

## House of Hope lives up to name for homeless mothers

House of Hope resident, Abby, sits in the current office and programs building with her two sons.

"I didn't think anything was ever going to change. I thought I was going to lose my kids and then I came here. It just brings back hope."

**ABBY**  
House of Hope Resident

The very large historic home stands tall near downtown Waterloo. It has House of Hope written across the window and that is exactly what it is for homeless women with children in the Cedar Valley. They come from different backgrounds but all come for one reason, to build a better life for themselves and their children.

"I came here because I was basically homeless with my kids," said Abby, a resident at House of Hope.

House of Hope is a 2-year transitional program for homeless single women with children. The program provides support and personalized case management to women to help them identify and attain changes they must make to achieve self-sufficiency for their families.

According to Dusky Steele, House of Hope Development Coordinator, programming is directed at the mothers, but the ultimate end goal is for the children.

"These kids have a chance to overcome the barriers their moms have," said Steele. "If these moms complete the program, and do it the way its supposed to be done, their kids have a chance to not be part of that cycle."

House of Hope has been serving Waterloo and the surrounding communities for 20 years, relying solely on the generosity of the community. CFNEIA and its fundholders have been part of this community support, awarding nearly \$150,000 in grants to House of Hope since 2004.

Recently, this partnership brought about another connection that is leading House of Hope to do more for the community.

Through the Foundation, House of Hope connected with Dr. Greg Christensen, fund representative for the Ross D. Christensen Family Fund held with CFNEIA.

Dr. Christensen wanted to find a charitable purpose for the former building of his orthodontic practice. Now, the building is in House of Hope's possession and a capital campaign, *Build Hope*, is in its beginning stages to support the renovations.

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### OUR MISSION

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

go online  for more

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

celebrating 60 years

KAYE ENGLIN  
President and CEO



## House of Hope works through Foundation for capital campaign

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House of Hope has started an expendable fund with CFNEIA for the campaign to ensure transparency and lessen the administrative burden for its small staff. It also plans to establish an agency endowment fund with CFNEIA to provide a permanent source of support.

The new building will expand service from 10 families to 15, and will create a better environment for families.

"We know the need is there. We have a waiting list all the time," said Steele. "The gap between affordable housing and livable wages is not decreasing. As more programs get cut, it creates more barriers for our most vulnerable populations, which single moms are definitely among those." 

### MORE RESOURCES

For more information on how to support your favorite nonprofits, visit [cfneia.org](http://cfneia.org) to learn about:

-  Starting a fund
-  Making a gift to an existing nonprofit agency endowment fund
-  Planning a future gift to support the causes you care about



## Record grant amount awarded at Black Hawk County ceremony

\$556,274 in grants awarded to 55 organizations

CFNEIA recently awarded the largest grant amount in its history for a single grant cycle.

On January 27, at the Black Hawk County fall 2015 grant cycle awards ceremony, 55 nonprofits and government agencies received a total of \$556,274 in grants.

"The work these deserving organizations do to create a stronger Black Hawk County is critical to making our communities places where everyone can thrive," said Kaye Englin, CFNEIA President and CEO.

CFNEIA and its Board of Directors are able to award these grants because of donors who have contributed to, and established, discretionary funds.

Grants were awarded in six core program areas including: art and culture, community betterment, education, environment, health, and human service.

See a list of Black Hawk County fall 2015 grant recipients and their projects at [cfneia.org/news](http://cfneia.org/news). 



Guest speakers for the Cedar Valley Alliance Foundation's Leader in Me program accept a grant check from President, Kaye Englin, and Board of Directors Chair, Jay Bullerman.

## 60-YEAR HISTORY A STRONG BASE FOR A BOLD FUTURE OF GOOD

The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa is celebrating 60 years of impact on Iowa communities. It is an honor to be leading this great organization, and our staff are humbled to be able to continue this legacy.

What an amazing feeling to know, for 60 years, the Community Foundation has been creating life-changing impacts for tens of thousands of people by supporting hundreds of nonprofits doing good in their communities.

It is incredibly satisfying to think of this history and know we are part of it. We hope you feel this way too. You are part of this history, but more importantly, you are part of the future.

Great things are happening every day at CFNEIA. Recently big things have kicked off our 60th year. In January, we introduced a new look and website, restated our commitment to serve with new mission, vision and values statements, and moved into our new office location in the Cedar Valley.

These are big changes, but bigger ideas and actions are yet to come.

