities. All programs bring college students together with community members.

"We have these young 18, 19, 20-year-old traditional college students working right alongside someone maybe in their 50s, 60s, or 70s making artwork. When you work in the studio, there's a lot of dialogue that happens and conversations and life stories," said Elissa. "It's really

"What the grant did is validate my idea for this, and it validated that someone else thought this was an important endeavor. When I got the Community Foundation grant, I was so excited and all of a sudden it validated that, yes, we're going to make this happen and we can do not just one part, but all three parts."

**ELISSA WENTHE**  
Upper Iowa University

fostering relationships, which is what communities do, and it's what art communities do, and that's what I'm finding great joy in."

The grant from the Fayette County Community Foundation is helping with the promotion of the programs, materials for art activities, and scholarships for low-income high school students to attend the art camp.

"I'm excited to have these high schoolers, and they're excited for a solid week of valid art making," said Elissa. "We have students already signed up that would never be able to afford to go to a camp like this."

According to Elissa, this program is fulfilling a need and curiosity for residents in her northeast Iowa communities. "There is a hunger for cultural enrichment and also for a way to express themselves."



## PARTNERING FOR **CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS**



Children gather around staff member, Grace Scott, at the Hawkeye Child Development Center. The center is a partnership between EPI and Hawkeye Community College.



See the interview video at

[cfneia.org/epi18](https://cfneia.org/epi18)

**Exceptional Persons, Inc.** has impacted lives for over 60 years. The organization is an important community partner in serving people with disabilities. However, EPI's children and family service department is growing, primarily working with child care providers to improve the quality of care, and now running a child care center of its own.

The Hawkeye Child Development Center is a collaboration between EPI and Hawkeye Community College. EPI staffs and manages the center which is located in the Hawkeye Community College Van G. Miller Adult Learning Center in downtown Waterloo. The partnership is an effort to provide child care for EPI staff, Hawkeye Community College staff and students, and community members. It is also part of a larger effort to address the child care crisis in Black Hawk County.

"In the last five years, it's been determined that Iowa is in a true child care crisis. We've seen a huge group of people leave the field," said Mary Janssen, Children and Family Services Director at EPI. "We know that this crisis is affecting so many parts of our community. It's obviously affecting our workforce because employers need employees that can come to work. We also know that it's just generally a hardship for families if they're expecting children or are working daily. They need dependable quality child care."

In 2018, the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa announced a \$10,000 mission fulfillment grant to support this new Cedar Valley child care option.

"I think that receiving the startup dollars from the Community Foundation was really showing their true investment in this project. The board and the staff know the true crisis so they really wanted to invest in this project, but also that they believed our two agencies were going to make this project work"

