Check Presentations Kick-off the New Year

On Wednesday, January 8th, IWF hosted the annual Check Presentation Event at the Kirkwood Learning Center in Coralville, Iowa. In partnership with Casey’s General Stores, IWF was honored to be able to present $140,000 in grants for 2020 programs. Due to the generous support of Casey’s, Circles of Giving, event sponsors, and donors, the largest amount of funds in the Foundation’s history was awarded.

Over 50 Core grant applications and more than 60 Building Child Care Solutions Fund grant applications were reviewed by Community Review Panelists. As we work together to shatter the barriers of Employment, Childcare, Housing, Education/Training, Transportation and the lack of Mentoring for women and girls, your support is more important than ever. Grant awards have increased substantially from the past several years thanks to generous donations received throughout the year. We are improving the lives of Iowa’s women and girls, and shattering the barriers to women’s economic self-sufficiency. Thank you for your partnership!

For a full list of grantees, visit our website by clicking here.
The 25th Anniversary of the Iowa Women’s Foundation led to many accomplishments throughout the year. Thanks to your support and generosity we are moving into the next quarter century with excitement and enthusiasm!

1. Supported by 250 volunteers annually and raised almost $575,000 compared to $546,000 in 2018 thanks to the generosity of so many past, current and new supporters.

2. Partnered with Women in Business student groups at the University of Iowa and the University of Northern Iowa to provide mentoring and networking opportunities through the Shoot High Basketball event at UI, and Run Like A Mother 5K at UNI.

3. Collaborated with 30 communities to shatter the barrier of child care resulting in the creation of 2,546 additional slots for Iowa’s children.

4. Hosted the first annual Child Care Summit with 125 attendees sharing successes, struggles and tools from their communities.

5. Presented the first Golden Rattle Awards to Dan Levi of Levi Architects in Cedar Falls, and to Frontier Co-op of Norway, Iowa in honor of their exemplary individual and corporate work, respectively, for child care.

6. Increased awareness through media as a resource on the child care crisis and other women’s issues. IWF has been quoted by local and state media outlets for the work being accomplished and becoming the go-to resource and collaborator on child care solutions.

7. Advocated with local, state and federal elected officials on behalf of women and girls to increase the availability of quality affordable child care, strengthen the Iowa workforce and continue to make smart investments in Iowa’s communities.

8. Launched a Legacy Campaign to build a viable and sustainable financial
structure for the foundation. Stage One has expanded IWF’s annual operations and development capacity for the campaign. Stage Two will provide an ongoing source of revenue for IWF’s grantmaking and other programs in perpetuity.

9. Provided $1 million in grants to more than 220 projects benefitting hundreds of women and girls in all 99 counties since the first grants were awarded in 1997.

10. Improved the lives of Iowa’s women and girls for 25 years!

Ovation 2020 – A Tribute to Iowa Women and Girls

In keeping with its mission of improving the lives of Iowa’s women and girls, IWF honors Iowa women and girls from all walks of life. IWF’s signature publication, Ovation: A Tribute to Iowa Women and Girls, will celebrate the seventh edition of Ovation this year. The book pays tribute to Iowa women from all walks of life that have made an impact on their families, their friends, their colleagues and their communities, and in doing so provides a philanthropic opportunity to pay it forward and lead the way for others to follow in the honorees footsteps. These women and girls are mentors, advocates and role models.

Ovation serves as a critically important part of IWF’s annual operating funds and enables the Foundation to accomplish its mission through a diversified mix of action and funding. Monies raised through tributes enables the Foundation to educate women and girls about philanthropy, and help the Foundation play a leadership role in the challenges and opportunities facing women and girls in our communities. Since its inaugural publication in 2014, Ovation has honored more than 600 individuals across the state, and served as a major source of funds for the grantmaking organization. It is a living history of today’s women and girls.

Unveiling ceremonies are scheduled during the week of Mother’s Day, May 2020. Deadline to submit tributes is March 27, 2020. To take advantage of a 10%
allowance, tributes must be paid in full by January 15, 2020. Please join us in honoring the amazing women and girls in your community, and through your tax deductible contribution (as allowed by law), help us serve the women and girls who most need our support. For more information about Ovation, sponsorships, or a 2020 Tribute Commitment Form, contact Ann at ann@iawf.org or 319-774-3815, or click here to visit the website.

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**Making Sure Women's Voices are Heard**

![Image of megaphone with words: The Voices of Women in America Initiative]

The National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) is asking the help of women in the U.S. to identify top five issues and concerns through a national of Women in America survey. The deadline for the online survey has been extended until February 1, 2020. NACW will use the results of the Voices of Women in America survey to write a status report to inform the President, Congress and women's commissions about the issues that matter most to women in the U.S. Visit NACW's website for more information.

Take the Survey

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**2020 is Looking Bright!**

The new year is off to a running start. As we move into this new decade, IWF is excited to work together with a fabulous team of volunteers, sponsors and supporters. We invite you to get further involved with our working committees, becoming a Circle of Giving supporter, or sponsoring one of the many events hosted by IWF throughout the year. Encourage a friend to sign up for the e-newsletter, and join one of the Chicks Advisory groups. Opportunities are available across the state. For further details, contact IWF at info@iawf.org, or 319-774-3813. Here’s to 2020!