what we do

The Cerro Gordo County Community Foundation connects people with the causes they care about and makes grants to nonprofit organizations enriching our communities.

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.

“When you make a gift to a fund or establish a fund with the Community Foundation, you help meet our county’s critical needs. It is this generosity that allows us to make grants to organizations changing lives and enriching our local communities.”

MARY INGHAM
Cerro Gordo County Community Foundation Committee Chair

Our Governing Committee
Mary Ingham, Chair
Shaun Arneson
Dalena Barz
Angela Determan
Paula Petersburg
Marty Ramaekers
Adan Wedmore
Sterling Young

Our Mission
To inspire people and connect resources to enrich our communities.

Go to cerrogordoccf.org for more information.
2016 Discretionary Grants
Listed by grant program area including organization, grant project

Art and Culture
Central Gardens of North Iowa, Reach More/Teach More: Building for the Future of Central Gardens of North Iowa
City of Mason City, MacNider Art Museum - Exhibit Maintenance Equipment
Clear Lake Arts Council, An Opportunity to Create
North Iowa Band Festival Foundation, Performing Arts Pavilion
North Iowa Events Center, Heating Efficiency Project
River City Sculptures on Parade, Permanent Sculpture Acquisition

Community Betterment
Cerro Gordo County, Wilkinson Covered Bridge Repair
City of Mason City, Mason City Parks & Recreation Dept. - Cannonball Gardens Phase III
City of Plymouth, Old School Park Bleacher Project
City of Swaledale, Town Hall - Wiring Upgrade
Mason City Community Schools, Harding Elementary Musical Playground
Mason City Downtown Association, Lullaby Lane Memorial Pathway at Elmwood Cemetery

Education
Mason City Instrumental Music Boosters Foundation, Purchase of Yamaha French Horn for Elementary School Band
North Central Iowa Ag in the Classroom, Agriculture Education for Cerro Gordo County Schools
North Iowa Area Community College Foundation, NIACC: Science to Success

Health
Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Cerro Gordo County, Mason City Community Gardens Water Enhancement & Community School Greenhouse and Garden Projects
Rockwell-Swaledale EMS, Ambulance Purchases

Human Service
Camp Tanglefoot, Ropes Course Equipment Storage Shed
Charlie Brown Preschool & Child Care, Playground Improvement Project

City of Mason City, Mason City Fire Department - Fire Explorer Program
City of Mason City, Mason City Police Department - Weapon Mounted LED Lights Phase I
City of Meservey, Heating/Plumbing for Addition to Fire Station
City of Rockwell, Rockwell Community Fire Service - Tool Project
City of Swaledale, Fire Department - Extrication Tools
City of Thornton, EMS Association - Pagers
City of Thornton, Thornton Fire Department Radio Crisis Intervention Service, Girls Circle
Elderbridge Agency on Aging, Material Aid
Francis Lauer Youth Services, Inc., Carpets for Kids
Habitat for Humanity of North Central Iowa, Shelving for Equipment, Construction Material and ReStore Donation Storage
Iowa Department of Natural Resources, McIntosh Woods State Park - Automated External Defibrillator
Mason City Family YMCA, Inclusion Project
NIVC Services, Inc., Light Duty Stacker & Work Support
North Iowa CERT, Rehab Project
North Iowa Community Action Organization, eWIC Rollout and Breastfeeding Education Conference
Northern Lights Alliance for the Homeless, Northern Lights Alliance for the Homeless
Opportunity Village, Barrel Washer for Fresh-Cut Food Processing Program
Salvation Army Adult Day Health Center, iPAD and Cordless Vacuum Cleaner for Hard Surfaces
The Community Kitchen of North Iowa, Inc., Replacement of Copier/Fax/Printer/Scanner and Purchase of Backup Hard-Drive
Ventura Firefighters Association, Cold Water Survival Suit Upgrade

Grantmaking by program area

Art and Culture 15%
Community Betterment 7%
Education 13%
Health 55%
Human Service 10%

endow iowa

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