**MARY JANSSEN**

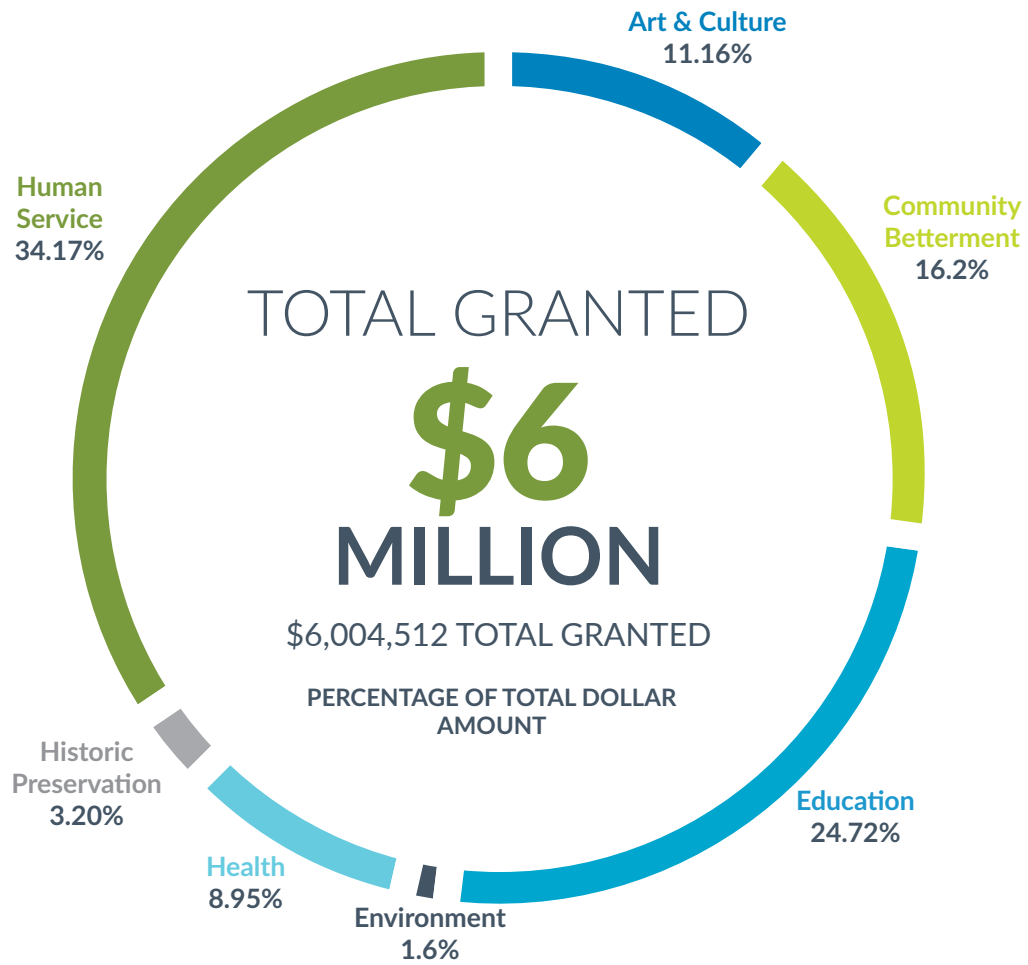
Exceptional Persons, Inc.

"The funding actually provided our center with training dollars to get our staff where they needed to be for day one, but also furnishings for the kids," said Mary. "We purchased cribs, first aid kits, and equipment for the classrooms so when those kids walked in, those rooms were ready."

The Community Foundation and EPI are on the front lines of addressing the child care crisis as lead members of the Black Hawk County Child Care Coalition.

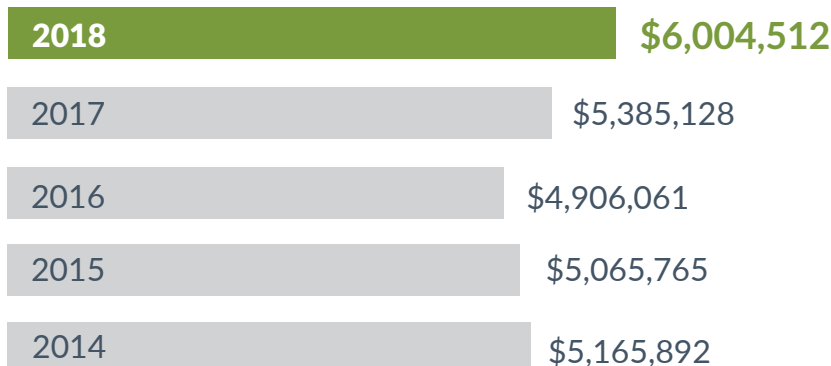
"The coalition has been a dream come true," said Mary. "EPI has always tried to elevate the child care conversation, and once the coalition really formed, and once President & CEO, Kaye Englin, and the Community Foundation became involved, I feel like our partnerships just elevated it even more."

