**SHE Matters Report**

The IWF uses research to identify the biggest barriers to women’s success as well as their greatest needs and encourages others, including potential grantees, to do the same.

The IWF looks to communities across Iowa to help us better understand the barriers impacting women and girls’ economic security. In the summer of 2015, we met with leaders and members of 18 different Iowa communities to discuss what those barriers were and how best we could break them down and create pathways to achieving economic self-sufficiency.

The 2016 *SHE Matters* report outlines our findings and provides recommendations for breaking down the barriers that keep Iowa women from achieving economic self-sufficiency.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to utilize data from the *SHE Matters* reports when preparing their grant proposals. Reports can be found at [http://iawf.org/get-the-facts/research/](http://iawf.org/get-the-facts/research/)