

HERE FOR ALL OF LINN COUNTY

2023 Annual Report



\$212
MILLION

in Total Assets

1,050
Total Funds

\$194
MILLION

Total Grants Since
Inception

DEAR FRIENDS,

In 2023, the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation welcomed a new President & CEO for the first time in a decade. After a nation-wide search, we were both delighted that the Board of Directors' choice came from within the Community Foundation. A change in leadership is significant for any organization, but we are proud to say that our organization remains in stride, focused on our mission to strengthen our community through philanthropy.

Throughout the past year, we have reflected on our history, our resiliency, and our impact on Linn County. We're grateful for the countless donors and nonprofit organizations who have partnered with us to practice and support impactful philanthropy. Together, we're creating a more vibrant and inclusive Linn County where all people thrive.

As we celebrate 75 years in 2024, we invite you to discover our past and join our future. We have much to be proud of as an organization and a community, and we intend to equip the next generation with a similar sense of pride. Join us for the greater good of our community, because we are here for all of Linn County.



Diana Ledford

Diana Ledford
2023 Board Chair



Karla Twedt-Ball

Karla Twedt-Ball, MPP
President & CEO

HERE FOR ALL

In recent years, the Community Foundation has prioritized improving its ability to serve all of Linn County. For too long, rural communities and people of color have faced significant barriers to accessing resources. Through learning cohorts, donor engagement, and a new type of charitable fund, in 2023 we helped connect these groups to the philanthropic and professional resources available to build a strong and vibrant community.

PHILANTHROPY FOR ALL

In 2023, donors in Mount Vernon worked with the Community Foundation to establish two Community Betterment Funds. Operating much like a standalone foundation, these funds allow Mount Vernon to raise and distribute charitable gifts in the ways that best suit the community. Through Community Betterment Funds, more Linn County communities can access and leverage philanthropic resources.



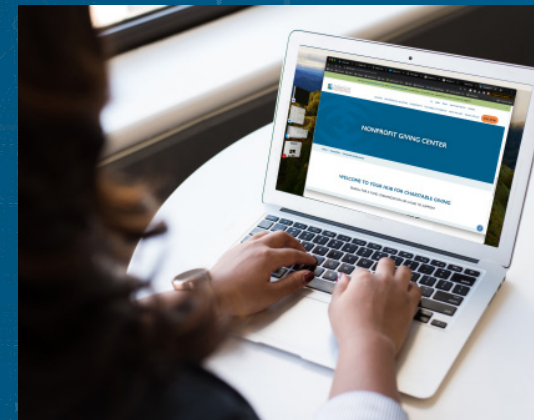
LEARNING FOR ALL

Throughout 2023, the second Thrive Cohort met for relationship building, networking and intentional learning. This group of 19 Black, Brown and Biracial nonprofit professionals heard from local leaders and experts on a wide range of topics to build skills to strengthen their organizations. Since 2021, the Thrive Cohort has worked to help nonprofits close the racial leadership gap and diversify staff and managerial teams. The Thrive Cohort is supported in part by the Alliant Energy Foundation.



COMMUNITY FOR ALL

We envision a vibrant and inclusive Linn County where all people thrive. In pursuit of this, we worked with hundreds of donor partners to distribute more than \$11 million in grants to 634 nonprofits in 2023. Through partnerships with local nonprofits and philanthropists, we're helping to create a stronger future for Linn County.



RESOURCES FOR ALL

In 2023, the Community Foundation launched a new website with valuable resources. A new giving hub, called the Nonprofit Giving Center, helps connect the needs of nonprofits to donors who want to make a difference. In addition, the Nonprofit Calendar provides upcoming nonprofit events and activities for the community to support. Visit gcrf.org to learn more.



CONNECTION FOR ALL

After the 2020 derecho, local governments and Linn Area Partners Active in Disaster (LAP-AID) observed that some groups, including people who face language barriers or have disabilities, were not always aware of resources available. The LAP-AID Inclusion Cohort brought together ten community leaders from traditionally excluded groups for collective learning and connection to community resources. It was partially funded by the Philanthropic Preparedness, Resiliency, and Emergency Partnership (PPREP), a project of The Funders Network.