# 2018 GRANTMAKING IMPACT



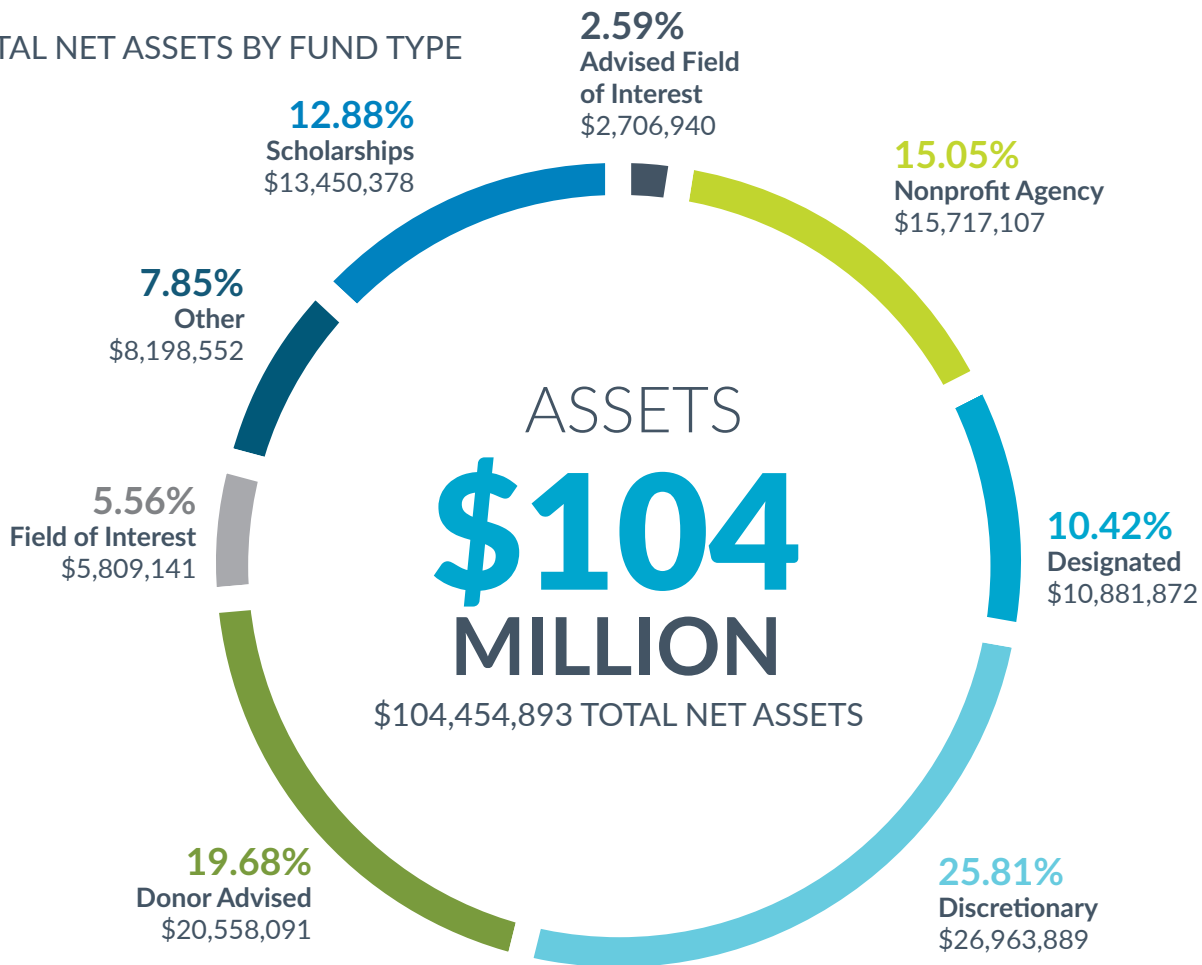
**1,652**  
**TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTS AWARDED**

## TOTAL GRANTMAKING BY YEAR



**OVER**  
**\$90 MILLION**  
 GRANTED SINCE 1956

TOTAL NET ASSETS BY FUND TYPE



Corporate Advised Funds make up less than 1% (0.16%) of total assets

TOTAL NET ASSETS BY YEAR

2018	\$104,454,893
2017	\$109,611,758
2016	\$95,407,827
2015	\$88,116,573
2014	\$84,990,646



