

*here for good.*



**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**  
OF NORTHEAST IOWA

**2015  
IMPACT  
REPORT**

our mission

**To inspire  
people and  
connect  
resources to  
enrich our  
communities.**



CFNEIA volunteers and staff working together at our regional affiliate meeting.

**Together we bring  
the "here for good"  
philosophy to 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



grantee stories

doing good.



Local actors perform in the WCP production of Les Misérables.

Waterloo Community Playhouse and Black Hawk Children's Theater Grant Project: Playhouse Centennial Season

## Long Live Community Theater

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."

For 100 years, audiences have liked what they see in the mirror of Iowa's oldest community theater.

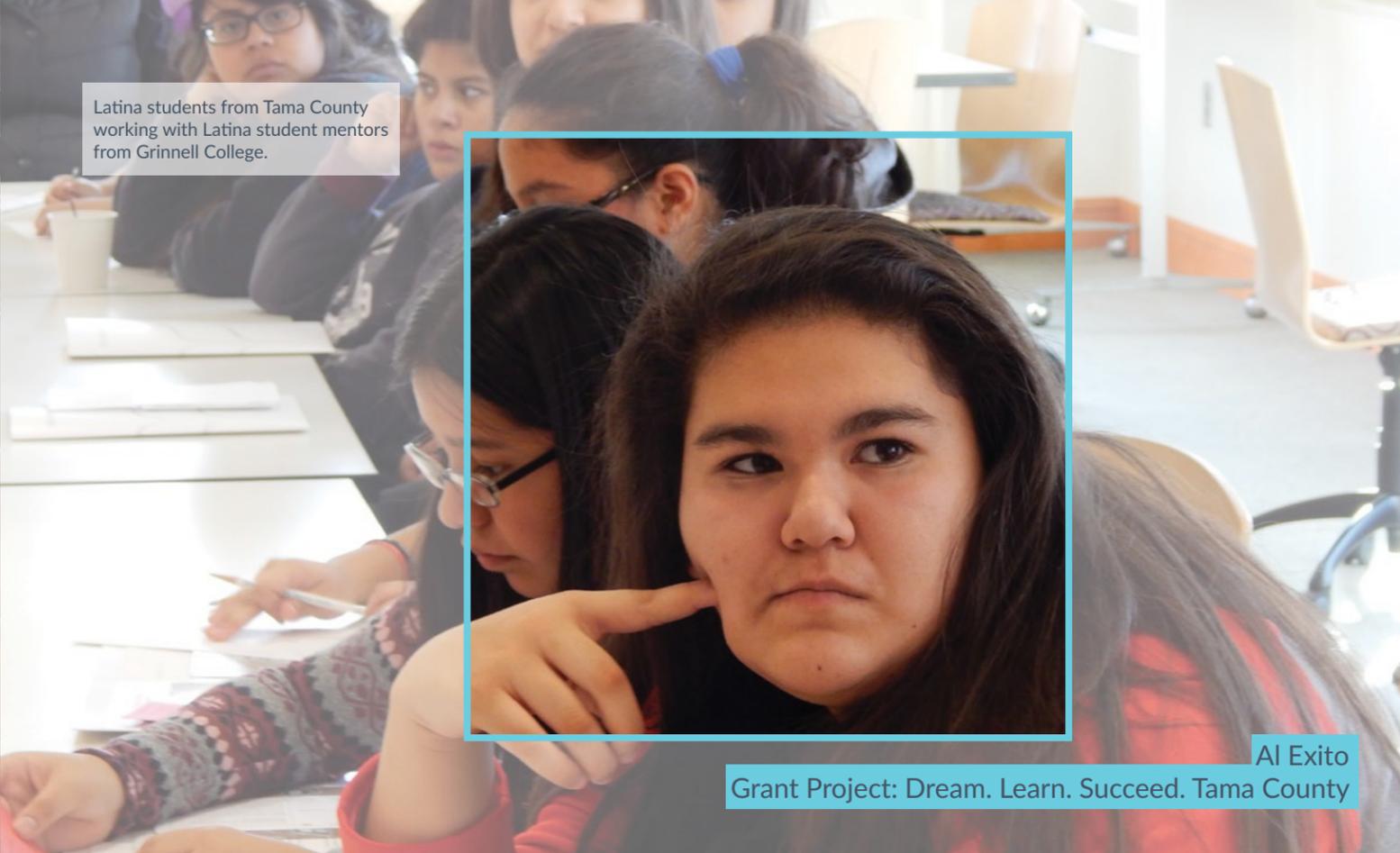
**"We serve the community, both the people who are coming in as participants and those who are coming in as the audience. We are their voice, we are a reflection of them, of their values and interests."**