The Community Foundation is currently strengthening our strategic plan to create more community impacts across our 20 county region. Our strategic plan helps guide our work and will build on the momentum that started in 1956. The plan will bring an even greater focus to doing more good than ever. Look for more details on the plan later this year.

Throughout our history, we have been leaders in community change. To keep leading we know we cannot be still. We celebrate our past 60 years with pride, but look ahead with a bolder vision and big ideas.

This future of more impact and greater change can only become reality with partners like you. The vision and leadership of generous donors, strong nonprofits and dedicated volunteers makes the future possible. Together we are "Here for Good." Thank you! 

### COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTHEAST IOWA NEW OFFICE LOCATION

3117 Greenhill Circle  
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613



## New Palo Alto County Community Foundation joins CFNEIA as affiliate

The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa is excited to welcome the Palo Alto County Community Foundation. PACCF becomes the newest CFNEIA affiliate, extending its regional reach to 24 affiliate foundations across 20 Iowa counties.

The Palo Alto County Community Foundation was formed by community-minded individuals with a vision for building stronger communities in Palo Alto County, located in north central Iowa. These community members have witnessed the positive impact of community foundations in other counties and wanted to implement the same opportunities for giving for area residents.



Members of the PACCF committee include (left to right) J.R. Brown, Stacy Gappa, Greg Hoyman, Kathy Gunderson, Anne Marie Nelson, Rosemary Clouse, and Don Miller. Not pictured, Gene Englin.

PACCF received an initial gift from the Palo Alto County Gaming Development Corporation (PACGDC). The \$10,000 gift was given as seed money to get the Foundation started.

In addition to the original seed money, the PACGDC is matching another \$50,000 to donors establishing new funds with the

Palo Alto County Community Foundation. Each gift to establish a new fund will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000.

Go to [paloaltoccf.org](http://paloaltoccf.org) to learn more about the newest affiliate. CFNEIA is honored to partner with PACCF and its residents for more vibrant communities. 

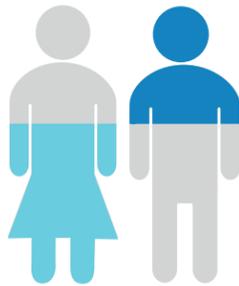
# 2015 scholarships create record impact for students

Year in School



80% High School  
20% College

Gender

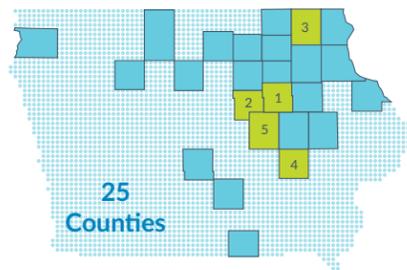


68% Female  
32% Male

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

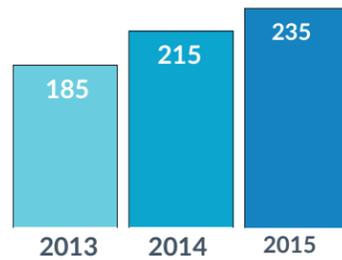
**Largest Amount Ever Awarded** **2015**

Home Counties of Scholarship Recipients



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

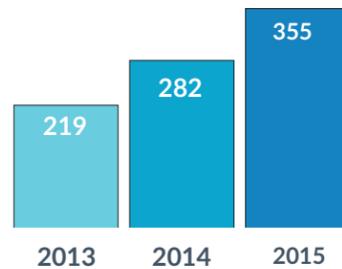
Students Awarded



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

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

Applications Submitted



# Grant critical to nonprofit bringing autism services to the Cedar Valley



The Homestead's new location on 18th Street in Cedar Falls.

One in 45 children has an autism spectrum disorder, according to a 2015 U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention survey. This number is up dramatically, and as the number rises, so does the need for early intervention and treatments.

Five years ago, The Homestead started in Altoona, Iowa to help meet the growing demand for applied behavior analysis for children with autism. The nonprofit has quickly expanded to five cities across the state, including the Cedar Valley, to be a much needed resource for families.

"Everyday tasks are a challenge for kids with autism and their parents," said Evelyn Horton, Director Youth Community Services at The Homestead. "A simple trip to the grocery store, going to church, or even stopping to see friends is a battle."

CFNEIA awarded \$25,000 to The Homestead through its Black Hawk County spring 2015 grant cycle. The grant was critical to opening the facility and helped fill a much needed gap in services in the Cedar Valley for families with children with autism, according to Horton.