Endowed	\$93,633,215	89.64%
Artwork/Insurance Cash Values	\$5,729,488	5.49%
Expendable	\$4,282,721	4.1%
Other Non-Cash Assets	\$1,940,477	1.86%
Operations	\$427,509	0.41%
Total Assets	\$106,013,410	101.49%
Total Liabilities	(\$1,558,517)	-1.49%
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$104,454,893</b>	<b>100%</b>

here for good

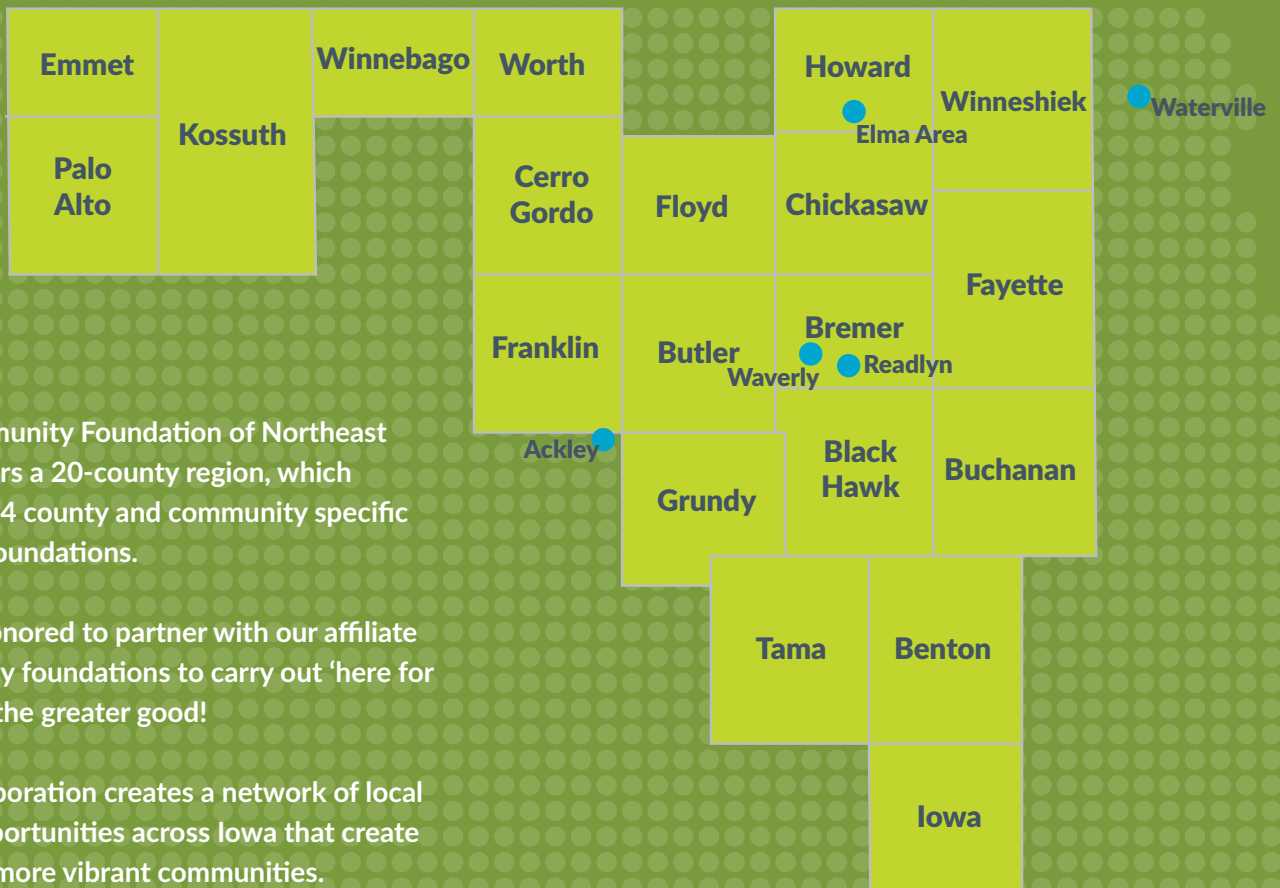
Due to your inspired generosity and CFNEIA's investment performance, financial growth remains steady, increasing the impact we can make across our region. Thank you!