**- Norman Ussery**



University of Northern Iowa Foundation Grant Project: Greens to Go

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



Latina students from Tama County working with Latina student mentors from Grinnell College.

AI Exito Grant Project: Dream. Learn. Succeed. Tama County

# Healthy Community Development

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.”

**“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.”**  
- Kamyar Enshayan

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 Voice for a Brighter Future

Before AI 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.

AI 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, AI 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.”

**“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.”**  
- Dawn Martinez Oropeza

AI 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?”

AI 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.

A completed Nature Conservancy oxbow restoration in the Boone River Watershed in Boone County, Iowa.



The Nature Conservancy in Iowa Grant Project: Wetlands for Reduced Flood Risk and Improved Water Quality

## Restoring Nature's Solutions

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 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."**  
-Nick Longbucco

the impact it has on water quality and flooding," said Nick Longbucco, Cedar Basin Freshwater Manager.

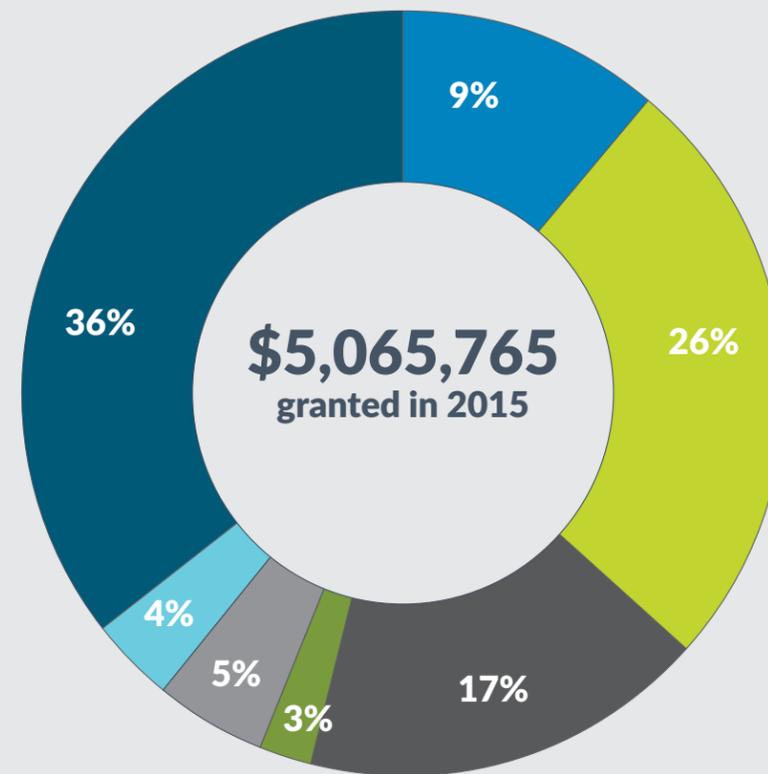
The impact of the restoration of the two oxbows made possible by the grant is significant and tangible. During a flood, these oxbow wetlands can store 13.75 million gallons of water that would otherwise run over the land. The wetlands absorb nutrients, especially nitrogen, a key concern in water quality.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

The Walnut Bend project is one of seven in the Cedar River Basin, but an important one.

