our mission

To inspire people and connect resources to enrich our communities.

Taking Action for Good

Over the past 60 years, the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa has been built by doers like you. Our success: past, present and future, is only because of people who take action to change their communities. Your values, beliefs, passions and dedication are the driving forces behind the impact we are able to make today, and the good we will be able to carry out tomorrow. Thank you for all you do.

It is our honor to be a catalyst for “here for good” across our region. Through thoughtful grantmaking and a commitment to endowment building, we are investing in our communities. This is how we carry out the transformative power of our vision for a vibrant region of thriving people.

The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa is an incredible partnership assembled of generous families and individuals, strong nonprofits, community leaders and connectors, and tireless volunteers who strengthen where we live every day. Together we inspire, create and implement change that leaves a legacy of good.

Thank you for your efforts to bring our mission to life. You are the givers and doers at the heart of enriching our communities.

Sincerely,

Kaye M. Englin
President and CEO

Jay Bullerman
2016 Board Chair
Many things have changed in Waterloo over the past 100 years, but one key community asset continues to reflect its vibrant culture. The Waterloo Community Playhouse and Black Hawk Children's Theater remains the mainstay of live, local theater. For its 100th season, the nonprofit is producing six shows and four children’s shows. These 10 performances will showcase the region’s best artistic talents while featuring some of the best theater from the last 100 years.

“We want the audience to walk away with more than they came in with. It can be lightening their load by an evening’s entertainment. It can be highlighting a piece of history they hadn’t thought about. It can be resolving an emotional situation in a play that brings some comfort to their life,” said Norman Ussery, Executive Director.

The audience is just part of the focus. The local volunteers on and off stage embark on a journey that instills courage and community.

“We’re providing the opportunity to have a creative experience together. We bring people from different walks of life together to interact and that’s a very important part of what makes community theater.”

This type of live entertainment is more than a service, it reflects a community.

“We serve the community, both the people who are coming in as participants and those who are coming in as the audience. We are their voice, we are a reflection of them, of their values and interests.”
- Norman Ussery

For 100 years, audiences have liked what they see in the mirror of Iowa’s oldest community theater.
To an outsider, a produce stand is simply another food option, but for Kamyar Enshayan and his team, it is a lesson in community development.

“That’s what community development is all about. To empower ourselves to do more. Yes, it’s vegetables, but it’s also growing a sense of ourselves and where we live to strengthen our community,” said Kamyar, Director of Energy and Environmental Education at the University of Northern Iowa.

In 2015, a group of UNI sophomores came to Kamyar with an idea for a solution to a long-time problem of low-income Waterloo neighborhoods – access to fresh food. Greens to Go was born.

“Primarily, it’s a health need. If you happen to be born into a low-income family, you’re likely in a neighborhood where there’s not many grocery stores, no farmers market is located in your neighborhood, and what you’re stuck with is gas stations.”

Greens to Go partners with local farmers, trading labor for produce to keep costs low. Because of the convenience and low cost of the produce, the program was able to sell the over 6,000 pounds harvested to over two hundred families in the program’s first year.

The group is hoping to reach even more families during their second year with the help of refrigerated trucks from the Northeast Iowa Food Bank and a coupon system in place with Covenant Clinics.

Greens to Go is a creative solution to accessible, healthy food for those who may not otherwise have access. By partnering locally and employing the help of people who live in the very community they are targeting, Greens to Go has been able to tackle food insecurity while empowering members of the community to become part of the solution.

A selection of local produce at the Greens to Go stand.

Healthy Community Development

A Voice for a Brighter Future

Before Al Exito, Tina was wearing two masks: one at school and one at home. She did not feel completely herself in either location – her voice became lost in the tension of her two cultures.

Al Exito, a nonprofit serving middle school Latinos and Latinas, is working to eliminate the necessity of role-play among Latino youth in Iowa by giving them and their families the knowledge they need to have a voice.

“They want to feel valid and a part of the community. We try to help do that,” said Executive Director Dawn Martinez Oropeza.

In Tama County, Al Exito is helping Latina girls pursue higher education and become key leaders in their community. To do this, they bring in leading Latina women from Grinnell College and other partners as mentors to represent a future the students may have never imagined.

Most of them have never been on a college campus, and have never known anybody with a college degree. We are being more intentional about making the next generation of leaders, so the kids that are growing up in the community can participate actively, and hopefully mentor younger kids.”

Al Exito’s goal is to continue increasing graduation rates and higher academic achievements by overcoming cultural barriers. This includes a focus on turning things that are normally looked at as downfalls into advantages.