Visit [cfneia.org](http://cfneia.org) to view a copy of CFNEIA's 990 Return, or call Stacy Robinson, Vice President of Finance and Operations at 319-243-1360 for audited financial statements, investment information, or our IRS exemption letter.

# GREATER REGION

3

Affiliate Partners Create a Vibrant  
Region of Thriving People



The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa covers a 20-county region, which includes 24 county and community specific affiliate foundations.

We are honored to partner with our affiliate community foundations to carry out 'here for good' for the greater good!

This collaboration creates a network of local giving opportunities across Iowa that create stronger, more vibrant communities.

## OPPORTUNITIES HERE, WHERE YOU LIVE.

Learn more about your local community foundation at [cfneia.org/affiliates](https://cfneia.org/affiliates).

# AFFILIATE IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

As of December 31, 2018

Affiliate Grant Dollars Awarded

**\$2,967,721**

Affiliate Total Assets

**\$33,165,214**

Gifts to Affiliate Funds

**\$3,877,962**

## **Ackley Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$274,711

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$5,824

## **Benton County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$769,618

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$131,662

## **Bremer County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$2,204,437

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$312,203

## **Buchanan County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$2,929,130

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$241,859

## **Butler County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$725,004

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$119,353

## **Cerro Gordo County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$2,621,346

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$162,866

## **Chickasaw County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$926,658

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$101,339

## **Elma Area Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$407,145

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$11,066

## **Emmet County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$713,545

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$100,000

## **Fayette County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$1,163,157

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$193,950

## **Floyd County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$3,808,937

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$386,071

## **Franklin County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$750,379

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$119,264

## **Grundy County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$1,120,428

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$132,217

## **Howard County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$1,081,621

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$118,168

## **Iowa County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$822,144

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$121,734

## **Kossuth County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$3,669,219

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$194,062

## **Palo Alto County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$259,336

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$1,953

## **Readlyn Community Fund**

Total assets: \$302,973

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$11,800

## **Tama County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$1,810,736

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$151,418

## **Waterville Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$52,063

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$2,001

## **Waverly Community Fund**

Total assets: \$969,708

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$20,387

## **Winnebago County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$675,797

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$109,557

## **Winneshek County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$4,086,543

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$189,882

## **Worth County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$1,021,079

Total grants awarded in 2018: \$29,085



# GREATER LEADERSHIP

The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa is widely known as a funder for nonprofits and their projects. However, we are more than a funder, we are a leader in our communities. We are a catalyst for change through creative partnerships, convening people to address important issues, and we are a leader in making our region a vibrant place where all people can thrive. CFNEIA is a hub for philanthropists, nonprofits, and community leaders to come together to collaborate and explore ways to work together. In 2018, CFNEIA identified four key community initiatives and is taking a lead role in finding solutions and improving the quality of life in our region.

## COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

### CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS

The need for child care in Black Hawk County is an issue impacting families, caregivers, and businesses. CFNEIA seeks to increase sustainable child care opportunities that focus on the child, give peace of mind to families, and help create a stronger economy.

**LEAD ROLE:** CFNEIA President & CEO, Kaye Englin, serves as co-chair of the Black Hawk County Child Care Coalition.



Members of the Black Hawk County Child Care Coalition, EPI, and Hawkeye Community College gather with CFNEIA President & CEO, Kaye Englin, to accept a \$10,000 mission fulfillment grant for the Hawkeye Child Development Center.