\$14
MILLION
Contributions



42
New Funds



1,083
Gifts Received

305
New Donors

PARTNERS IN PHILANTHROPY

Donors come to the Community Foundation to support local nonprofits through meaningful gifts. Effective philanthropy requires partnership, and we work with donors to achieve their giving goals and strengthen the community. Through a wide range of fund types and giving strategies, we help donors of all levels create a legacy of giving.



\$11
MILLION
Grants and Scholarships
Awarded



653
Nonprofits Funded

104
Scholarships
Awarded

SUPPORT FOR NONPROFITS

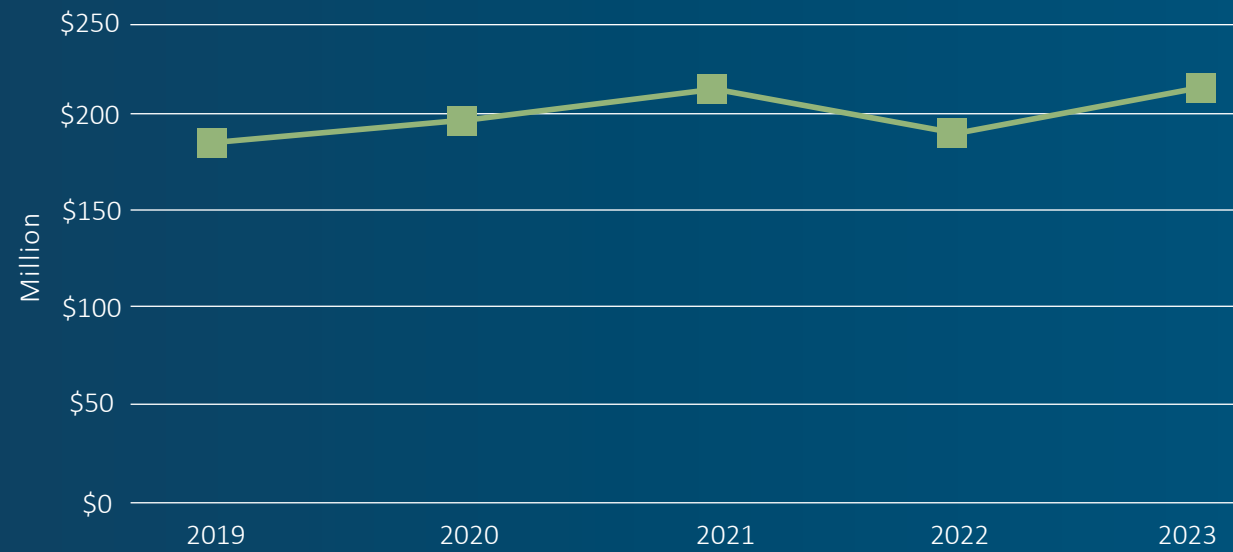
Nonprofit organizations provide programs and services that help make Linn County a healthy and vibrant community. Through grants, learning opportunities, and information sharing, the Community Foundation strives to provide tools and resources nonprofits need to pursue their missions.