Prior to the new location, the mother of an 18-month old girl diagnosed with nonverbal autism began utilizing The Homestead's services. Desperate for treatment, the mother drove three hours, three days a week to reach their facilities.

"On the first day, when she dropped off her daughter, her little girl showed no signs of emotion or care that her mom was leaving," said Horton. "I'll never forget when the mother looked at the staff and said, 'When will my daughter start loving me?'"

Now, the girl is verbal, excelling in communication, and anxiously anticipates her mom coming to pick her up.

The staff at The Homestead celebrate these milestones with clients, but the goal is to create skills for long-term success.

"We focus on making sure the child is not only better than yesterday, but to the point we are confident in their skills that they will be okay if we are not here tomorrow," said Horton.

"On the first day, when she dropped off her daughter, her little girl showed no signs of emotion or care that her mom was leaving. I'll never forget when the mother looked at the staff and said, 'When will my daughter start loving me?'"

**EVELYN HORTON**  
Director Youth Community Services



Jesse Cosby Center at the Women in Philanthropy grant reception.

## WOMEN IN PHILANTHROPY AWARD 2015 GRANTS

JESSE COSBY NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER \$10,000

For over 50 years, the Jesse Cosby Neighborhood Center has maintained a focus on the prosperity of minority groups in the Waterloo area. The grant will support the launch of the Circles of Support program.

The program pairs mentors who have overcome poverty with people who are in the process of becoming financially stable. The grant will provide support for mentor training as well as meals, childcare, and even transportation to the Circles of Support meetings along with other general costs of the program and program materials.

LINK CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT \$1,311

This WIP grant will support Try Pie, a program of Link Christian Community Development. The program empowers a diverse group of teen girls through making and selling pies in the Cedar Valley. The steps of this process help them learn job skills, is an introduction to entrepreneurialism, and teaches financial stewardship.

READ MORE AT [CFNEIA.ORG](http://CFNEIA.ORG)



## Elizabeth Naebers died in 2001



Today she is helping high school students reach for their dreams through the M. Elizabeth Naebers Scholarship Fund.

**190 scholarships totaling \$199,000**

Margret Elizabeth Naebers, or Liz, as her friends knew her, loved people, her family farm and her community of Dunkerton.

Her classmates remember her as smart, a great writer, and most comfortable in overalls. Not surprisingly, the family farm became her life and livelihood at age 20. It was a passion that never wavered throughout her life.

Her strong will, work ethic, independent spirit and gift for connecting with her neighbors stand out in the minds of those who knew her.

Liz shared strong bonds with her community and decided to establish a scholarship fund through her will to

invest in area students seeking a college education.

Today, the M. Elizabeth Naebers Scholarship Fund, established in 2001, is helping students from Dunkerton High School and Don Bosco High School pursue their educational dreams.

Elizabeth was an eager student with a passion for people. Now, her generosity is leaving a legacy for youth in the community she loved.

We can help you make a difference in the lives of students in your community. Contact our development team at 319-287-9106 or visit [cfneia.org](http://cfneia.org) to learn how.

# Grantmaking Snapshots

## PROJECT: GIRLS CIRCLE

Girls Circle is a structured group designed to increase positive connections, strengths and competence in girls. As a result of the grant, Crisis Intervention Service was able to facilitate four, eight-week sessions of Girls Circle. Each session focused on a different target audience ranging from middle school to college-age girls. By the end of the program, participants saw positive life changes including a decrease in self-harming behavior, alcohol use, and an increase in self-efficacy.



## PROJECT: MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY COLLECTION RENEWAL

The Fredericksburg Community Schools district needed to make important updates to their middle school library. Through this grant, the school librarian was able to select new hard cover books to replace worn paperbacks. Books included a mix of classic literature, replacing tattered favorites, and new titles. The new books provide greater durability for long-term use, and provide an improved selection for students to increase their literary and research skills, and to hopefully instill a lifelong love of reading.



## PROJECT: CAMP CREAMERY 2015

Camp Creamery is a week-long workshop for children interested in exploring the exciting world of theater. The grant supported the camp, held in Dysart, designed to give children the opportunity to work and perform with three professional Old Creamery actors. The children learned scripts, musical numbers and choreographed dance numbers. After a week of studying and rehearsals, the play was presented to the public. The program encourages children to realize their theatrical potential.