“We are looking at challenges that prevent our students from reaching these marks, and we are thinking about the hope factor. How much hope are we giving these students?”

Al Exito’s reach extends far past students and their families. By empowering youth with the skills they need and the ability to understand their strengths, they are creating future leaders for a stronger Iowa.
In 2008, flooding devastated Waterloo, Cedar Falls and many other communities along the Cedar River Basin, and the threat remains. Water quality in Iowa is an issue that will impact future generations. What is one solution to both problems? Oxbow wetlands can make a significant difference according to The Nature Conservancy in Iowa. These former bends that have been naturally cut off from the main river or stream are vital, but disappearing, pieces of the Iowa landscape.

“We’ve lost about 90% of our wetlands, so we are looking to get some of those back,” said Justin Ray, Director of Philanthropy.

The Nature Conservancy’s focus on the Cedar River Basin has landed its restoration efforts just north of Waterloo near the Shell Rock River in Bremer County.

“The Cedar River watershed area is a huge priority for our organization at a national and world level given the impact it has on water quality and flooding.” said Nick Longbucco, Cedar Basin Freshwater Manager.

The impact of the restoration of the two oxbows made possible by the grant is significant and tangible. During a flood, these oxbow wetlands can store 13.75 million gallons of water that would otherwise run over the land. The wetlands absorbs nutrients, especially nitrogen, a key concern in water quality. It also creates wildlife habitat and recreational benefits for residents.

“I think one focus is going to be around Black Hawk County. It could be a catalyst to do more,” said Justin.

Doing more means solving critical environmental issues, not just for the Cedar Valley, but well beyond the borders of counties.
Intelligently applied effort over time is how Jack Geist describes his success in life. Born and raised in Waterloo, the self-made businessman, husband, father and philanthropist has been giving back with Shirley, his wife of 66 years, by his side.

Recently named one of the Cedar Valley’s Eight over 80 by the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier, Jack has never forgotten his humble beginnings as a child of the depression era, the poor conditions of others’ lives he saw through his work as an insurance salesman or the generosity of one person who supported his experience at the YMCA camp that changed his view.

“I never knew who it was, but it benefited me. Our philosophy is we have more than we need, so why not put it to good use,” said Jack.

Jack and Shirley have applied this philosophy generously through the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa and are happy with their decision.

“The Community Foundation was growing fast and continues to. It’s all over the state with good management and it’s doing what they hoped to do. I’m pleased to be a part of it.”

The couple has designated support to five local and regional nonprofits through their funds, and have established an agency fund for Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity through a Charitable IRA Rollover. All are organizations providing services to their “home” - Waterloo. It is the place where it started and where they will live out their lives.

Helping at Home

"This is our home base. We have all the reasons in the world to stay here. I’m satisfied to be here and do what I can do to be the right person in helping the community."

- Jack Geist

"This is our home base. We have all the reasons in the world to stay here. I’m satisfied to be here and do what I can do to be the right person in helping the community.”

Jack Geist

Shirley Geist
Doug Lindaman’s passion for Ackley resides close to the surface. He is quick to praise the community he grew up in and talk about the benefits of the Ackley Community Foundation, of which he is serving as chair. His wife, Rosie, readily admits she is a behind the scenes person, but after a career in the local school district, she is his equal in her desire to give back.

The couple started the Doug and Rosie Lindaman Family Fund because of their love for Ackley and their belief that the Ackley Community Foundation will make a significant impact.

“There are challenges in every small community. Rural Iowa is changing all the time and there are lots of great nonprofits, mostly volunteer driven. To help them succeed would be a legacy we’d be happy to leave.”

The couple sees the amazing benefits as well as the struggles of Ackley and other rural communities, and the fund is something they see as part of a long-term solution and benefit.

“It’s just an opportunity to give back to the community to make it better, not just for us, but for generations to come.”
- Doug Lindaman

The pair prefers to downplay their legacy, opting to talk about the legacy of good left to them by their parents, specifically their mothers, who instilled using education as a way to not only help yourself, but others. It is the primary reason why they started the fund for the community they love.

“It’s just an opportunity to give back to the community to make it better, not just for us, but for generations to come. You just like to leave the community in a better place than when you came.”
- Doug Lindaman

When Norman Clare Sloan passed away, his three children benefited from his estate. For son Robert, a recent retiree from John Deere, the windfall was something he saw to be used for a bigger purpose. After a talk with his brother, Dick, and sister, Carol Citty, they agreed to establish four endowment funds; two with the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa and two with the Buchanan County Community Foundation.