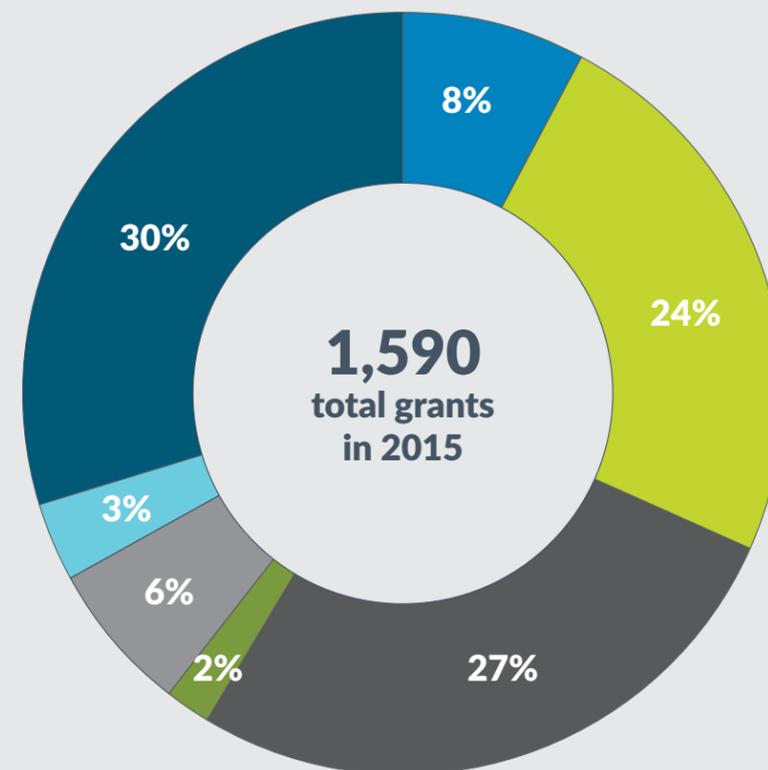
"I think one focus is going to be around Black Hawk County. It could be a catalyst to do more," said Justin.

Doing more means solving critical environmental issues, not just for the Cedar Valley, but well beyond the borders of counties.

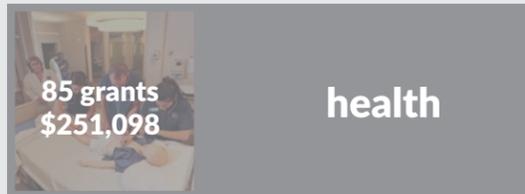
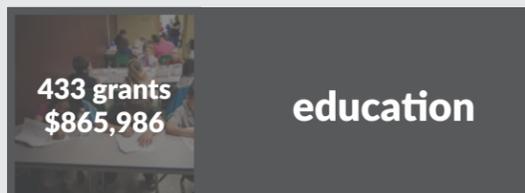
## Grantmaking Impact: Creating Vibrant Communities Together



Percentages of total dollar amount



Percentages of total number of grants



fundholder stories

*giving good.*



Jack and Shirley Geist

## Helping at Home

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."