## 9,000

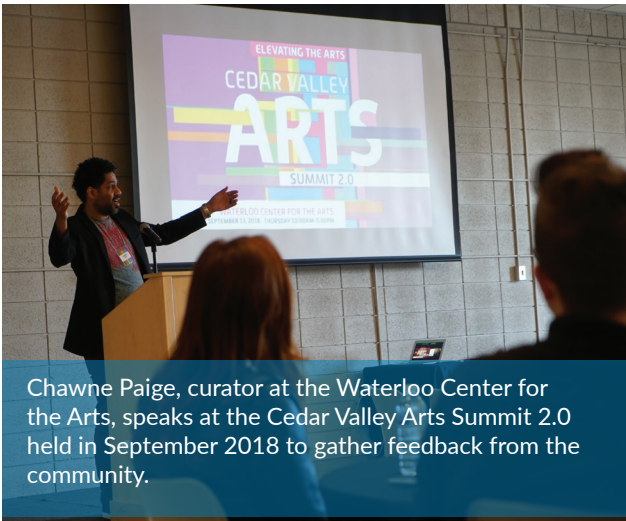
Approximate number of children in Black Hawk County who are not having their child care needs met.

## ↓ 40%

Percentage of Registered Child Care Providers in Black Hawk County lost over the past five years according to the Iowa Women's Foundation.

## 26%

of employers surveyed in the Cedar Valley Regional Partnership's Industry Insights on Talent for the Cedar Valley Region of Iowa identified child care as a barrier to employee retention.



Chawne Paige, curator at the Waterloo Center for the Arts, speaks at the Cedar Valley Arts Summit 2.0 held in September 2018 to gather feedback from the community.

## ART & CULTURE ELEVATION

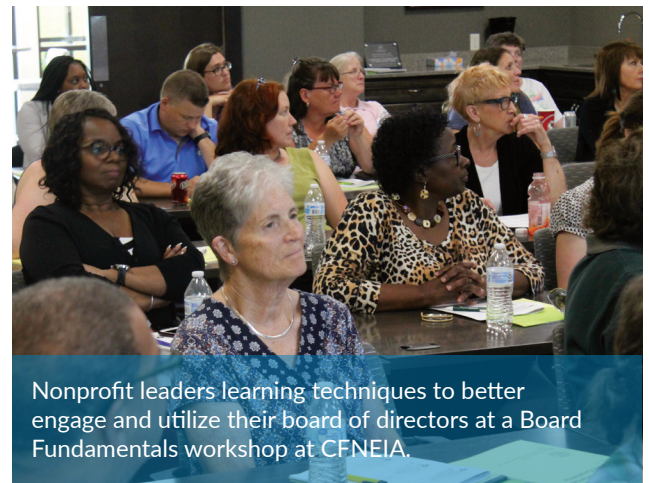
Art is an increasingly important part of our culture. It provides an outlet for expression, education, entertainment, and economic benefits. CFNEIA is a leader in the movement to raise awareness to what is happening in the current arts community in Black Hawk County and enriching and enhancing the arts for all residents.

**LEAD ROLE:** CFNEIA Program Director, Tom Wickersham, serves on the committee for the Cedar Valley Arts, a collaborative group established to bring awareness to the art community in the Cedar Valley. CFNEIA also awarded a \$25,000 mission fulfillment grant to strengthen their work of making communities better places through the arts.

## NONPROFIT CAPACITY BUILDING

CFNEIA is already a leader in building the capacity of nonprofits. We do this through grantmaking and sharing our expertise with our nonprofit partners. The Community Foundation sees the need to do even more to build a strong community of nonprofits, which in turn leads to a stronger Black Hawk County. Nonprofits are critical to nearly every aspect of our communities and creating a better quality of life for their residents.

**LEAD ROLE:** CFNEIA is a lead partner and organizer in the Cedar Valley Nonprofit Association and provides trainings to nonprofits through its Board Fundamentals program.



Nonprofit leaders learning techniques to better engage and utilize their board of directors at a Board Fundamentals workshop at CFNEIA.

## IMPROVING WORKFORCE READINESS

Workforce availability has emerged as a priority for Cedar Valley businesses. The expectation is for an increase in jobs, but the workforce necessary to carry out the function of positions is not available. The Community Foundation is currently working with other community leaders to play an important role in creating a more qualified, prepared workforce for the future of Black Hawk County.