Robert and his siblings reviewed their father’s charitable giving to see how they could keep the good going that their father and mother, Gladys, had started.

“We tried to concentrate on where he’d been giving his charitable donations in order to try to aim what we were doing to some of the same things, and of course, the ones we agreed with. It was more in the vein of trying to continue on the kinds of giving that undoubtedly he and mom had both believed in,” said Robert.

“My thinking was, instead of us trying to write a check every year, we’ll put enough money into the endowment and make it permanent.”

Three of the four funds honor the name of Norman Clare and Gladys Sloan, with the fourth honoring the sibling’s grandparents, Mildred and Everett Sanders.

“It was dad’s money in the first place, so let’s put it to something that will continue on doing some of the good that he and mom started.”
- Robert Sloan

That giving included a strong emphasis on education and community betterment through their church. Turning these passions into endowment funds made sense to the family because of the ease and the ability to recognize their parents’ names through the scholarship and designated funds.

“For generations to come. You just like to leave the community in a better place than when you came.”
- Doug Lindaman

“Generosity that Lives On”

Community Pride in Action

It was dad’s money in the first place, so let’s put it to something that will continue on doing some of the good that he and mom started.”
- Robert Sloan
Barb Grant, Executive Director of Operation Threshold, was in Washington, D.C. at a meeting when she got an unexpected, but welcome email. It was to inform her that an agency endowment fund to support the work of Operation Threshold had been established with the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa.

The $300,000 gift from the estate of Don and Edna Mae Adams of Independence was just part of the Adams’ $1.5 million gift to establish four endowment funds to do good in the community and region they had called home.

“It was an extremely pleasant surprise, and we’re honored to have received it. That someone we do not know thought enough of us and the work we do to invest in our future and on behalf of the people in our communities is incredible,” said Barb.

The work Operation Threshold does is incredibly important to its primary service area of Black Hawk, Buchanan and Grundy Counties. The agency works with low-income individuals and families to help meet their basic needs and to become self-sufficient. It also identifies causes of poverty and advocates for changing circumstances that place people in poverty and keeps them there.

The Operation Threshold Endowment Fund will provide additional support and assurance to the human service agency. According to Barb, the fund will ensure sustainability and creates some flexibility for its board to fund things it couldn’t fund before, or to try new community initiatives.

“We will forever be able to fight poverty on the individual and family level, on the community level and on the policy level, which is an incredible legacy to leave and an incredible investment to make.”

- Barb Grant

Fighting Poverty Forever

Edna Mae and Don Adams Scholarship Fund
Steve and Stacie Brass Family Fund
Msgr. Walter Brunken Charitable Fund
Buccaneer Foundation Inc. Endowment Fund
Camp Algona POW Museum Endowment Fund
Gary and Joyce Cawelti Scholarship Fund
Cedar Valley Makers Fund
Central Gardens of North Iowa
Quasi-Endowment Fund
Dike Fire Department Endowment Fund
Dike Fire Department Quasi-Endowment Fund
Elma Depot Museum Endowment Fund
Wallace and Helen Fair Memorial Fund
South Winneshiek Fine Arts Boosters
Scholarship Fund
First Lutheran Church Endowment Fund
Floyd County Fair Society Quasi-Endowment Fund
Friends of Decorah Public Library
Quasi-Endowment Fund
Friends of Fontana Park Endowment Fund
Chris and Lisa Garden Family Fund
Getting Ahead in the Cedar Valley Fund
Heart to Home Hospice Quasi-Endowment Fund
Iowa State Bar Foundation Fund
Jaspers Family Foundation Fund
Lake and Park Holding Corporation Fund
Doug and Rosie Lindaman Family Fund
Hilbert “Butch” and Mary Ann Mixdorf Family Fund

Visit cfneia.org to learn more about these funds, get information on how to start your own fund or to make a gift to any existing fund.

Receive a 25% State Tax Credit on Your Giving

When you make a gift to an endowed fund benefiting an Iowa charitable cause held with the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa or any of our affiliates, it makes a positive difference and has significant benefits to you. Thanks to Iowa’s generous Endow Iowa state tax credit, taxpayers can receive a 25% Iowa tax credit in addition to normal federal charitable income tax deductions for certain charitable gifts.

For example, after the state tax credit and federal deductions, a $10,000 gift will cost a couple in the 35% tax bracket just $4,000.

Go to cfneia.org/endowiowa for more information.
The Legacy Society is made up of caring individuals and families who have made formal plans to leave a generous gift in the form of a will, trust, designation or other planned gift that will have meaning and impact for years to come.