70
Peer Groups and
Learning Events
for Nonprofit
Professionals

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

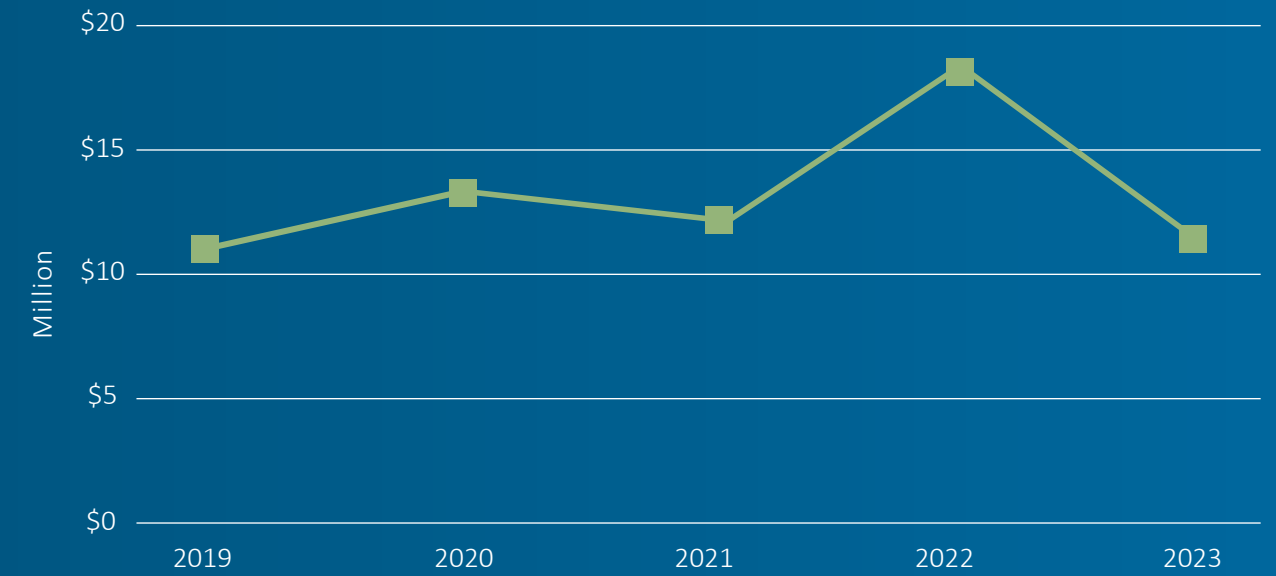
Asset Growth Over the Years

\$212
MILLION

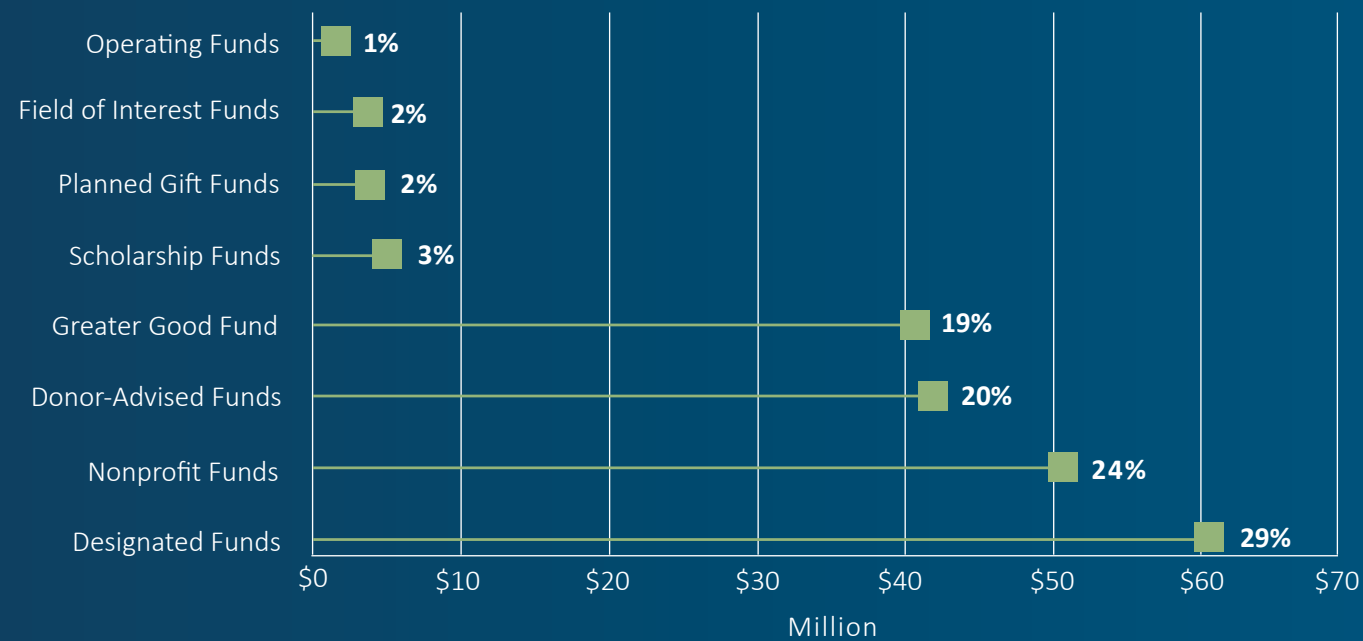


Grants Awarded

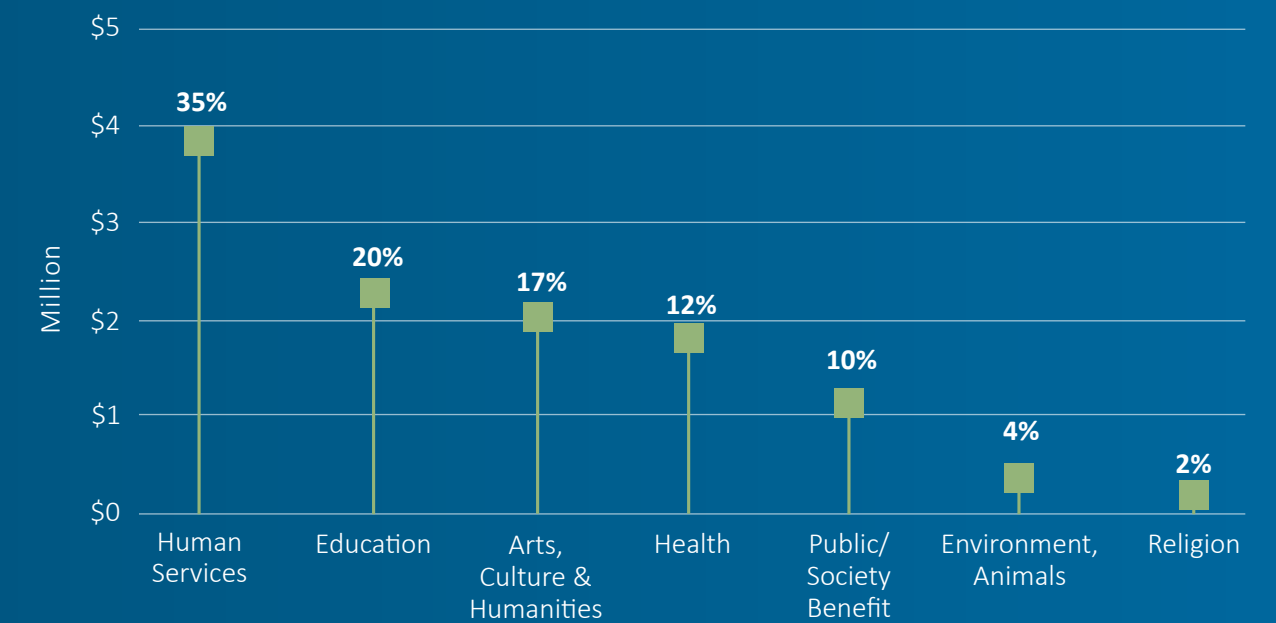
\$11
MILLION



Assets by Fund Type



2023 Grants Awarded by Sector



FUNDS ESTABLISHED IN 2023

Designated Funds

Designated Funds are established by a donor to provide ongoing support for a specific nonprofit organization or purpose. The organization(s) the donor chooses will receive annual distributions from the fund.

- Garner Family Trinity Episcopal Church Fund
- Garner Family Trinity Music Fund
- Gayle Ann Wallace Fund
- Gazette Journalism Fund
- James M. Nikrant Endowed Business Scholarship Fund
- Katrina and Les Garner Literacy Fund
- Katrina and Les Garner Shakespeare Garden Fund
- Kirkwood Golf Fund
- Roger and Thea Leslie Endowed Fund XII
- Roger and Thea Leslie Endowed Fund XIII
- Ted and Tish Healey Orchestra Iowa Fund
- William D. Severa Fund
- Wilma J. Blosser Fund

Greater Good Funds

Donors can address the community's greatest needs through these unrestricted funds. Created by visionary philanthropists who want to support the community beyond their lifetimes, these funds allow the Community Foundation to address community needs and opportunities as they emerge.

- Bastian Family Greater Good Fund
- Donald Buss Greater Good Fund
- Ed and Pat Hermann Greater Good Fund
- Garner Legacy Greater Good Fund
- Mark Moses Greater Good Fund
- Ted and Tish Healey Greater Good Fund
- Thomas K. and Elizabeth J. Janik Greater Good Fund

Donor-Advised Funds

Donor-Advised Funds allow donors to remain actively involved by making grant recommendations to causes they care about whenever it is convenient.

