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2025 REPORT TO
THE COMMUNITY



Dear Community Foundation Friends,

In my role as president of the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, I have the unique honor of seeing your generous impact in action. And I cherish the charitable spirit of Iowans. We genuinely care for each other and our communities, and we want them to be strong and sustainable – not only for today but for tomorrow. When a challenge or opportunity is at hand, we have a long history of rolling up our sleeves and working together to get the job done. That commitment continues today.

Know that your passions and values continue to help improve quality of life and serve as a powerful reminder that strong communities start with a strong foundation. Collaboration, connection and community doesn't just happen when times are easy. Your compassionate spirit serves as an ever-present guidepost to meet the challenges of today and inspires the generations of tomorrow.

Thank you for your leadership.

Thank you for strengthening nonprofit organizations in the communities you love.

And thank you for trusting us to be a part of your charitable giving story.

In 2024, you granted more than \$84 million to over 2,800 charitable causes. Your partnership enabled us to engage more than 1,100 nonprofit staff and board members in trainings, convenings and conversations. You supported us as we served 46 affiliate counties and communities across Iowa to maximize giving statewide. And over \$115 million in gifts were made to Community Foundation charitable giving funds as you continued your commitment to benefit the causes and communities you care about.

While the numbers represent the success of the Community Foundation in 2024, the true impact comes from the stories of the lives changed and the communities you bettered. We cannot do this work alone; it takes community. It takes you.

As we reflect on what is to come, we know we will need to be innovative, efficient, collaborative and future-forward in order to lead and address all that we may face. Our focus will be informed by the needs of our communities, as well as our strategic framework — furthering the good work in the places we are proud to call home. Your Community Foundation is ready to walk alongside you on this journey — addressing the pressing needs and promising opportunities of tomorrow. Thank you for making us better together.

With deepest gratitude,

Kristi Knous

Kristi Knous, President



FROM COURT TO COMMUNITY

“BEING ABLE TO GIVE BACK TO A PLACE THAT HAS GIVEN ME SO MUCH, HAS MEANT A LOT TO ME. TO USE MY RESOURCES AND MY PLATFORM TO GIVE BACK TO KIDS AND FAMILIES IS SO IMPORTANT TO ME.” — CAITLIN CLARK

Becoming a record-breaking and beloved women's basketball athlete takes more than simply possessing strong fundamental and technical skills; attributes like decision-making ability, leadership and a positive attitude allow a player to make smart decisions — both on and off the court. Caitlin Clark has had a clear vision and direction from the very beginning. And as she's grown into a champion, this mindset has helped inform her desire to give back to the community that has given her so much.

“She established her foundation around three pillars that are very fundamental in her own life, which are education, nutrition and sport,” said Mary Coffin, president of the Caitlin Clark Foundation. “We have big hopes and dreams, but want to have great strategic direction and stay focused on the three pillars.”

The Community Foundation has been a part of Caitlin's team to provide support through an agency fund. The Caitlin Clark Foundation fund was established, and in the years ahead, it will simplify and maximize her charitable impact.

As Caitlin's success has made a fast break, the Caitlin Clark Foundation has activated its game plan quickly. With many great opportunities to provide support, it started by hosting back-to-school backpack events. Backpacks were filled with all the necessary school supplies and distributed to public and parochial

students in need of extra help in the Des Moines area. The goal — to equip students to be successful in school and gain the confidence that comes from learning.

Caitlin's foundation also believes that with access to adequate and proper nutrition, youth can be their best in the classroom, in sports and in their daily lives. Additionally, they work to provide more youth with access to opportunities that develop good habits early, and lead to better health and quality of life.

“Caitlin still approaches life with a youthful and joyful attitude, and it's something we try to reflect throughout the organization and with our projects. We like interfacing with the kids whenever we can — with shared moments of joy,” said Blake Clark, Caitlin's older brother and treasurer of the Caitlin Clark Foundation. “The foundation is giving them a better chance to chase their dreams.”

“And as the organization continues to grow, the Community Foundation is also helping us with all the administration,” said Mary. “But most importantly, the Community Foundation is so connected in this community. When we came up with an idea or needed help or assistance connecting to a nonprofit, they were there for us.”

above: Caitlin distributes backpacks at a Des Moines area school



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PLANNING PAYS OFF

“THERE’S MORE SATISFACTION AND PERSONAL REWARD FROM GIVING THAN RECEIVING OR SPENDING. FIND YOUR SKILL SET, WHAT ATTRIBUTES AND ABILITIES YOU HAVE, AND USE THOSE GIFTS TO HELP.” — DAVID STREGE

For David Strege, his professional and personal motto in life is — *planning pays off*. From his company, Syverson Strege, partnering with the Community Foundation as a Charitable Investment Partner (CIP) to planning regular gifts from his personal donor advised fund (DAF), David has used planning to create community-wide impact through charitable giving.