Through events and recognition, involvement in the Legacy Society gives an individual or family the opportunity to enjoy the company of others who care about leaving a legacy to strengthen their community.

“We are proud to be citizens of the United States of America and the community we live in. With our financial support to the Community Foundation, and Jesus Christ’s blessings, may future generations benefit.”

Legacy members as of December 31, 2015

Jack L. and Carol F. Aschenbrenner
Pauline Barrett
Dr. Berenda J. Beach
Dr. Lawrence and Jacqueline Betts
Evelyn (Harry*) Boardsen
Steve and Stacie Brass
Dorothy (Richard**) Brecunier
Robert and Judith Brown
Peter and Mary Ann Burk
Anna Marie Catt
Dennis and Charisse Clark
Steven B. Corbin and Doris J. Kelley
John Cowin and Sharon Hackermillen
Cowin
Kenneth Cutts and Patricia S. Achev-Cutts
Jacques and Kathleen Dubois
Albert and Suzanne Duree
Ann Ellsworth
Ann F. (Gene*) Enderlein
John and Kaye Englin
James and Cheryl Erb
John and Dianne Eveland
Louis Fettkether
Mark and Traci Funk
Charles and Terry Gaumer
Deborah M. Giarusso
Charles (Helen**) Lickteig
Robert and Mary Lichty
Charles (Helen**) Lickteig
Arlyne M. (Wendell**) Lockard
Kenneth and Amy Lockard
Susan (George A. "Tony") Loveall
Richard and Kathryn Warhol
Charles J. (Donna*) Walker
Ann F. (Gene*) Wartman
Janice Guthrie
Grace
Timothy L. Grady
Janice Guthrie
Dr. Joel and Linda Haack
Donna (Eldred*) Herbert
Dale and Norma Hassman
Gracia (Larry*) Herbert
Dr. Christopher and Brooke Holahan
Betty (Ralph*) Hoth
Peggy J. Huisman
Rick Hurtado (Marlyn Garrude
Hayes*)
Richard and Vera Hynes
Gaylen “Jake” and Maureen Jacobson
Bradley Jaspers
Donald Jaspers**
Bob and Barb Jefferson
The Darrell R. and Lynda K. Jobman
Trust
Marylin and Ann Jorgensen
Jeri Jenner Kerr
Barbara "Bobbi" (Gregorio*) Kazenelson
Eleanor L. Kearns
Michael J. and Verjena L. King
Allan Klingler
Donna M. Kowell**
David and Joni Krejci
Cyril and Judith Kuennen
Robert and Mary Lichte
Charles (Helen**) Lickteig
Arlyne M. (Wendell**) Lockard
Kenneth and Amy Lockard
Susan (George A. "Tony") Loveall
Timothy and Genevieve Manatt
Ronald** (Dorothy*) Mastain
Earlene McBride
Stanley and Beverly McCadam
Elizabeth "Betty"** (Robert*) McCoy
Kathy McCoy
Dr. Richard and Donna McKay
David and Jamey Moore
Neil Mullen
Nathaniel and Ali Parrish
John A. Petsche
Dorothy Plager
Lou Porter
Thomas and Maureen Porth
Mona (Wallace*) Reed
Brett and Kendra Richman
Susan K. Ritter
John and Roberta Rodecap
Lorene Rolli**
Matthew Rolliing
Vincent and Beth Rolling
Melba "Bebe"** and Lionel Guy Rosen
John and Joan Schuller
Marvin and Helen Schumacher
Gene A. Shaw
Mrs. Ray D. (Stuart*) Stichman
Thomas Tainter
Janice M. Taylor
Donald R. Tietz
Unger (Rose*)/Nancy Unger Trust
Charles J. (Donna*) Walker
Richard and Kathryn Warhol
Mark Whaley
Kathy and Joe Whitinger
Jason "Jay" and Tara Witham
Jeremy and Kellie Witham
Anonymous Donors
* Member deceased
**Member passed away in 2015 or before release of this list publication.

To learn more about remembering your favorite charity through a planned gift, contact us at 319-287-9106 or info@cfneia.org.

A Graduate’s Gratitude

In 2011, Karla Rubio, at the time a Waterloo West High School senior, received two scholarships from CFNEIA funds: the Waterloo Community Schools Foundation Dr. Walter and Ruthie Cunningham Scholarship Fund and the Rick and Cathy Young Scholarship Fund.

After her graduation from Wartburg College in 2015, Karla graciously expressed her gratitude for the generosity.

Now, Karla works as a Community Health Worker in the Cedar Valley making sure Medicaid and Medicare patients receive the services they need and connecting them with community resources. We followed up with Karla to see how these scholarships impacted her life.