- Fauser Family Endowed Fund
- Fauser Family Giving Fund
- Jo Quinlan Legacy Fund
- Maurice Family Fund
- Safo Endowment Fund
- Twedt-Ball Charitable Giving Fund
- Wilcox Family Fund

Community Betterment Funds

This new fund type can be established to provide immediate and lasting support for nonprofits serving non-metro communities in Linn County. The funds are administered through a grant application process overseen by a committee in the community it supports.

- Mount Vernon Community Betterment Garner Family Fund
- Mount Vernon Community Betterment Today Fund
- Mount Vernon Community Betterment Tomorrow Fund

Field of Interest Funds

This fund type allows donors to make contributions to specific areas of interest that have meaning to them. This may include support for multiple areas of interest, such as the environment, education, the arts, or community development.

- Henry Jackson Carson Endowed Field of Interest Fund
- Robert and Sara Stark Charitable Fund

Scholarship Funds

This fund type is used by donors to help students achieve their educational goals through scholarships.

- Gems of Hope Cancer Scholarship Fund

Nonprofit Funds

Nonprofit Funds provide nonprofit organizations with general operating support, stability during cyclical variances in income, and support for areas of high importance to the organization.

- Cedar Rapids Choral Association Endowment Fund
- Cedar Rapids Choral Association Friends Fund
- Esther and Myron Wilson Program Fund

Carolyn Wellso

A fund holder for over 25 years, Carolyn Wellso uses her endowed donor-advised fund to make grants to nonprofits in Mount Vernon, Lisbon, and other communities she cares about.



WILLIAM QUARTON HERITAGE SOCIETY

The William Quarton Heritage Society recognizes and honors those who have made permanent gifts to the Community Foundation through a planned gift or the establishment of an endowed fund. The society has more than 450 members, each one committed to Linn County's future.

New William Quarton Heritage Society Members in 2023

- Arla Jean Beers*
- Dr. Henry Carson*
- Pat and Ed* Hermann
- Barbara J.* and Ralph E.* Hughes
- Arlene Madill*
- Mark Moses*
- Jo Quinlan*
- Ann and Anthony-Osei Safo

**Deceased*

COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAMS

2023 RECIPIENTS

The Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation administers competitive grant programs from its unrestricted funds and for eight local corporations and families. Those nonprofit recipients include:

Arts, Culture & Humanities

African American Museum of Iowa
 Brucemore Inc.
 Cedar Rapids Freedom Festival
 Cedar Rapids Museum of Art
 Cedar Rapids Opera Theatre
 CR Independent Film Festival
 Harmony School of Music
 International Academy for Russian Music, Arts & Culture
 Iowa Ceramics Center and Glass Studio
 Iowa Children's Museum
 National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library
 Orchestra Iowa
 Patrons of the Performing Arts at Washington High School
 Red Cedar Chamber Music
 Revival Theatre Company
 SPT Theatre Company
 Theatre Cedar Rapids

Education

Alburnett Community School District
 Cedar Rapids Community School District Foundation
 Cedar Rapids Public Library Foundation
 Center Point-Urbana Community School District Foundation
 Eastern Iowa Arts Academy
 Friends of the Lisbon Public Library
 Iowa College Access Network
 Iowa College Foundation
 Kirkwood Community College Foundation
 Mount Vernon Community School District Foundation
 NewBoCo
 North Iowa Area Community College Foundation
 Seton Catholic School

Religion

Marion Methodist Church

Environment/Animals

GROW at Kazimour Farm & Orchard
 Indian Creek Nature Center
 Linn County Trails Association
 N-Compass Inc.
 Our Future Iowa
 Trees Forever

Health

Alzheimer's Association- Iowa Chapter
 American Cancer Society- Cedar Rapids
 American Heart Association
 Area Substance Abuse Council
 Community Health Free Clinic
 Deafinitely Dogs Inc.
 Eastern Iowa Chapter JDRF
 Eastern Iowa Health Center
 Fellowship Club Cedar Rapids
 Foundation 2 Crisis Services
 His Hands Free Clinic
 Mercy Medical Center
 Riverview Center Inc.
 St. Luke's Health Care Foundation

Public/Society Benefit

Advocates for Social Justice
 City of Central City
 City of Ottumwa
 Friends of Noelridge Park Greenhouse & Botanical Center Inc.
 Gothic Area Tourism of Eldon Corporation
 NewBo City Market
 Northwest Neighbors Neighborhood Association
 The District
 Wapello County 4-H Exposition