PAWS Humane Society, Charles City



## Ike Leighty Family Community Room available for nonprofits

Strong nonprofit organizations are a driving force behind great communities. CFNEIA is honored to partner with great nonprofits across our region. The Ike Leighty Family Community Room at our new office location is a resource the Foundation can provide to our partners.

The Community Room was created to provide a gathering space for strategic planning, staff enrichment, board and committee involvement and other important gatherings for nonprofit organizations. The space is free of charge to nonprofits and was a key component of CFNEIA's new office planning.

The Community Room has a maximum capacity of 99 people and can be arranged in several layouts.



The Ike Leighty Family Community Room was designed specifically for nonprofits seeking a space for trainings, workshops, or other events.

Technology includes an HD projector and screen and a P.A. system. A fully functioning kitchen is also available.

The Foundation is grateful to the late Ike Leighty and his family for their generous support of this community space and vision for a strong nonprofit community in the Cedar Valley.

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

## New Funds

FUNDS ESTABLISHED BETWEEN OCTOBER 27, 2015 AND FEBRUARY 17, 2016

- Benton County Conservation Foundation Endowment Fund
- Build Hope Capital Campaign Fund
- Dean and Marcie Andrews Family Endowment Fund
- Friends of the Marengo Public Library Foundation Endowment Fund
- Gladys and Clare Sloan Fund
- Hilbert "Butch" and Mary Ann Mixdorf Family Fund
- Jim Morgan Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Msgr. Walter Brunkan Charitable Fund
- PAWS Endowment Fund
- St. John's United Church of Christ Endowment Fund
- St. John's United Church of Christ Impact Fund
- Steve and Stacie Brass Family Fund
- West Bend Historical Society Fund

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO QUALIFIED FUNDS ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE ENDOW IOWA TAX CREDIT. FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO [CFNEIA.ORG](http://CFNEIA.ORG) OR CALL US AT 319-287-9106.**

## New board members

CFNEIA welcomes two new members to our Board of Directors.



**HENRY BEVEL III**  
Home: Waterloo  
Occupation: Attorney, Swisher & Cohrt, P.L.C.



**SHARINA SALLIS**  
Home: Waterloo  
Occupation: Community Relationships Specialist, CUNA Mutual Group



3117 Greenhill Circle  
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

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

Return service requested

celebrating **60** years

319-287-9106 cfneia.org

The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa is a nonprofit committed to creating long-term impacts in 20 counties in Iowa. CFNEIA helps people establish funds for the causes they care about and makes grants to organizations creating a stronger and more vibrant quality of life for everyone.

CFNEIA is Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.

Our accreditation provides assurance that we have sound policies and practices in place. In short, it means we meet the highest standards for local giving.



Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™

# New mission, vision and values guide CFNEIA

## Our Mission

To inspire people and connect resources to enrich our communities.

## Our Vision

A vibrant region of thriving people.

## Our Values

### Service

We nurture relationships through exceptional service to donors, nonprofits and the greater community.

### Collaboration

We trust in the power of partnerships to create a more positive and transformative impact.

### Accountability

We hold ourselves to the highest standards of ethics, transparency and fiduciary responsibility.

### Inclusion

We promote equity through engagement and participation of diverse voices and perspectives.

### Sustainability

We champion actions that support long-term social, environmental and economic solutions.

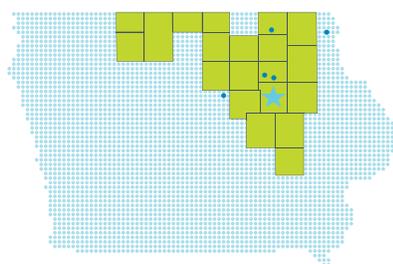
### Strategic Thinking

We believe in the value of continuous learning with thoughtful analysis to achieve results.

## Endow Iowa Tax Credit

CFNEIA is a qualified community foundation that provides access to Endow Iowa Tax Credits. Taxpayers can receive a 25% Iowa tax credit through Endow Iowa in addition to normal federal charitable income tax deductions for certain charitable gifts.

### CFNEIA SERVICE AREA



- ★ CFNEIA Office
- County Affiliates
- Community Affiliates

- Ackley
- Benton County
- Bremer County
- Black Hawk County
- Buchanan County
- Butler County
- Cerro Gordo County
- Chickasaw County
- Elma
- Emmet County
- Fayette County
- Floyd County
- Franklin County

- Grundy County
- Howard County
- Iowa County
- Kossuth County
- Palo Alto County
- Readlyn
- Tama County
- Waterville
- Waverly
- Winneshiek County
- Winnebago County
- Worth County