What did receiving these scholarships mean to you?

As high school was coming to an end, I was really worried about how I would pay for college. Money was a big struggle. I was raised by a single mom who worked two jobs, and even after I started working we had only just enough to get by. When I heard news that I was receiving the scholarships I was very excited and able to attend college, and I would not have the career and continues to aid them in higher education. If I had not received the scholarships, I would not have been able to attend college, and I would not have the career that I have now. The scholarships I received paved a whole new path for me and I am forever grateful.

What does it mean to know there are people who want to help youth like you reach their dreams?

I think it is so great that there are people who want to help others achieve their dreams. I hope that our community continues to support youth in their passion and continues to aid them in higher education. If I had not received the scholarships, I would not have been able to attend college, and I would not have the career that I have now. The scholarships I received paved a whole new path for me and I am forever grateful.

Record Scholarship Numbers Increase Impact for Iowa Students

271 scholarships awarded to 235 students totaling $379,614.

Students Awarded

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<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<td></td>
<td>185</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>235</td>
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Largest Amount Awarded: $10,000
Average Award: $1,400

Applications Submitted

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<tr>
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<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<td>219</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>355</td>
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Home Counties of Scholarship Recipients

Top Five
1. Black Hawk
2. Grundy
3. Winneshiek
4. Iowa
5. Tama

Awards given to 271 students totaling $379,614.
Celebrating 10 years of good together

2015 marked 10 years of working with our affiliate partners. This incredible partnership is stronger now than ever before.

Today, the impact seen through our work stretches across a 20-county region, which includes 24 county and community specific foundations.

The partnership between CFNEIA and our affiliates allows us to carry out ‘here for good’ in both an enriching and efficient way.

It creates a network of local giving opportunities across Iowa that create stronger, more vibrant communities. Opportunities here, where you live.

We are honored to work with our dedicated affiliates. With our affiliates by our side, we increase the impact of here for good.

Total affiliate grant dollars awarded
$2,304,088

Total affiliate assets
$24,859,847

Total gifts to affiliate funds
$6,812,725
Ackley Community Foundation
Total assets: $143,860
No grants awarded

The Ackley Community Foundation is working to build an unrestricted fund to impact the future of the community.

Benton County Community Foundation
Total assets: $615,535
$106,077 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Benton County - Volunteer Program, Medical Transportation Assistance

The Medical Transportation Program provides assistance to residents who cannot drive, do not have available drivers or cannot afford transportation to medical related appointments. With the use of their grant, the program is able to provide a fifty-cent per mile mileage reimbursement for their trained volunteer drivers who donate their time and vehicles. Benton County seniors especially enjoy the service as it removes all worry and stress from them and their families as they plan medical appointments.

Bremer County Community Foundation
Total assets: $1,420,498
$132,431 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Bremer ISU Extension, Waverly, Iowa Community Sharing Garden

In 2015, Iowa Public Televison’s program, Iowa Ingredient, highlighted the Community Sharing Garden for their contribution to fighting hunger in northeast Iowa. The Community Sharing Garden is growing pounds of food with their new additions. They purchased a Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) washing station. With the benefit of the station, they were able to help protect the health of all clients. In total, the Community Sharing Garden safely grew 3,721 pounds of vegetables and 90 pounds of fruit to donate to area churches and the Northeast Iowa Food Bank.

Buchanan County Community Foundation
Total assets: $2,521,700
$10,644 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Independence Area Food Pantry, Support to Continue Programs

With the aid of their grant, the Independence Area Food Pantry was able to keep two of its most needed programs running. In the summer months, children at risk of hunger often go without the food they normally receive from school meal programs. The Food Pantry was able to combat this problem by serving a record number of children with nutritional food throughout the summer season. Secondly, the Food Pantry was able to help families celebrate Thanksgiving with a traditional holiday meal. Because of the Thanksgiving program, families could rest knowing they would have enough food to provide for their family during the holiday season.

Butler County Community Foundation
Total assets: $597,471
$110,949 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Dike-New Hartford Community School District

Dike-New Hartford Schools had the opportunity to purchase new Annies, child and adult mannequins, and an AED trainer for improved CPR training. CPR training has been in the curriculum for all 7th and 8th grade students, but the Annies have allowed the instructor to be more efficient, cutting out three whole days of instruction. In the spring of 2015, every 7th and 8th grade student at Dike-New Hartford Junior High was introduced to the CPR mannequins and AED whether it was a review from the previous year, or for the first time. In addition, the instructor was able to work with 40 of the 9th grade students as a review. Improved CPR training is an advantage that will benefit young adults for years to come.