**LEAD ROLE:** CFNEIA has invested in bringing Urban Alliance, a Kalamazoo County, Michigan organization, to the Cedar Valley for community conversations. The organization has successfully established a program providing eligible unemployed and underemployed people with job and life skill training to secure and maintain new employment.

## LEADING PARTNERS

CFNEIA is a partner in many initiatives impacting our region. The Foundation is especially proud to take a lead role in the Black Hawk County Child Care Coalition, Cedar Valley Nonprofit Association, and Metro Funders.





# EMPOWERING WOMEN



Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa



Members of Women for Good learn about community needs through quarterly events, including presentations by nonprofit leaders.

Women for Good educates, engages, and inspires giving to improve the lives of women and girls in Black Hawk County. Established in 1999 at the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, Women for Good (formerly Women in Philanthropy) grants to nonprofit organizations changing the lives of women and girls every year through the Women's Fund endowment.

Membership offers an opportunity to engage with other community-minded women at quarterly programs featuring guest speakers from organizations serving women and girls, the annual

Women's Fund grant selection process, and occasional volunteer opportunities or nonprofit tours and site visits. Through these interactions, Women for Good members become informed and inspired to take action.



## 2018 WOMEN FOR GOOD

**90+**  
MEMBERS

**\$20,000**  
IN GRANTS

GRANTEE ORGANIZATIONS

**House of Hope  
EMBARC**



"Because if we're not going to do it, who else is? You have to support your own. To have strong women, strong girls, actually just makes your community that much stronger. The women in this group, they just raise the bar on what you can personally do and the impact you can personally make."

**NINA HAMER**

Women for Good Member



Watch the  
Women for  
Good video

[cfneia.org/womenforgood18](http://cfneia.org/womenforgood18)



# YOUTH LEADERS



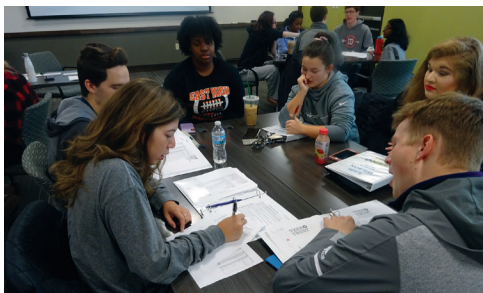
Members of Teen Trust deliver a grant check to Friends of the Family.

Teen Trust was created with a vision to prepare youth to be “trustees of their community.” At the heart of becoming a trustee means finding a way for youth to learn about and actively practice philanthropy. The Teen Trust mission is: *To provide youth an opportunity to develop philanthropic behaviors, leadership and stewardship skills, and volunteer experiences.*

The Teen Trust program is a model for youth philanthropy. Each year, a diverse group of students from area high schools allocates at least \$10,000 to 501(c)(3) nonprofit agencies in Black Hawk County. Using a grant application

system, site visits, and training seminars, the Trustees work as a team to decide which organizations to assist through grant support or volunteerism.

The program began in 1994 and is facilitated each year by a local college student.



## 2018-2019 TEEN TRUST

**24**  
MEMBERS

**\$11,857**  
IN GRANTS

## GRANTEE ORGANIZATIONS

- Waterloo Center for the Arts
- Friends of the Family
- Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls
- Operation Threshold
- Young Parents Together
- CommUnity
- The Job Foundation



“Teen Trust has been incredibly important in my life. It has taught me leadership skills, the power of generosity, and how we are better together. Our communities are stronger when youth are part of the conversation and this program provides life lessons its participants will use to make their world a better place.”