“I started dedicating a percentage of my income to my DAF a number of years ago,” said David. “I have been really pleased with that process to make charitable distributions. Our DAF is a valuable vehicle for my family to use. It’s great to have a tool to put funds aside and know it’s our charitable pool of money to give from.”

His firm encourages their clients to look toward planning too, and as a CIP, the firm has appreciated the Community Foundation’s ability to help their clients with their planning - no matter where they are on their charitable giving journey.

“The Community Foundation is a good local partner for clients,” said David. “They can educate donors on area nonprofits, identify where their passions are and how to connect that to who they want to support.”

With retirement on the horizon for David, he plans to continue to utilize his DAF to leverage the power of donating privately-held company shares. By donating these shares to his DAF, the Community Foundation can sell the shares to avoid capital gains, and his DAF receives the full market value of those shares.

He also looks forward to continuing to dedicate his time and talents to the passion projects that mean the most to him, such as teaching fishing lessons at Wildwood Hills Ranch of Iowa.

above: Jen and David Strege at Wildwood Hills Ranch



BUSINESS OF GIVING BACK

“IT’S REALLY A PRIVILEGE TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY. WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HAS NOT ONLY HELPED US ORGANIZE OUR GIVING, BUT IT ALSO HELPS MAKE IT SUSTAINABLE.” — DAVE LING

What started as a transcription error has translated into a story of generosity that spans generations. Fritz and Marian Beisser founded the Beisser Lumber Company 72 years ago. The Beissers had initiated a pledge for \$500 to their local church, but their secretary added a ‘0’, an error that committed the family to \$5,000. But Fritz and Marian overlooked the error — if they had the money to give, they would. Their dedication to charity fostered a giving philosophy in their son, Kim, that continues today.

Kim grew up in a home where giving was modeled; not only giving to provide support but also encouraging others to do the same. When Kim met his lifelong sweetheart Sally, she synchronized with his passion to help those in-need. Both Sally and Kim were inspired by those who prepared them, and their lifelong commitment to make an impact started with two scholarships for undergraduate students.

The couple’s intentional focus on charitable giving was consistent in the way the Beisser Lumber Company runs — fostering a team culture of support and difference makers. The Beisser Lumber Company worked with their financial advisor to set a strategic approach to giving,

and they started a committee advised fund at the Community Foundation.

“We formed a giving committee that meets regularly to review requests, with a focus on education, affordable housing and organizations team members give their own time and talents toward. Our community supports our company and employees — so it’s really a privilege to be able to support the community,” said Dave Ling, president of Beisser Lumber Company.

Sally and Kim have been able to witness the simplified process and personalized approach of the Community Foundation, furthering the charitable work of the Beisser Lumber Company. The streamlined process inspired them to create a donor advised fund for their family.

“We have worked hard to invest and grow the company, and it is a privilege to be in a position to give back, both personally and professionally,” said Sally. “Watching people benefit from these gifts, not only helps strengthen individuals, but our community as a whole.”



above: Sally Beisser and Beisser Lumber Company President Dave Ling

circle image: Kim and Sally Beisser





INVESTING IN LASTING IMPACT

“IT’S IMPORTANT TO PUT A GIVING PLAN INTO ACTION THAT WILL GO BEYOND YOUR LIFETIME.” — JEM GONG-BROWNE

For Jem Gong-Browne, the Greater Des Moines area represents a place of love. It’s where she met her husband, where they’re now raising their kids in Ankeny and where she found her charitable passion: supporting children in our community.

“I really found my place in serving on the United Way of Central Iowa’s Women United group — giving back to make a broader impact for the children in our community,” said Jem.

This group of women invest in improving the quality of early care and education in central Iowa. After becoming pregnant with her daughter, she was even more deeply moved by the idea of giving all children the best foundation. It led her to establish a designated fund at the Community Foundation.

“My passion met its purpose in advocating for our children,” said Jem. “It became increasingly important to me to establish a designated fund, which provides sustainable support and investment in

the success of this organization and their mission — even after my lifetime.”

Jem was able to contribute appreciated stock from her previous and current employers to start an endowment to directly support the early childhood programming through Women United. The process to gift shares was made simple with a set of instructions that took very little time to complete. Additionally, she was able to avoid capital gains taxes on the transfer and deduct the full appreciated market value of the stocks from her income taxes, to further maximize her giving.