Cerro Gordo County Community Foundation
Total assets: $1,847,421
$107,950 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Iowa iJAG: Supporting Student Success in Mason City

Iag serves students who are at high risk for disengaging from school or dropping out without the skills and motivation needed to succeed in higher education and the workforce. This year, the Mason City branch was able to provide exceptional experiences for their iJag students. For the first time, a student from Mason City was selected to attend the iJAG National Student Leadership Academy in Washington D.C. In addition, Mason City’s iJag program was able to support multiple activities for their group of students including an induction ceremony for iJag students to become members of the Career Association and a visit to Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa to participate in the Leadership Reaction Course. Providing experiences is one way Iag is fulfilling their mission of creating young leaders.

Chickasaw County Community Foundation
Total assets: $663,708
$89,824 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: New Hampton High School Technology Update

New Hampton High School students were craving new technology to branch out in their educational settings. With the aid of their grant, the school was able to purchase a new camera and recording equipment. The choir department uses the equipment to record their rehearsals and analyze their performances. Viewing their performances allows the students to pinpoint areas of improvement. The technology has also been used in art classes. With the new equipment, students are able to discover art based careers through digital technology. Students have been in awe over the amazing pieces of art and music they can create using the new technology to branch out in their educational settings. With the aid of their grant, the school was able to purchase a new camera and recording equipment. The choir department uses the equipment to record their rehearsals and analyze their performances. Viewing their performances allows the students to pinpoint areas of improvement. The technology has also been used in art classes. With the new equipment, students are able to discover art based careers through digital technology. Students have been in awe over the amazing pieces of art and music they can create using the new technology to branch out in their educational settings.

Elma Area Community Foundation
Total assets: $267,537
$6,944 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: American Legion John Frahm Post. No. 597, Elma Flags

The Elma Bridge and the four nearby cemeteries, otherwise known as The Avenue of Flags, contain a total of seventy-two American flags. Each year, the flags are put up and taken down for Memorial Day and other special functions, and naturally, the flags experience a lot of wear and tear. This year, 33 flags were replaced through the grant. The flags are a special part of the community, especially to sixth graders who learn about their significance and watch them raise each May. Obtaining the chance to keep up the appearance of the flags represents pride of community and country in the Elma area.

Emmet County Community Foundation
Total assets: $533,060
$92,162 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Emmet County Historical Society, Amundson House

The Amundson House tells a story of how people lived during an earlier time – the 1920s and the 1930s. To accurately depict the history, the Emmet County Historical Society has remodeled the house. As a result of the renovations, the house had an increase in attendance during the summer of 2015 and the Society is hopeful that more locals will be interested in visiting the Iowa landmark as volunteers continue to put forth remodeling efforts. The Amundson House is an educational opportunity that the Emmet County Historical Society is grateful to provide to their county and Iowa as a whole.

Fayette County Community Foundation
Total assets: $683,481
$194,035 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: North Fayette Community School District, Tiger Hawk Preschool Playground Project

Tiger Hawk Preschool has improved their space to provide a safe, fun and relaxing environment for children to enjoy the outdoors. Their work included adding a cement pad for trike riding, a playground for climbing and crawling, and extending their fence to include shaded areas for warm days. These playful additions not only affect the preschool, but also the children of the Head Start program and families after school hours. The kids have thoroughly enjoyed their new play options and are much happier during their recess time.
Grant Highlight: Grundy County Memorial Hospital, Patient Warming System

Grundy County Memorial Hospital recognized a need for their patients and have fulfilled it with the purchase and implementation of the Patient Warming System. Even mild hypothermia caused by convective and conductive heat loss during surgery can result in severe complications for a surgical patient. Using the Surgery Warmer allows for the Surgery Department and Clinical Outcomes team to be confident that best practice is being followed when it comes to maintaining proper body temperature for patients during surgery. Grundy County Memorial Hospital wants nothing but the best care for their patients and can now positively say that they are performing under top-notch conditions.

Howard County Community Foundation

Total assets: $642,194

$92,300 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Iowa Wrestling Hall of Fame, Mural Project

The Iowa Wrestling Hall of Fame in Cresco honored four members of the 1978 Wrestling Team with a mural of Gary Kurdelmeier and Dr. Harold Nichols – with a new mural installed to promote amateur wrestling in Iowa. The city of Cresco held a dedication ceremony to unveil the project which included the Crestwood High School band and cheerleaders, the VFW, American Legion, and the local mayor in attendance. The community came together to create and celebrate pride for Iowa heritage in the sport of wrestling, and the great things these men have accomplished after they left the Cresco community. The mural is an inspiration to area athletes as they aim to accomplish their goals.

