what we do

The Cerro Gordo County Community Foundation connects people who care about community with the nonprofits who are doing the most good here.

We do this by helping to simplify the philanthropic process, giving generous people a way to support what they care about. Gifts to the Community Foundation become part of a permanent endowment, which means they will benefit your community forever. We invest gifts so they grow, maximizing the resources available to use for grantmaking that addresses community needs.

“Starting a fund with the Cerro Gordo County Community Foundation makes an important impact in our local communities. The generosity and vision of people who love where they live ensures we can continue to do good in our county forever.”

MARY INGHAM
Cerro Gordo County Community Foundation Committee Chair
2015 Discretionary Grants

Art and Culture
- Camp Tanglefoot, Craft House Remodel
- Central Gardens of North Iowa, Accessibility for Everyone at the Gardens
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- City of Mason City, MacNider Art Museum Security Sensor Project
- MASON City Schools Instrumental Music Boosters Foundation, Purchase of One High School Yamaha Euphonium
- North Iowa Band Festival Foundation, Travel Stipends for Marching Bands
- Pioneer Museum & Historical Society of North Iowa, Replacement of Desktop Computer and Upgrade Outdated Software
- River City Sculptures on Parade, Sculpture Walk Permanent Pedestals

Community Betterment
- City of Mason City, East Park Pickleball/Tennis Courts Phase I
- City of Mason City, Cannonball Gardens Phase II
- City of Mason City, Bike Valet Enhancement
- City of Mason City, New Audio Books
- Mission Thornton, Revitalize the City of Thornton Basketball Court
- North Iowa Events Center, Kenney Building Painting Project

Education
- Iowa Jobs for America’s Graduates, IJAG: Supporting Student Success in Mason City
- Newman Catholic School System, Multisensory Approach to Learning Phase II
- North Central Iowa Ag in the Classroom, Ag Education for Preschool – 8th grade Students in Cerro Gordo County

Health
- Cerro Gordo County Board of Health - Public Health Department, Walking School Bus
- North Iowa Transition Center, Electronic Health Record

Human Service
- Caring Pregnancy Center, Provide Baby Essentials Earned by Clients
- City of Mason City, Technology Equipment Purchase
- City of Mason City, Adventure-Based Learning Project
- City of Rockwell, Rockwell Community Fire Service - Breathing Air Compressor
- City of Swaledale, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Facemask Purchase
- City of Thornton, Pagers
- Clear Lake Arts Council (dba Clear Lake Arts Center), Middle School After-School Program - Joint Venture Opportunity Village & The Clear Lake Arts Center
- Community Kitchen of North Iowa, Folding Chair Storage Dolly Project
- Habitat for Humanity North Central Iowa, Increased Security for Habitat for Humanity’s Office, Warehouse, and ReStore
- Iowa Radio Reading Information Service for the Blind, IRIS in Cerro Gordo County 2015
- Lutheran Services in Iowa, Healthy Families America (New Parent) Program in Cerro Gordo County
- Mason City Family YMCA, Inclusion Project
- North Iowa CERT, Replacement Support Vehicle
- Opportunity Village, Clothing Bins for Recycling Textiles
- Plymouth Area Fire Association, Brush Truck Skid Unit
- Rockwell-Swaledale Emergency Medical Team, Training Equipment
- Salvation Army, Computers
- Ventura Firefighters Association, General Lighting Enhancements

Grantmaking by program area

- Art and Culture: 22%
- Community Betterment: 47%
- Education: 17%
- Health: 6%
- Human Service: 8%

Giving through the foundation

Thanks to the generosity and vision of our donors, the Chickasaw County Community Foundation is able to build stronger, more vibrant communities across Chickasaw County today, and into the future. We continue working for our donors and all the communities we serve with visionary leadership, effective grant making and endowment building services.

endow iowa

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

Cerro Gordo County Community Foundation Funds
- Central Gardens of North Iowa Quasi-Endowment Fund
- Central Gardens of North Iowa Endowment Fund
- Cerro Gordo County Community Impact Fund
- Cerro Gordo County Endowment Fund
- Cerro Gordo County Expendable Fund
- CGCCF Friends of the Foundation Fund
- Clear Lake Fireworks Endowment Fund
- Clear Lake/Ventura Area Community Impact Fund
- Engage! Fund
- Jim W. and Ann Kuhlman Family Endowment Fund
- David H. and Jamey G. Moore Family Fund
- Thomas E. and Janice A. Nelson Scholarship Fund
- Anonymous Cerro Gordo Charitable Endowment Fund
- North Iowa Vocational Center Endowment Fund
- Bertha Stebens Children’s Theatre Foundation Fund
- Nancy Whaley Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Wright on the Park Endowment Fund
- Wright on the Park Quasi-Endowment Fund
- Tula Zanios Fund

2015 BY THE NUMBERS

$107,949 total grants distributed
$92,314 discretionary grants distributed
$536,057 in donations
total assets: $1,847,420
total endowed assets: $1,740,690

cerrogordoccf.org