**"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."**

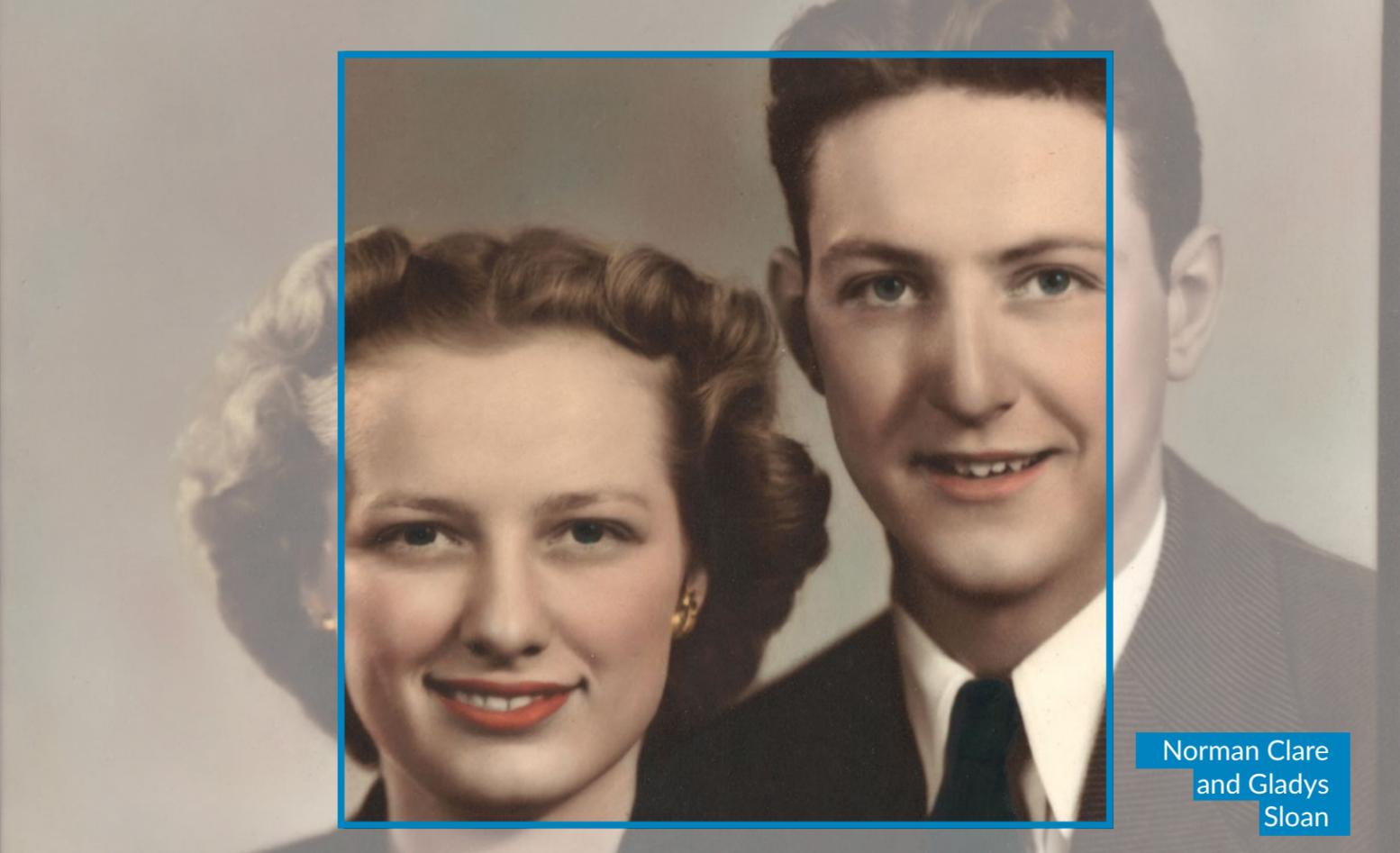
**- Jack Geist**

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.

"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."



Doug and Rosie Lindaman



Norman Clare and Gladys Sloan

## Community Pride in Action

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.

"It's really a matter of us wanting to contribute to the community as well as hopefully setting an example for people," said Doug.

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.

"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 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."

**"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**

## Generosity that Lives On

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 City, 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.

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.

"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. We wanted to keep it going with some of the charitable direction that we learned from them."

**"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**

OPERATION THRESHOLD



Barb Grant, Executive Director

Operation Threshold

# Fighting Poverty Forever

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.

**"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

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."