Iowa County Community Foundation

Total assets: $565,504

$105,702 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Safe Haven of Iowa County, Isolation Room Project

The state of Iowa requires licensed animal shelters to have an isolation room for sick dogs, but, until this year, Safe Haven of Iowa County was unable to fulfill that requirement. With grant money under their belt, Safe Haven was able to meet state guidelines. Dogs with illness and diseases must be isolated in this room and to sanitize the floor in their isolation is crucial to helping stop the spread of diseases. Many dogs that come into the shelter are strays and not up to date on vaccinations and are, therefore, more likely to be infected with communicable diseases. Now these animals have an extra barrier between them and illness.

Kossuth County Community Foundation

Total assets: $3,000,562

$151,445 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: City of Burt, Burt Fire Dept., Tank Truck

The City of Burt Fire Department needed a newer, more dependable truck so they could reach their residents in a timelier and safer manner. On October 28, 2015, a new truck that best fit their need was delivered all the way from Canada. This is the first time the department has upgraded one of their trucks in 20 years. Now the department feels more confident in their ability to provide the fastest, most efficient protection for their community.

Readlyn Community Fund

Total assets: $286,597

$11,250 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Wapsie Valley Community Schools, Wapsie Valley Jr./Sr. High School Commons Renovation

A student-driven proposal to renovate the common space at the Jr./Sr. High has resulted in the purchase of new tables and chairs. The new wheeled, circular tables have provided two classes the space to gather and students the room to collaborate on projects together. As a result of the project, the commons now has a sense of ownership and pride in their school and capabilities.

Tama County Community Foundation

Total assets: $1,487,972

$131,636 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Families Helping Families of Iowa, Shoe Vouchers for Foster Children Program

Families Helping Families is able to provide each child in foster care or their relative placement with a $50 shoe voucher to Kohl’s Stores throughout Iowa. The program has provided self-confidence and financial relief to the foster children and families. The transitions foster children face frequently requires children to leave home without personal belongings. The shoe voucher program is one way to lessen their anxiety by providing basic needs for academic success.

Water Valley Community Foundation

Total assets: $4,490

$1,895 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Almameek County Conservation Foundation, Water Valley Elementary 5th and 4th Grade Environmental/Outdoor Education Field Experience

Waverly Community Fund

Total assets: $729,459

$123,779 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Waverly – City of Waverly, Handicap Swing for Kohllmann Park

A new installation at Kohllmann Park was added to ensure all children have the opportunity to enjoy time playing with their families at the park. The City of Waverly used their funding to obtain a handicap swing that makes their playground equipment more accessible to children with disabilities. Waverly hopes to continue modifying their equipment to make it more universally accessible.

Winnebago County Community Foundation

Total assets: $513,233

$90,324 in grants distributed

Grant Highlight: Winnebago Historical Society, Portable Stage for International Festival

During 2015’s International Festival, the Winnebago Historical Society was able to provide a portable stage for their performers. Investing in a stage of their own saves the Winnebago Historical Society from yearly rental fees. Multiple groups were able to perform at the same time in different areas of the park, elevation off the ground maximized visibility and the stage added an increase in sound quality. The grant for a portable stage allowed the Iowa City group to have a more confident in their ability to showcase cultural awareness by showcasing ethnic music, dance and storytelling - important pieces to break down barriers in our communities and foster respect for other cultures.
Celebration of Community

The Community Foundation’s 7th annual Celebration of Community event was held on Friday, November 6, 2015 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Cedar Falls. Over 300 philanthropists, business leaders, nonprofit agency staff members and government officials from across Iowa were in attendance to celebrate the year’s achievements in creating vibrant communities.

Thank you to all who attended and who continue to show dedication and support for the Community Foundation’s mission.

Celebrating 10 Years of Regional Impact

To celebrate 10 years of partnering with our affiliate foundations, 10 special grants of $10,000 each were presented to affiliate projects at the Celebration of Community event. These projects cover not only specific counties, but impact a regional area.

- Buchanan County Animal Shelter
  A Home to Shelter Paws - Phase III

- Camp Algona POW Project Inc.
  POW History - Interviews from Camp Algona

- Cedar Valley Friends of the Family
  Domestic Violence Safe Shelter Repairs

- City of Garrison
  Restore Garrison's Library: Phase 2

- Diamonds and Fields
  Parkersburg Youth Sports Complex and Miracle Field

- Floyd County Fair Society
  Floyd County Youth Enrichment Center

- Reinbeck Child Care and Preschool
  Little Rebels Learning Center Addition

- Iowa County Historical Society
  Victor Depot Roof Project

- North Iowa Area Community College Foundation
  NIACC Health Sciences Simulation Education

- Winneshiek Energy District
  Winneshiek Shared Solar Collaborative

A $50,000 mission fulfillment grant was also awarded to Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity for the Waterloo ReStore.