“It’s important to put a giving plan into action that will go beyond your lifetime,” said Jem. “The hardest part is focusing your passion, but once you’ve prioritized what drives you, everything after that is easy.”



above: Gong-Browne family: Kaiden, Jem, Robert & Kaili

circle image: Robert and Kaiden at a local library

LEGACY FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

“WE HAVE SPENT A GOOD PART OF OUR LIVES WORKING FOR AND SUPPORTING SMALL, COMMUNITY-BASED NONPROFITS AND KNOW THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A GIFT THAT IS TOO SMALL. THEY ALL ADD UP.” — LAURA & RICK KOZIN

Through their careers, volunteer efforts and charitable giving, Laura and Rick Kozin have supported community betterment since making Des Moines their home 25 years ago. When updating their wills, they were trying to determine the best way to provide guidance for the executors. Their attorney introduced them to the idea of establishing a legacy fund at the Community Foundation.

“Assuming there is an estate to disburse when we die, we didn’t know how to provide guidance for our executors, who don’t know the community, to support the kinds of nonprofits we have supported through our work and charitable giving,” said Rick.

A legacy fund at the Community Foundation allowed the Kozins to define areas of interest they want their estate to support.

“The legacy fund offered an avenue to support the kinds of community initiatives that are important to us without having to identify specific organizations ahead of time,” said Laura. “It also removes the burden from our out-of-state executors to have to make those decisions.”

While the administrative process of setting up their fund was easy, the Kozins did find that setting the parameters of their fund was more difficult.

“The process was challenging, in a good way,” said Rick. “It forced us to really think through what kind of community improvement work is most important to us. Not just which organizations to support, but which big picture goals matter most to us.”

And being able to trust the Community Foundation to fulfill their wishes regardless of how the nonprofit landscape of Des Moines may change was what the Kozins saw as one of the best benefits.

“Our legacy fund allows us flexibility to name the work, and we trust the Community Foundation has access to the people who can then reinterpret what that means consistent with our wishes,” said Rick.



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above: Laura and Rick Kozin





LEADERSHIP

IN HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

For Marlena Hemphill, Greater Des Moines is more than just a great place to call home. It's where she was embraced by The Beacon, a housing and recovery program, that provided a safe and supportive living environment. It's where she had the opportunity to break a vicious cycle of abuse and addiction, and work toward a more fulfilling, productive life.



"A home means life or death. The Beacon opened the door and gave me a safe place to heal and thrive for good," said Marlena. "And I just flourished. It was the chance that I never had in life."

Marlena not only graduated from The Beacon, but she is now employed at the organization as a case manager. The opportunity has allowed her to become more financially stable, work on her credit score and outstanding debts and has led to a path of homeownership.

"We make sure that we build lasting change with the women we serve, promoting independence, autonomy and creating the tools they need to truly sustain" said Amy Landrigan, executive director of The Beacon.

circle image: Marlena Hemphill works with a client
left: Anawim Housing, a Leadership Grant recipient



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A REGIONAL NEED

The path to homeownership can be complex for an individual, but as a community, there is a pressing need to ensure that accessible housing options even exist for individuals, like Marlena. The supply of affordable housing has lagged behind regional population and job growth, which has resulted in a higher cost of living in the fastest-growing job centers in the metro.

"Regionally, there is a significant affordability problem that is increasing, and it expands the challenges in preventing homelessness," said Mayor Courtney Clarke, city of Waukee. "We have a number of residents that are spending over 50% of their income on housing, and it's really challenging to make sure they're getting all their other needs met and have ongoing financial stability."

The city of Waukee recognized this need and supported an affordable housing development in their community. Partnering with Habitat for Humanity, a 5.68-acre site located along a main corridor, will host 48 affordable owner-occupied townhomes. Additionally, the city is considering incentive plans for multifamily affordable housing and the potential of creative solutions, like a community land trust.

BETTER TOGETHER

"We're trying a number of different things in order to move the needle, and we're seeing so much engagement from the entire region," said Mayor Clarke. "It's very rare to have a multi-jurisdictional approach and people coming together across public, private and nonprofit organizations to create solutions."

The Community Foundation has been at the center — developing partnerships and pooling resources to get everyone around the table to create sustainable change around housing and homelessness in our community.

From offering donor education sessions to being a key driver of the strategic plan to address homelessness, the Community Foundation knows it's the better together spirit that's needed to make progress in the region.

"The Community Foundation does a really good job of bringing people together," said Lance Henning, chief executive officer of Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity. "Connecting those with resources to the programs and initiatives; and bringing together the community to have conversations around key

issues like access to affordable, workforce housing."

A regional, systems approach and comprehensive plan will be needed to foster workforce housing – to continue to build, make it easier to build and to build more affordably.

"If we're short on homeownership opportunities, that affects rental rates and availability. Shortage on the rental side then ends up impacting supportive housing and homelessness," said Lance. "It's all interrelated and we need to have comprehensive solutions. Central Iowa is different and I'm excited about how we work together to make change happen."