## New funds doing good in our communities

- Edna Mae and Don Adams Scholarship Fund
- Steve and Stacie Brass Family Fund
- Msgr. Walter Brunkan 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

- Jim Morgan Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Operation Threshold Endowment Fund
- PAWS Endowment Fund
- Retrieving Freedom Endowment Fund
- Mildred and Everett Sanders Scholarship Fund
- Norman Clare and Gladys Sloan Endowment Fund
- Gladys and Clare Sloan Fund
- Gladys M. and Norman Clare Sloan Scholarship Fund
- St. John's United Church of Christ Endowment Fund
- St. John's United Church of Christ Impact Fund
- Starr Home Endowment Fund
- James and Nancy Stevenson Family Fund
- Virginia Gay Hospital Health Care Foundation Fund
- VGH Home Health Agency Endowment Fund
- Ed and Betty Wilcox Center for Performing Arts Fund
- Windsor Theatre Endowment Fund

Visit [cfneia.org](http://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.

# Endow Iowa

Helping more good happen for donors and communities.

### 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](http://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.



Jack & Carol Aschenbrenner

**"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. Berdena 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 Hackenmiller Cowin
- Kenneth Cutts and Patricia S. Achey-Cutts
- Jacques and Kathleen Dubois
- Albert and Suzanne Duroe
- 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
- Gary Grace
- Timothy L. Grady
- Janice Guthrie
- Dr. Joel and Linda Haack
- Donna (Eldred\*) Harman
- Dale and Norma Hassman
- Gracia (Larry\*) Herbert
- Dr. Christopher and Brooke Holahan

- Betty (Ralph\*) Hoth
- Peggy J. Huisman
- Rick Hurtado (Marilyn Ganrude 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
- Marlyn and Ann Jorgensen
- Jeri Jenner Karr
- Barbara "Bobbi" (Gregorio\*) Kazenelson
- Eleanor L. Kearns
- Michael J. and Verjean L. King
- Allan Klinger
- Donna M. Koweil\*\*
- David and Joni Krejchi
- Cyril and Judith Kuennen
- Robert and Mary Lichty
- 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 Rohlf\*\*
- Matthew Rolinger
- 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\*) Stitchman
- Thomas Taiber
- Janice M. Taylor
- Donald R. Tietz
- Unger (Rose\*)/Nancy Unger Trust
- Charles J. (Donna\*) Walker
- Richard and Kathryn Warhol
- Mark Whaley
- Kathy and Joe Whiting
- Jason "Jay" and Tara Witham
- Jeremy and Kellie Witham
- Anonymous Donors

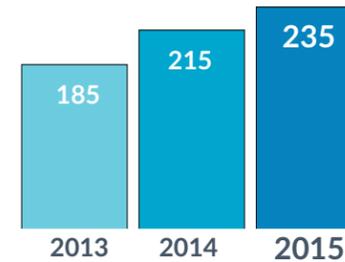
\* Member deceased  
 \*\*Member passed away in 2015 or before release of this list publication.

To learn more about remembering your favorite charity through a planned gift, contact us at 319-287-9106 or [info@cfnea.org](mailto:info@cfnea.org).

## Record Scholarship Numbers Increase Impact for Iowa Students

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

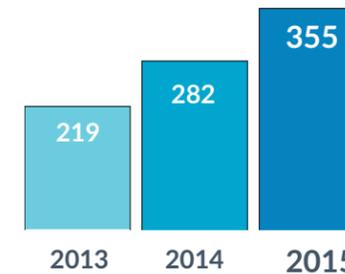
Students Awarded



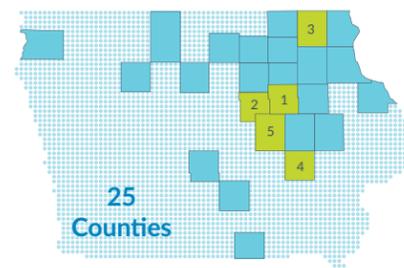
**Largest Amount Awarded:**  
**\$10,000**