Human Services

Affordable Housing Network Inc.
 American Youth Soccer Organization- Cedar Rapids
 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cedar Rapids & East Central Iowa
 Boys and Girls Club of the Corridor
 Bridge Under the Bridge
 Catherine McAuley Center
 Cedar Valley Habitat for Humanity
 Central Furniture Rescue
 Children's Cancer Connection
 ChildServe Foundation Inc.
 Discovery Living
 Families Helping Families of Iowa
 Feed Iowa First
 First Resources Corp.
 Four Oaks Family and Children's Services
 Freedom Stitchers of Iowa
 Fresh Start Ministries
 Friends of the Family
 Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois Inc.
 Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa
 Hawkeye Area Community Action Program
 Hawkeye Area Council, Boy Scouts of America
 Hawkeye Downs
 Heritage Area Agency on Aging
 Horizons- A Family Service Alliance
 Hospice Serving Davis & Wapello Counties
 Iowa JAG Inc.

Iowa Legal Aid
 Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa
 Junior League of Cedar Rapids
 Kids First Law Center
 Lavender Legal Center
 LBA Foundation
 Lisbon-Mount Vernon Ambulance Service
 Little League Baseball- Ottumwa
 Matthew 25
 Miracles in Motion Therapeutic Equestrian Center
 National Council on Youth Leadership
 Olivet Neighborhood Mission
 Refugee and Immigrant Association
 Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois
 Sleep in Heavenly Peace
 Southeast Linn Community Center Corporation
 Tanager
 The Arc of East Central Iowa
 The Freedom Foundation
 To The Rescue HOPE Foundation
 Waypoint Services for Women, Children and Families
 Wheelchair Ramp Accessibility Program Coalition
 Willis Dady Homeless Services
 YMCA of the Cedar Rapids Metro Area
 YPN



2023 Spirit of Minnie Rubek Honorees

At the 2023 Nonprofit Party at the Market held on September 14, 2023, 12 nonprofit professionals were recognized as Spirit of Minnie Rubek honorees who go above and beyond in service to their organization and mission.

Pictured in front row (left to right): Rozana Garrison, Women's Services Recovery Specialist, Catherine McAuley Center; Katie Goedken-Fennell, Site Assistant, The Arc of East Central Iowa; Yer Vang, Director of Immigration Legal Services, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque; Rhonda Martin, Assistant to the Athletic Director, Mount Mercy University – Athletic Department.

Back row (left to right): Alice Silver, Food Service Manager, Tanager; Amy Brunner, Director of Community Engagement, Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois; Polly Draker, Clinic Supervisor, His Hands Free Clinic; Sandy Osborn, Nutrition Services Manager, Horizons; Jessica Peel-Austin, Curator of Museum Collections, Brucemore; Alicia Faust, Executive Director, Willis Dady Homeless Services; Jeff Hazzard, Helping Hands Ministry Program Coordinator, Ecumenical Community Center Foundation. Missing from photo: Leland Freie, Nutrition Specialist, Foundation 2 Crisis Services.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Diana Ledford, Chair
 Jim Haddad, Chair-Elect
 Mike Sheeley, Treasurer
 Jon Landon, Secretary/Chair-Elect
 Okpara Rice, Past-Chair

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 Molly Altorfer
 Anthony Arrington
 Patrice Carroll
 Chris Casey

Nancy Hill-Davis
 Mary Junge
 Janice Kerkove
 David Little
 Joe Lock

Brandi Mueller
 Tracey Myers
 Michelle Niermann
 Dave Parmley
 Haywood Stowe

STAFF

Administration

Karla Twedt-Ball, MPP, President & CEO

Development

Laura Booth, CFRE, Director of Family Philanthropy
 Claire English, Donor Relations Associate
 Arthur Kim, MA, Development Officer
 Christi Smeed, MAcc, Development Services Manager
 Josie Velles, Senior Director of Development Services

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Shirley Amthauer, Accountant
 Emmylou Ball, Systems Analyst
 Jean Brenneman, CFO
 Paula Lange, CPA, Controller
 America Manjarrez, Office Manager