A PLACE TO CALL HOME

Prioritizing workforce housing will ensure existing residents like Marlena can continue to live in the communities they work in and love, while new residents to these growing neighborhoods throughout Central Iowa have a thriving and vibrant place to call home.

"I am still in awe over buying my first home – I'm just ecstatic. It was a goal back when I was a client at The Beacon. So, the fact that I'm here, I just feel so proud of myself and happy," shares Marlena. "You can be anything you want to be, and you can reach your goals."

below: Rendering of Walnut Crossing, the Habitat for Humanity housing development in Waukee, a Leadership Grant recipient





IMPACT

THE BETTER TOGETHER LEADERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM PROVIDES GRANTS TO PROJECTS MAKING A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON OUR COMMUNITY.



The Ellipsis project results in a continuum of care for system-involved youth that will expand group foster care and help close the gap on services for girls in supervised apartment living. A Place for Girls supports healing and increases opportunities for skill-building to improve well-being and long-term self-sufficiency.

Monarch Apartments provides 40 permanent supportive housing units for those experiencing homelessness in Greater Des Moines. The project will utilize the community-wide Centralized Intake system to prioritize the most vulnerable for housing.



THE PROGRAM TAKES A NIMBLE APPROACH TO ADDRESSING PRESSING NEEDS AND PROMISING OPPORTUNITIES...



GRANTED
Nearly \$950,000 from the Better Together fund.

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORTING CRITICAL WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY.



Completion of The Beacon Village addresses the need for housing and support for women who have a history of homelessness and/or incarceration. The new facility has 32 apartments and utilizes a community-centered approach, where women support one another in a neighbor-centric environment.

A new facility will expand the capacity from serving 60 children with specialized healthcare needs to 600, dramatically reduce waitlists for families and expand services with the addition of 40 new specialized clinical staff roles.



THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF DONORS TO THE BETTER TOGETHER FUND FOR IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL.



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All projects listed are 2024 Leadership Grant recipients.





“The Community Foundation has been a driving force and committed partner, making meaningful investments in Capital Crossroads and the latest phase of the regional plan.

This has been a true community effort, with a strong focus on education and housing — building momentum for workforce housing, expanding access to early childhood education and strengthening career pathways.

No single organization can tackle this alone, and the Community Foundation’s leadership plays a critical role in pushing this shared vision forward.”

Ardis Kelley
Capital Crossroads
Governance Committee Member



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A ROADMAP TO OPPORTUNITY & PROSPERITY FOR ALL

The Capital Crossroads Roadmap is Central Iowa’s comprehensive plan to inspire and align leaders and organizations across Greater Des Moines toward a common vision. The Community Foundation has long supported collaborative visioning efforts and has been a key stakeholder in activating our community’s plan for the future.

The Roadmap leverages the region’s strengths and addresses critical challenges by focusing on four Cornerstones:

- **Economic Opportunity & Prosperity**
- **Community & Cultural Connections**
- **Thriving Neighborhoods**
- **Youth Investment**

The Cornerstones help accelerate impact, guide regional leaders and shape initiatives around the following priorities:

- 1 Strengthen community and cultural connections;
- 2 Bolster access to affordable housing in safe, clean and connected neighborhoods;
- 3 Cultivate professional opportunities for a diverse, thriving workforce; and
- 4 Provide children with a path to health, education and professional success.

The Community Foundation hosted DonorConnect, a conversation series designed to bring our community together to learn about and discuss these priorities elevated in the Roadmap.

PATHWAYS TO A VIBRANT FUTURE

A highlight of impactful programs for students and employers that promote job growth and education to keep our region competitive and vibrant.



ARTFUL IMPACT

An experience featuring cultural opportunities that are accessible, integrated and enhance the area’s creative vitality to help foster a flourishing community.



GROWING WORKFORCE HOUSING FOR THRIVING COMMUNITIES

A conversation with community partners about the need for workforce housing that meets demand, aligns with employment needs and is conveniently located near jobs and transportation.





above: Great Outdoors Foundation Chief Executive Officer Hannah Inman and Vice President of Strategic Partnerships Jen Cross, pictured with West Des Moines Councilmember Matthew McKinney

Strategic Alignment Grants were awarded to eight initiatives seeking ways to leverage the strengths of colleague organizations to meet needs and create opportunities in Greater Des Moines.

GREAT OUTDOORS FOUNDATION

The Great Outdoors Foundation grew out of a need for collaboration in the conservation sector. The goal — to grow nonprofits to advance and steward a healthy ecosystem of natural resources.

“The Great Outdoors Foundation pursues partnership with various nonprofit organizations within the conservation sector to boost the impact of our efforts, together,” said Jen Cross, vice president of strategic partnerships.

