Dear Friends,

Since 1949, the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation has worked to improve the quality of life in Linn County. We set out to strengthen nonprofits, help donors give in meaningful ways, and provide leadership that supports a vibrant community. Seventy years later, we maintain our commitment to that mission.

In 2019, as a ten-year strategic plan to Double Our Impact came to a close, we spent time reflecting on who we are as an organization and how we can best serve our communities. We considered our past, present, and future, setting aside time to ask ourselves challenging questions about our structure, approach, and practices.

We learned that our strengths are the very same principles our organization was founded upon—the desire to build and support a vibrant community through charitable giving. The commitment of our predecessors allowed us to impact countless lives in 2019.

As we considered what is next for the Community Foundation, we found the answer to be more of the same. We will continue to look for ways we can act as a catalyst for innovation in philanthropy. We will continue our broad competitive grant strategy to fund continuing and new initiatives. We will maintain our flexibility as we respond to and support the changing landscape of our local nonprofit sector. We will still be responsible stewards, engaging all parts of our community. And, as always, we will do all of this with the long-term health of our community in mind.

We look forward to continued service to our community, and we are pleased to remember 2019 as a year of growth, learning, and impact.

Sincerely,

Amy Lynch
Chair, 2019 Board of Directors

Les Garner
President & CEO