**Average Award:**  
**\$1,400**

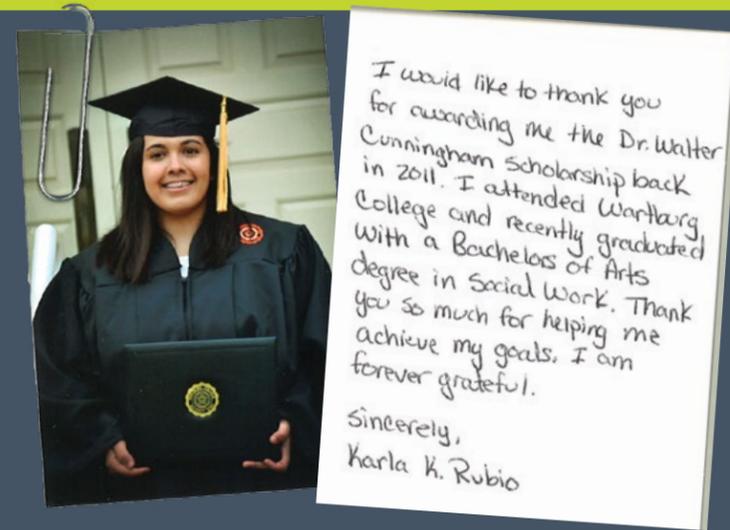
Applications Submitted



### Home Counties of Scholarship Recipients



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



## 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 grateful. I needed someone to believe in me and to give me a chance. The scholarships I received did just that.

### 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.

affiliate foundations

*partners for good.*

# 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.



**2015 affiliate numbers**  
Jan. 1, 2015-Dec. 31, 2015

**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 Television'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 and produced 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

\$142,444 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

iJag 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 iJag 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 electronics and are excited to continue exploring potential uses for the equipment.

### 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 raised 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

\$196,035 in grants distributed

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

TigerHawk Preschool has improved their space to provide a safe and fun environment for children to enjoy the outdoors. Their work included adding a cement pad for trike riding, a caterpillar 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.



### **Floyd County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$3,068,851  
\$169,673 in grants distributed

#### **Grant Highlight: Charles City Foster Grandparent Program**

Volunteers of the Foster Grandparent Program of Charles City have put in over 65,000 hours of service for local children in schools, daycares and preschools. The Foster Grandparent Program commits to assisting children with special and exceptional needs to achieve their highest potential. This was seen in one student who was new to the Charles City area in 2015. He was behind in reading and had low confidence in his abilities. As he worked with the classroom's Foster Grandparent, he began improving his reading skills, and by the end of the year, he was able to read on his own confidently without the help of his Foster Grandparent. The program instills confidence and builds skills in children who need an extra boost.



### **Franklin County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$601,970  
\$103,499 in grants distributed

#### **Grant Highlight: La Luz Hispana, Technology Updating**

La Luz Hispana gained new computers and program software to assist adult students, most of who are using a computer for the first time. The new software includes Rosetta Stone which allows the students to continue their English education at their convenience during the day or in the evening when they are not required to be at their workplace. In addition, students are using the technology to learn driving rules and take practice tests, connect with professionals in other towns, and learn about colleges their children are interested in attending. Enthusiasm for the new technology keeps increasing with each new discovery.

### **Grundy County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$935,803  
\$116,937 in grants distributed

#### **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: \$662,984  
\$92,303 in grants distributed

#### **Grant Highlight: Iowa Wrestling Hall of Fame, Mural Project**

The Iowa Wrestling Hall of Fame in Cresco honored four Iowa Wrestling legends – Dan Gable, Dr. Norman Borlaug, Gary Kurldelmeier 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 contained, and the ability 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 students have a higher 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.

### **Waterville Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$46,890  
\$1,895 in grants distributed

#### **Grant Highlight: Allamakee County Conservation Foundation, Waterville Elementary 5th and 6th Grade Environmental/Outdoor Education Field Experience**

Waterville Elementary had the opportunity to take their fifth and sixth graders on visits to the Iowa capitol as well as Living History Farms and other educational attractions. The funds to send the children on their Des Moines field trip facilitated urban activities. These activities gave the youth the opportunity to experience an urban setting quite different from their environment in rural northeast Iowa.