To help facilitate the collaborative potential, the organization received a Strategic Alignment Grant from the Community Foundation. The grant focused on addressing challenges faced by nonprofits that mainly have a single staff position and may not be able to reach their full potential due to resourcing capacity.

“The funding enabled us to explore possibilities with the nonprofits we are engaged with, to see how we could come together to not just gain efficiencies, but grow impact,” said Jen. “Working together with organizations that steward natural resources and enhance outdoor recreation ensures that future generations will continue to enjoy a quality outdoor ecosystem for years to come.”

Based on the work done as part of this process, the Great Outdoors Foundation has come alongside organizations to provide wraparound services and find innovative solutions to enhance their organizational effectiveness.

“The more we can collaborate with others within the nonprofit sector; the more work will be done well,” said Jen. “This grant opportunity is incredibly impactful for the nonprofit sector and is another illustration of how we are truly better together.”

DES MOINES ARTS FESTIVAL

Central Iowa is the proud home of one of the most prestigious and admired festivals in the world, the Des Moines Arts Festival. What started as a small gathering in a Des Moines park in 1958, has flourished into an internationally recognized celebration of arts and culture. While the festival is a visual celebration of the arts, the organization aims to cultivate, educate and engage an appreciation of the arts year-round, all guided thoughtfully by a comprehensive strategic plan.

“Our strategic plan is our north star,” said Stephen King, executive director of the Des Moines Arts Festival. “It’s how we focus on moving the organization forward. It’s also an opportunity for us to reflect on what’s working and where we should expand.”

With the support of a Capacity Building Grant from the Community Foundation, they engaged a consultant to help their board map out their next strategic plan to serve the organization and its mission in Greater Des Moines.

“The grant enabled us to hire a professional to help us through the process,” said Stephen. “They asked the hard questions and challenged us to focus on what would be sustainable for our organization while still growing our impact.”

The Des Moines Arts Fest remains committed to championing new and emerging ideas and helping the creative economy accelerate forward well into the future.

As nonprofits focus on strengthening overall governance and management, the Capacity Building Grant program provided 21 grant awards for strategic planning, succession planning, fund development planning and more.

“Our work to support individual artists here at home is something we will continue to cultivate through our strategic plan,” said Stephen. “Planning not only helps our organization chart its course but also shines a light on creative entrepreneurs who continue to shape the vibrancy of Greater Des Moines every day.”

below: Attendees shop an artist booth at the Des Moines Arts Festival (photo by Keely Rosenberg)





A COLONY OF CONNECTION

For Zakariyah Hill, what started as a passion project in college has grown into Supply Hive, a nonprofit that operates much like a beehive — working collectively to gather and distribute essential supplies to those in need. Supply Hive rescues and redistributes food and other necessities to nourish the community. With rising food insecurity in Central Iowa and a critical need for food rescue services, Supply Hive has been buzzing with activity, tirelessly stocking community fridges, pantries and nonprofits.

“The Community Foundation provided grant funding and served as a guiding light as we merged with another organization, and realized quick growth,” said Zakariyah, president and executive director of Supply Hive. “Their knowledge has allowed us to be the best organization for our audience — both those we want to help and our donors. They have stood beside us to create bridges, build connections and allow us to synchronize with other providers while fulfilling our mission.”

The support provided helped Supply Hive prepare to expand from a volunteer-led entity to an organization with key resources necessary to deploy essential food rescue services across Greater Des Moines. And when hurdles, like a broken-down truck unfolded,

the Community Foundation served as a pollinator, connecting the organization with those who aligned with their purpose of service, resulting in both expertise and funding support.

“During points of transition and pivotal changes, the Community Foundation has helped us maintain operations seamlessly,” said Zakariyah. “When the truck broke down, they quickly connected us to a subject-matter expert that helped us weigh our options. This donor’s gift of time turned into a gift of treasure, and then additional, like-minded donors also came alongside us to provide support. It is thanks to connections like these that our cash flow was not affected and service for those we provide for was not interrupted.”



As Supply Hive expands its reach, the spirit of collaboration and connection, fostered by the Community Foundation, remains a guidepost for their work — proving that together, we can build a stronger, more nourished community.

below: Zakariyah Hill, president & executive director of Supply Hive

circle image: Supply Hive volunteers collecting food



MILESTONES THAT MATTER

Bob Maddox, III, fondly known as Junior around the office, was taught at a young age that there is fun in giving. His father started Allied Construction in 1950 and was deeply committed to not only growing a successful construction company but also giving back to support a thriving Greater Des Moines.