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Casey Baustian, MSW, Program Officer
 Bernadette Gladish, Grants and Programs Manager
 Joe Heitz, MBA, MS, Vice President of Community Impact
 Rochelle Naylor, MPP, Senior Program Officer
 Sanjana Raghavan, MHA, Program Officer
 Carrie Walker, Director of Learning

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Dylan Cooley, MFA, Content and Information Officer
 Drew Morton, Multimedia Design Specialist
 Corinne Rahe, Vice President of Marketing and Communications

ADVISORY COUNCILS

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Tonya Arnold	Mary Klinger
Sara Bearrows	Jeff Lara
Ethan Benton	Murphy McGrath
Carey Bostian	Dick Minette
Pat Deignan	John Myers
Brian Engler	Mary Beth O'Neill
Tammi Erb	Scott Overland
Rick Fry	Dale Rettenmeier
Lisa Gavin	Steve Schuring
Kris Gulick	Philip Scamp
Todd Helle	Brody Suddendorf
Salma Igram	Charity Tyler
David Janssen	Laura Wirth
Jaye Kennedy	

Nonprofit Advisory Council

Alejandro Pino, YPN, Chair
 Tracey Achenbach, Housing Fund for Linn County
 Emily Blomme, Foundation 2 Crisis Services
 Dennis Goemaat, Linn County Conservation
 Kathy Horan, AbbeHealth
 Ellen Kleckner, Iowa Ceramics Center
 Paula Land, Catherine McAuley Center
 Theresa Lewis, The Arc of East Central Iowa
 Joe Lock, Eastern Iowa Health Center
 Nicole McAlexander, Southeast Linn Community Center
 Al O'Bannon, Leaders Believers Achievers (LBA) Foundation
 Heather Wagner, Eastern Iowa Arts Academy

AFFILIATES

Community Foundation of Washington County
 Wapello County Foundation

BOARD COMMITTEES

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 Jim Haddad, Chair-Elect
 Jon Landon, Secretary/Chair-Elect
 Mike Sheeley, Treasurer
 Okpara Rice, Past-Chair
 Jasmine Almoayyed
 Molly Altorfer
 Anthony Arrington
 Chris Casey

Community Impact Committee

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 Michael Barnhart*
 Patrice Carroll
 RaeAnn Gordon*
 Joe Lock
 Tracey Myers
 Michelle Niermann
 Haywood Stowe

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 John Bickel*
 Terri Christoffersen*
 Diane Daubenmier*
 Mary Junge
 Jon Landon
 Michelle LeCompte*
 Chris Lindell *
 Kate Minette*
 Dave Parmley

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 Melissa Christianson*
 Nancy Hill-Davis
 Janice Kerkove
 David Little
 Sosseh Sarr*
 Jen Welton*

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Chris Casey, Chair
 Jim Haddad
 Diana Ledford
 Julie Nosek*
 Denny Redmond*
 Mike Sheeley
 Blake Wilkinson*

Nominating Committee

Jon Landon, Chair
 Diana Ledford
 Brandi Mueller
 Michelle Niermann

Racial Equity Steering Committee

Anthony Arrington, Chair
 Jasmine Almoayyed
 Okpara Rice

GRANT COMMITTEES

Organization Support Committee

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 Anthony Arrington
 Bill Dunn*
 Nancy Hill-Davis
 Kathy Kaiden*
 Janice Kerkove
 Vaughn Klopfenstein*
 Dave Parmley
 Dee Ann Rexroat*

Linn County Committee

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 Chris Casey
 Susan Gehring*
 Melissa Murphy*
 Tracey Myers
 Hailee Sandberg*

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Jim Haddad, Chair
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 Jon Landon
 Brandi Mueller
 Haywood Stowe
 Sudhir Surendran*
 Laura Thomas*
 Kevin Welu*
 Jeff Wozencraft*

General Scholarship Committee

Destiny Hastings*
 Sarah Hoffman*
 Marlyse Strait*
 Terry Strait*
 Janessa Weightman*

Kleiman and McNamara Scholarship Committee

Claire English*
 Arthur Kim*
 Deb Kleiman**
 Phaedra McNamara**
 Leah Rodenberg*
 Emerald Smith*

* Non-Board representatives
 ** Donors on scholarship committees



Awarded the Platinum Level of Transparency, the highest level on Candid.



Confirmed in compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.



GREATER CEDAR RAPIDS
**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

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www.gcrf.org