### **Waverly Community Fund**

Total assets: \$729,459  
\$123,779 in grants distributed

#### **Grant Highlight: Waverly – City of Waverly, Handicap Swing for Kohlmann Park**

A new installment at Kohlmann 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 International Festival to reach their goal of spreading cultural awareness by showcasing ethnic music, dance and storytelling - important pieces to break down barriers in our communities and foster respect for other cultures.



### **Winneshiek County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$3,108,951  
\$246,216 in grants distributed

#### **Grant Highlight: Decorah Community Free Clinic**

The Decorah Community Free Clinic provides quality health care at no cost to the uninsured or under insured in the community. In a twelve-month period, the clinic served 655 patients with the assistance of over 100 volunteers. In addition to caring for their patients' health, the clinic also provides educational assistance to patients with chronic and persistent illness. The clinic doesn't stop with meeting physical needs, social workers and other staff contribute their time to assisting patients in accessing support to better their quality of life including housing, job training, mental health assistance and other health programs. With the funding from the Winneshiek County Community Foundation, the clinic was able to purchase the medication their patients needed to improve their health.

### **Worth County Community Foundation**

Total assets: \$598  
No grants awarded

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

# 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.



# 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.

"The Kossuth County Community Foundation has been instrumental in helping with projects throughout our county. Many of those might not have been done, or at least would have been delayed, without grants from KCCF. That is one of the reasons I'm involved with Kossuth County Community Foundation. It enables great things to happen in many communities."

**Kristie Brown**  
Kossuth County Community Foundation Committee

"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 Community Foundation allows 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

## 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](http://cfneia.org/teentrust) to see the 2015-2016 Teen Trust Board of Directors and Teen Trust grantees.

## WOMEN in philanthropy

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.

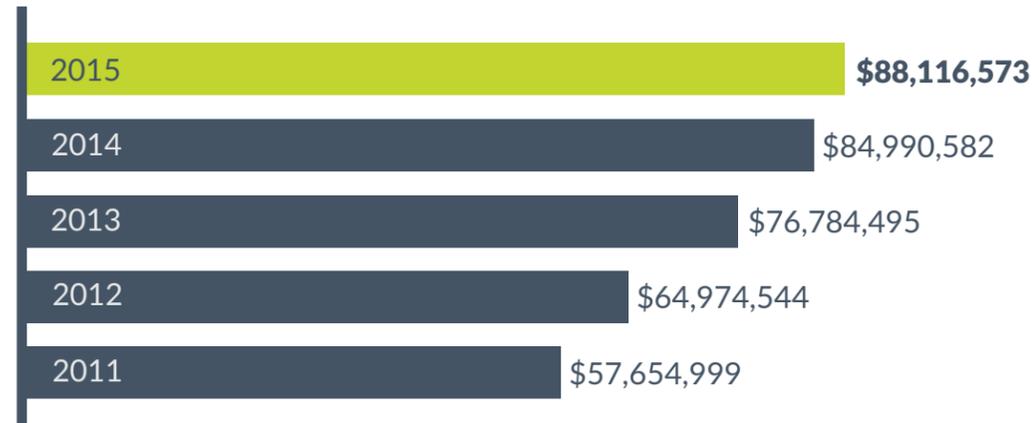
In 2015, Women in Philanthropy distributed \$11,311 in grants to two Black Hawk County nonprofits, through the Women's Fund, to support projects focused on issues to improve the lives of women and girls in Black Hawk County.

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

# Financial Impact: Growing the Potential of Here for Good

All numbers for fiscal year January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