“As the company celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2000, my father wanted to continue to build the city — not only through work, but through donations. So, my parents committed a \$1 million gift to the Community Foundation’s Better Together Fund,” said Bob. “Watching my parents give meaningfully has continued to inspire me. Twenty-five years later, on the company’s 75th anniversary, my wife, LaRue, and I committed to doing the same — a \$1 million gift to the Better Together Fund.”

The Better Together Fund is an opportunity to invest in our community’s most important issues, initiatives and needs through grantmaking that strengthens Greater Des Moines and provides transformational impact for generations to come.

Bob’s philosophy to share the wealth in order to help others goes beyond gifts of treasure. He loves to volunteer, and you can find him avidly helping others.

“I just love to volunteer and am often invited to many events,” said Bob. “But recently, I was blessed by an opportunity to attend a Community Foundation DonorConnect event at WesleyLife Meals on Wheels. The subject was legacy, and I was so inspired by the good work happening around me that I offered to become a volunteer driver. I want to meet people, to fill a need — and nothing makes me happier than when I deliver a meal and someone invites me inside to talk, or for a hug.”

Bob was raised in Des Moines, is familiar with local causes and has a passion to give of his time, talents and treasure. His wife, LaRue, enjoys finding small nonprofit organizations to give to and the couple appreciates the Community Foundation’s expertise in facilitating their giving.



“Giving back reminds us of how blessed we are,” said Bob. “I hope our boys will continue to be inspired by our family’s legacy of giving. We love Greater Des Moines and are proud of it. We want to see it continue to grow and thrive.”

circle image: LaRue and Bob Maddox, III

below: DonorConnect event at WesleyLife Meals on Wheels





A MATCH MADE MERRY

As the Des Moines Public Library Foundation prepared to celebrate the North Side Library's 40-year anniversary, they circled around the idea of a reimagined children's area. A carousel bookshelf was on their wish list as a nod to the surrounding neighborhoods the library supported. Funding had not been planned for a renovation, so the Des Moines Public Library Foundation listed this priority project on GIVEdsm — a free, online resource powered by the Community Foundation, where donors can connect to community needs and opportunities that match their areas of interest.

"We were very excited about this project because it sounded like the perfect fit," said Darcy Hathaway, Community Foundation fund holder. "I was able to go on GIVEdsm and see this need, and it met the goals and mission of our fund at the Community Foundation."

The Lane Hathaway family started their donor advised fund when Darcy was expecting her first child. Some of Darcy's fondest memories growing up was sharing books with her mom Kathy, a former first-grade teacher, and they started their fund in hopes

that it would grow along with Darcy's growing family.

"When we started our fund, we wanted to give money to support early childhood literacy in the Des Moines area," said Kathy Lane. "The Community Foundation has been helpful in connecting us to projects, as they are very aware of our interests. They make us feel like what we're doing is important."

The North Side Library carousel bookshelf ended up being one of those important projects — a playful installation that Darcy's little girls would be able to see and enjoy as well.

"I think libraries are such a great community space, and being able to make it an even better place for kids and families to gather is important," said Darcy.

"We hope it gets young people excited about reading and helps prepare them for success in the future," shared Kathy.

circle image: Tom Lane, Darcy Hathaway and Kathy Lane with Rosie at the North Side Library

below: Maggie, Kathy Lane, Sally and Darcy Hathaway enjoy the Heritage Carousel



GIVEdsm



Connect

Visit GIVEdsm.org and learn about the needs and opportunities of local nonprofits.



Choose

Sort via giving category or type based on the causes you care about.



Give

With the click of a button, give to make Greater Des Moines greater.

One of the many tools we have to support our passionate local nonprofit community is our GIVEdsm platform. From general support, timely needs or capital campaigns, GIVEdsm can serve as an online resource to share your needs with a community interested in giving. Visit GIVEdsm.org to get started today!

GIVEdsm.org



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20 YEARS OF SUPPORT COUNTY AFFILIATES