### BEKAH BASS

Teen Trust Student Director and Former Trustee

# OUR TEAM



Kaye Englin  
President & CEO



Stacy Robinson  
Vice President of Finance &  
Administration



Jake Byers  
Director of Marketing &  
Communications



Terry Gaumer  
Affiliate Development Director



Tom Wickersham  
Program Director



Kathy Reiter  
Manager of Donor Relations



Nicole Stuart  
Finance Manager



Dotti Thompson  
Program Manager



Byron Clark  
Finance & Program Assistant



Gretchen Woodrick  
Donor Relations Assistant

## CONTACT US

You can contact any of our staff at 319-287-9106 or find emails and direct phone numbers at [cfnea.org/staff](http://cfnea.org/staff).

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors is made up of community leaders from across our region with a passion for making communities better places for all people. They each bring an important skill set and perspective, and together they provide the Foundation with guidance in unleashing the power of philanthropy.

**Stacie Brass, Chair**  
*The Accel Group*

**Jeff Hassman, Past Chair**  
*CVP Advisors*

**Doug Lindaman**  
*Ackley Community Foundation*

**Ellen Young**  
*Community Volunteer*

**Scott Sernett, Vice Chair**  
*Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company*

**Ken Cutts**  
*Community Volunteer*

**Mark Miller**  
*Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency*

**ReShonda Young**  
*Ameriprise Financial Services*

**Helen Schumacher, Secretary**  
*Schumacher Elevator Company*

**Deb Giarusso**  
*University of Northern Iowa*

**Pat Monat**  
*Monat Wealth Management*

**Kaye Englin**  
*President and CEO*

**Henry Bevel III, Treasurer**  
*Swisher & Cohrt*

**Todd Henningsen**  
*BerganKDV*

**Jeff Seamans**  
*Johnson & Johnson*

## VOLUNTEER DRIVEN

The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa relies on our volunteers to create local impacts across our region. We would be unable to carry out our important mission of enriching communities without their tireless efforts.

**THANK YOU** to the over 325 men and women who serve on our board and committees. Your leadership, time, talent, expertise, and community-minded determination allow us to work for the greater good across our region.

## GENEROSITY THAT LIVES ON

Making a gift to the Community Foundation through your estate plans reflects your ongoing commitment to your community and the causes you care about most. It enables you to make a difference for others forever. You may become a member of the Legacy Society simply by letting us know you have designated a gift to an existing fund or to create a new fund, even if you choose to remain anonymous in public listings. CFNEIA staff can work with you and your professional advisor jointly to help determine what planned giving option is best for you and your family. Go to [cfneialegacy.org](http://cfneialegacy.org) to learn the many ways you can leave a legacy for your community.

## ENDOW IOWA 25% STATE TAX CREDIT

When you give to or create an endowed fund with the Community Foundation, you are eligible to receive a 25% Iowa state tax credit through Endow Iowa in addition to the normal federal deduction for a charitable gift.

For example, after the state tax credit and federal deductions, a \$10,000 gift will cost a couple in the 32% tax bracket just \$4,300. Go to [cfneia.org/endowiowa](http://cfneia.org/endowiowa) for more information.

## FARMLAND FOR GOOD

### PRESERVE THE LAND YOU LOVE AND YOUR LEGACY.

Our new Farmland for Good program gives generous landowners the opportunity to support the community and causes that matter most to them.

Go to [cfneia.org/farmland4good](http://cfneia.org/farmland4good) for more information.

### HOW IT WORKS

The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa Farmland for Good program provides a way to:

- Keep land locally owned.
- Keep land functional as farmland.
- Provide a lasting charitable legacy to the community.
- Depending on the type of gift, you may enjoy tax savings and lifetime payments.



3117 Greenhill Circle  
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

NON-PROFIT  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
WATERLOO, IA  
PERMIT #707

*Return service requested*

# GREATER GOOD

2018 IMPACT REPORT

VIEW OUR IMPACT REPORT VIDEO STORIES AT  
[CFNEIA.ORG/IMPACTREPORT18](http://CFNEIA.ORG/IMPACTREPORT18)



Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™

[cfneia.org](http://cfneia.org) 319-287-9106  

The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa has been confirmed in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations for services and operations that have been established by the Council on Foundations to guide sound policies, accountable practices, and ethical and operational integrity that strengthen the effectiveness of community philanthropy.