This event was made possible by many community businesses and supporters. Thank you to our Presenting Sponsor, Marquette Associates, Gold Sponsor, Levi Architecture, and all of our other event sponsors!

Volunteer Driven

392 volunteers statewide

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 men and women who serve on our board and committees. Your leadership, time, talent, expertise and community-minded philanthropy drive us every day.

“Volunteerism has allowed myself and others to give back and make a difference while setting the seed for others to continue to support similar needs.”
Angie Determan
Cerro Gordo County Community Foundation Committee

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Involvement in the selection process gives me a feeling of giving back to those who generously are giving their hard-earned money to deserving students who will be our leaders of tomorrow. The returns one receives by the giving of their time and expertise creates a multiplier effect - the more you give of yourself the more you receive.”

Steve Corbin
CFNEIA Scholarship Committee

The mission of Women in Philanthropy is to educate and inspire women to become leaders in philanthropy and to use philanthropy to empower others. This group of women meets quarterly to learn more about the needs of women and girls in the Cedar Valley.

In 2015, Women in Philanthropy distributed $11,311 in grants to two Black Hawk County nonprofits, through the Women’s Fund, to support projects focused on issues to improve the lives of women and girls in Black Hawk County.

Go to cfneia.org/womeninphilanthropy for more information.

TEEN TRUST

Empowering Our Future Community Leaders

For 23 years, Teen Trust has been bringing together students from Black Hawk County high schools to engage in making their communities better places. The program empowers and challenges high school students to address, identify and seek solutions to community needs, while building a sense of social responsibility.

Under the supervision of Teen Trust Student Director, Courtney Kleese, the 2015-2016 Teen Trust Board of Directors allocated over $11,000 to nonprofit organizations in Black Hawk County. The trustees reviewed 21 grant applications, awarding grants to eight nonprofits serving Black Hawk County.

Go to cfneia.org/teentrust to see the 2015-2016 Teen Trust Board of Directors and Teen Trust grantees.

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Financial Impact: Growing the Potential of Here for Good

Total Assets Over the Last Five Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Assets</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$88,116,573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$84,990,582</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$76,784,495</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$64,974,544</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>$57,654,999</td>
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</tbody>
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The Impact of Generous Donors

Total Gifts in 2015: $8,102,267
Total Endowed Gifts in 2015: $5,979,190
Number of Gifts in 2015: 1,538

Staff

Kaye Englin  
President and CEO
Stacy Robinson  
Vice President of Finance and Operations
Jay Byers  
Director of Marketing and Communications
Elizabeth Hacklhart  
Director of Development
Jamar Thompson  
Affiliate Development Director
Tom Wickersham  
Program Director
Kathy Reiter  
Manager of Donor Relations
Nicole Stuart  
Finance Manager
Dotti Thompson  
Program Manager
Byron Clark  
Finance Assistant
Andrea Pingel  
Marketing Associate
Gretchen Woodrick  
Donor Relations Associate

2015 Board of Directors

Marlene Behn, Chair  
Community Volunteer
Jay Byers, Vice Chair  
Financial Resource Advisors
Mark Rolinger, Past Chair  
Redfern, Mason, Larsen & Moore PLC
Charley Perry, Treasurer  
Stewart Realty Co.
Deb Giarusso, Secretary  
University of Northern Iowa
Stacie Brass  
The Accel Group
Jeffrey Hassman  
CVP Advisors
Rudy Jones  
City of Waterloo
Becky Mudd  
Community Volunteer
Aaron Sannes  
Ameriprise Financial Services

Visit cfneia.org to view a copy of CFNEIA’s 990 Return, or call Stacy Robinson, Vice President of Finance and Operations at 319-287-9106 for audited financial statements, investment information or our IRS exemption letter.

Community Partners

Doing good in our communities is what the Community Foundation is built on, but doing even more good can only be done by partnering with like-minded people taking action on issues that affect our communities.

That is why we partner with other groups to make sure the vision for vibrant communities of thriving people can become a reality. We are proud to be partners of the following groups.

Thank you to all our community partners for all you do. You continue to inspire us with your generous spirit and desire to create more vibrant communities.
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.