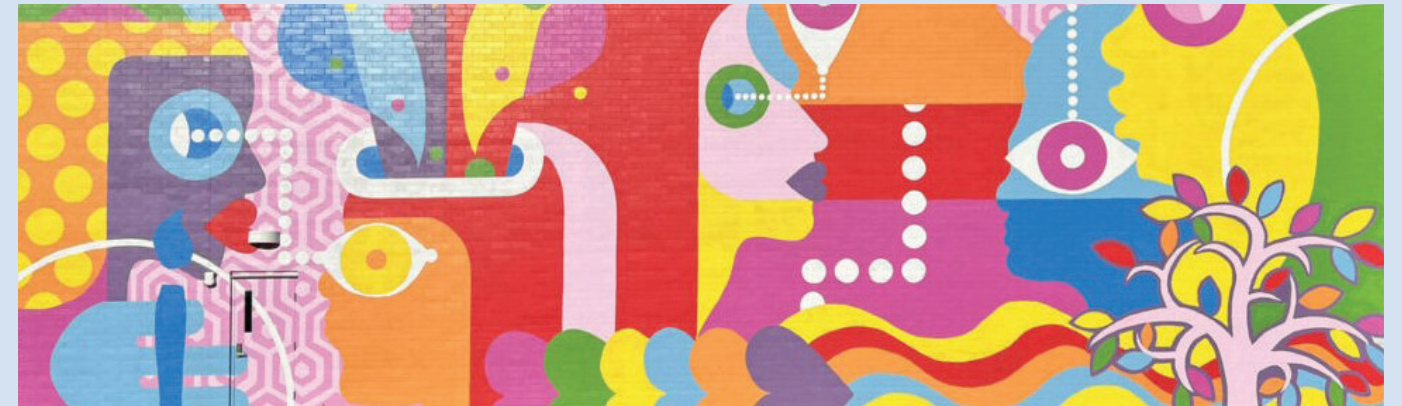
Twenty years ago, a group of state leaders had the foresight and opportunity to make positive, lasting change in the communities they love. The County Endowment Fund Program was born and has since provided significant support to many of our affiliate community foundations throughout the state of Iowa. The program annually redistributes a percentage of gaming revenues to counties to support local charities and community projects. Throughout these past 20 years, this program has made counties and communities vibrant and fostered quality of life across our great state.

Wright County started with a goal to grow their affiliate community foundation to \$1 million, a goal they didn't think they'd meet. The contributions from the County Endowment Fund Program inspired additional charitable giving across the county, and now the organization holds over eight times that amount to support their communities, today and tomorrow.

"When you think something isn't attainable and it turns out that it is, it's an amazing feeling," said Duane Asbe, development contractor at the Wright County Charitable Foundation. "It's been great to see what we have accomplished by working with individuals, companies, nonprofits and corporations. And then from a granting standpoint it's been amazing as far as the different impact we've had on many causes throughout the county."

In **Hardin County**, the program has provided the Hardin County Community Endowment Foundation with an endowment fund, which has enabled them to focus on their work in the community.

"We can do extra projects in the community and try to bring donors together," said Tam Elerding, program director. "I feel like I can build the relationships in Hardin County, and then I can go to the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines and give them the



above: Mural on the B.A. Niblock - MCSO Orpheum Welcome Center in Marshall County

information and they help me facilitate the transactions and setting up the charitable funds."

The Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines is the host foundation for 46 county and community affiliates. While all grantmaking is done at a local level, operational and technical support is provided for the affiliates — so they can focus on making a lasting impact in their communities.

"We are very proud to be an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines," said Tam. "They're always there to answer my questions, and I really appreciate that."

In **Marshall County**, the endowment program has supported over 600 grants totaling \$1.8 million.

"When you see projects 20 years down the road that were funded and are still viable, made possible by the County Endowment Fund, that is great," said Julie Hitchens, executive director at the Community Foundation of Marshall County. "The grantmaking has been so very important and our board is funding bigger, more capital grants."

In **Hamilton County**, the County Endowment Fund program, in partnership with Enhance Hamilton County Foundation, has allowed the foundation to become an active leader and resource in the community.

"I think the greatest impact that being an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines has had for our county is that we are positioned now in a state of being proactive, and we're looking at bigger, transformational kind of things," said Darcy Swon, development director at the Enhance Hamilton County Foundation. "I'm being called a lot more to bring the community foundation into conversations early on, and that is huge. We're now at the table a lot faster and sooner than we have been before and making larger impacts."

The Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines is proud to serve as the host foundation for our affiliates and we look forward to all the possibilities waiting for us in the future, knowing community foundations will be uniquely equipped to continue to respond to community needs for generations to come.



circle image: Child playing at nonprofit Colts Corner Daycare in Wright County

below: Hardin County's Schiller Award recipients



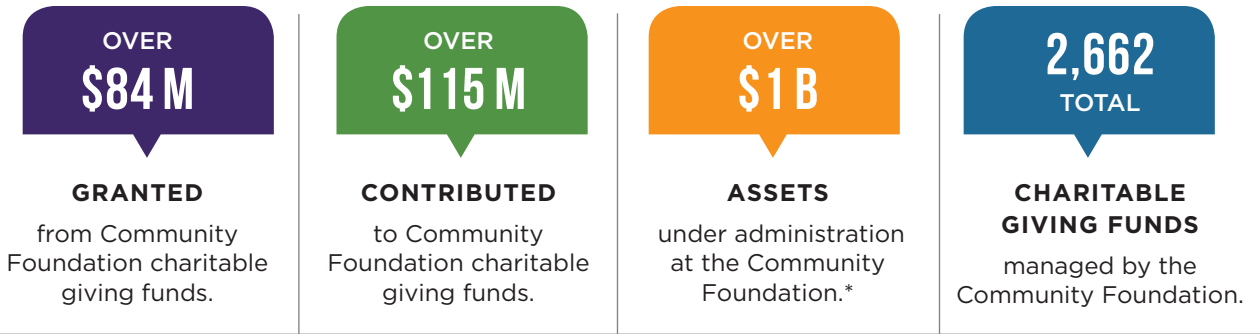
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above: Hamilton County Community Splash Pad