## Total Assets Over the Last Five Years



## The Impact of Generous Donors

**Total Gifts in 2015**  
\$8,102,267

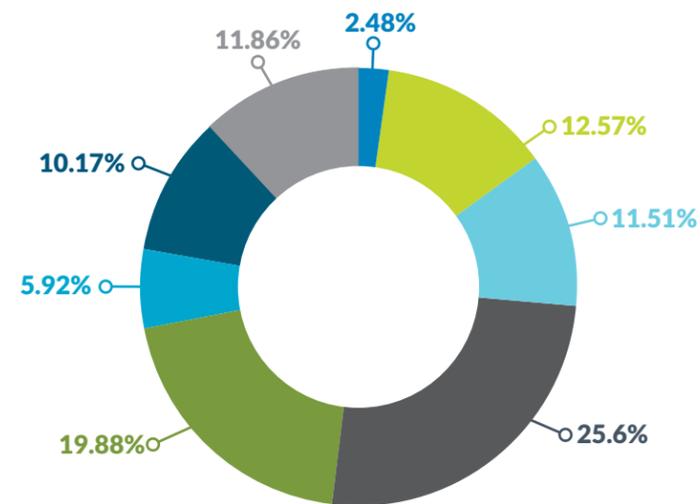
**Total Endowed Gifts in 2015**  
\$5,979,190

**Number of Gifts in 2015**  
1,538



### Total Assets

Endowed.....	\$76,681,084
Art.....	\$5,053,058
Expendable.....	\$5,033,547
Other.....	\$1,664,225
Operations.....	\$363,440
Insurance.....	\$320,056
<b>Total Assets:.....</b>	<b>\$89,115,409</b>
<b>Total Liabilities:.....</b>	<b>(\$998,836)</b>
<b>Net Assets.....</b>	<b>\$88,116,573</b>



### Assets by Fund Type

Advised-FOI.....	\$2,206,705
Agency.....	\$11,201,954
Designated.....	\$10,259,159
Discretionary.....	\$22,813,497
Donor Advised....	\$17,714,816
Field of Interest....	\$5,279,998
Other.....	\$9,066,375
Scholarships.....	\$10,572,905

Visit [cfnea.org](http://cfnea.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.



## Staff

**Kaye Englin**  
President and CEO

**Stacy Robinson**  
Vice President of Finance and Operations

**Jake Byers**  
Director of Marketing and Communications

**Elizabeth Hackbarth**  
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 Bullerman, 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

**Helen Schumacher**  
Schumacher Elevator Company

**Ellen Young**  
Community Volunteer

**Kaye Englin**  
President and CEO

## 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.

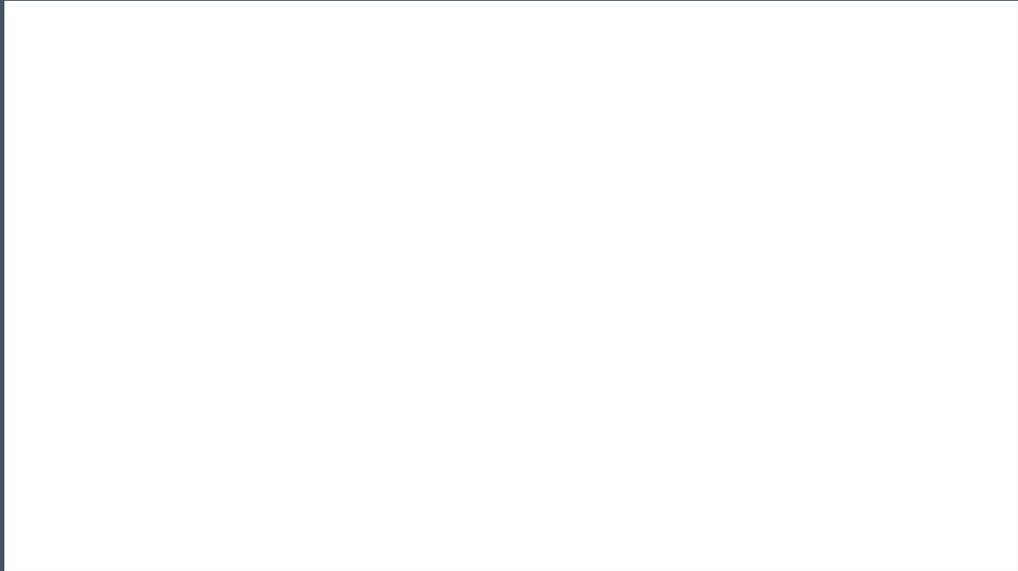


*here for good.*

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Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™

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.