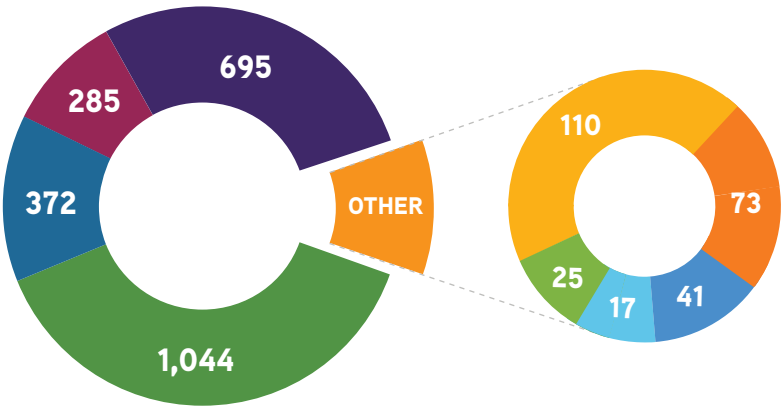


TOTAL CHARITIES SUPPORTED = 2,800



CHARITABLE GIVING FUNDS

- Donor Advised - 1,044
- Agency - 695
- Designated - 372
- Committee Advised - 285
- OTHER: 266
 - Legacy - 110
 - Additional Funds - 73
 - Better Together - 41
 - Seed - 17
 - Field of Interest - 25



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INVESTMENT PORTFOLIOS

The Community Foundation offers a variety of investment options to meet a range of charitable goals and time horizons. Each investment portfolio is carefully constructed and diversified across global investment opportunities to maximize return and minimize volatility. Returns are net of all investment fees. Returns for periods greater than one year are annualized.

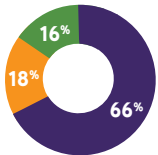
- Equities
- Fixed Income
- Alternatives

The **Long-Term Growth Portfolio** seeks maximum growth and controlled risk through a diversified portfolio of global stocks, bonds and alternative investment strategies.

11.0%
2024

7.7%
Five-year
Annualized Return

6.9%
Ten-year
Annualized Return

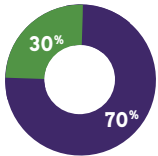


The **Indexed Growth Portfolio** seeks maximum growth, primarily through indexed funds, resulting in lower active management risk.

10.7%
2024

6.6%
Five-year
Annualized Return

6.4%
Ten-year
Annualized Return

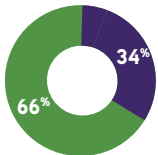


The **Moderate Growth Portfolio** is designed for growth at a more moderate level of risk.

7.9%
2024

4.2%
Five-year
Annualized Return

4.2%
Ten-year
Annualized Return



The **Short-Term Cash Portfolio** is 100% invested in cash and cash equivalents to ensure optimal liquidity, risk management and return on investment.

4.7%
2024

2.6%
Five-year
Annualized Return



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Audited financial statements are available at desmoinesfoundation.org/finance.
*Includes assets administered but not owned by the Community Foundation.

BOARD | COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025

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Joyce Chapman, *West Bank, Retired*
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Mary Coffin, *Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Retired*
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* Indicates deceased members

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Director of Marketing
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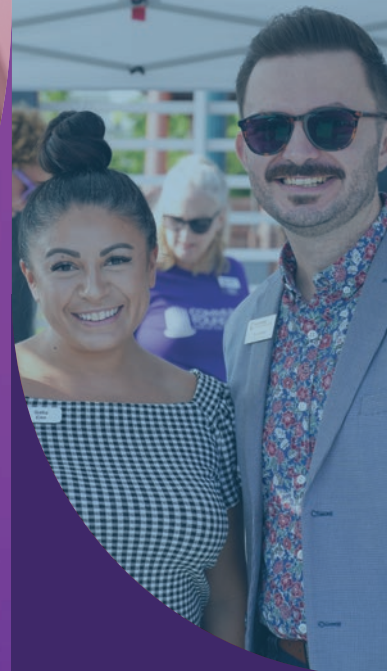
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desmoinesfoundation.org



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with National Standards
for U.S. Community
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