



## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

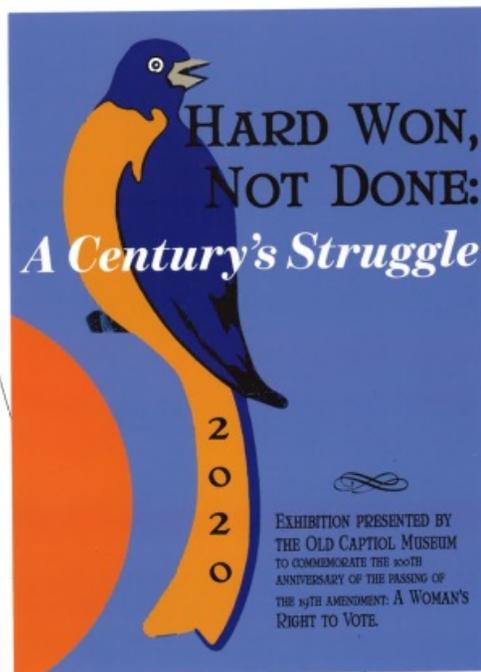
# Hard Won, Not Done

2020 marks the [100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment](#) giving women the right to vote. The Iowa League of Women Voters and the Iowa Women's Foundation are working together to celebrate this important anniversary. Much has been done in the past 100 years, however, there is still considerable work to accomplish at the national, state, and local levels.

IWF hosted a pre-opening of an exhibit, [Hard Won, Not Done: A Century's Struggle](#), presented by the Old Capitol Museum. This special exhibit was created by student Research Assistant, Bailey Adolph, and Exhibit Graphic Designer and Communications Coordinator, Jessica Smith. Liz Crooks, Director of UI Pentacrest Museums, introduced Visiting Assistant Professor in History, Caroline Radesky, who gave a program on events leading up to the passage of the amendment.

The exhibit is open to the public and will be on display at the Old Capitol Museum in Iowa City through August 2020. The Iowa League of Women Voters is planning events around the state in conjunction with this the anniversary, which will wrap up at the IWF's annual luncheon on Friday, October 9, 2020. Visit the Hard Won, Not Done website for further details on events happening statewide. Watch for Annual Luncheon details beginning in July.





## Day at the Capital

IWF hosted a legislative lunch at the Iowa State Capital on January 30<sup>th</sup> to spotlight Iowa's child care crisis. The open house style luncheon focused on the community-wide partnerships across the state and the commitment to identifying, discussing, and implementing solutions to the child care shortage. The lack of access to quality, affordable child care is resulting in parents missing work, dropping shifts, being less engaged on the job, switching employers, or leaving the workforce all together. The shortage not only impacts parents' income in lost wages and retirement savings, but also costs employers in recruitment and retention and productivity loss. For local and state economies, the costs are in the form of decreased tax revenues and the ability to attract and retain qualified employees and new businesses.

### IWF top recommendations for the 2020 Legislature include:

- **Increase support of Early Childhood Iowa (ECI)** – Increase funding to ECI for early childhood programs grant account by \$500,000. Apply the funding to a private-public partnership for the purposes of increasing the availability and access to quality affordable child care.
- **Adopt HF771** – Enact HF771, which passed the Iowa House 97-1 in 2019. HF771 would benefit Iowa's working parents by expanding the eligibility for child care and dependent care and early childhood development tax credits.

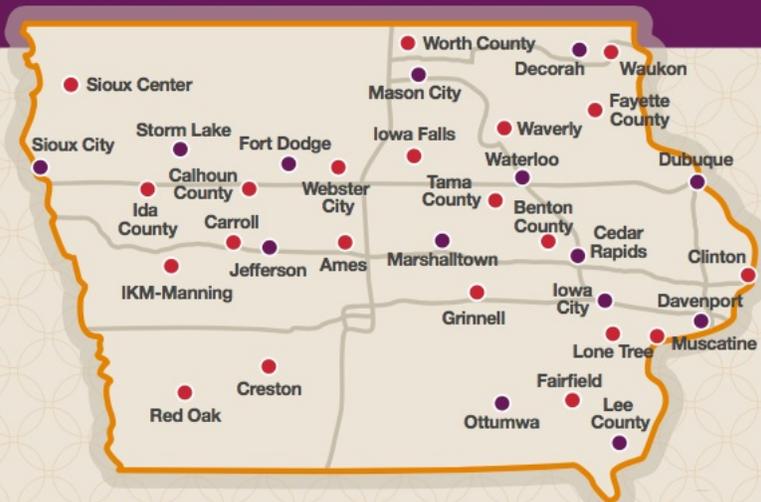
### Additional recommendations for 2020 include:

- Increase funding to Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children to adequately support and expand WAGE\$ statewide by codifying this program.
- Reinstate the Before and After School Grants program that was established in 2007 to create a state funding stream for high-quality before school, after school, and summer programs.
- Tax Credits: Business, Family, Provider, Teacher, Director, and Child Care Resource and Referral tax credits.
- Make child care a priority in Future Ready Iowa.

Many thanks to Representative Tracy Ehlert, Representative Ann Meyer, Senator Zach Wahls, Senator Mark Lofgren, and the Office of the Governor for co-hosting this event.

As this work continues to move forward, educate yourself on the impact this makes in your community. Join the work, advocate, and let's tackle this issue together.

# BUILDING COMMUNITY CHILDCARE SOLUTIONS



**KEY**

- Identified child care as a priority in 2017
- Identified child care as a priority in 2018



IOWA WOMEN'S  
FOUNDATION

## Women's History Month & OVATION: A Tribute to Iowa Women and Girls



Since 1987, the United States has formally recognized the month of March as National Women's History Month. The 2020 theme, Valiant Women of the Vote, celebrates the women who fought for the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, and those that have continued the battle to ensure voting rights for all. Every woman has a unique story to tell and all have had an impact on the lives of the people surrounding them. As we celebrate the right to vote this year, we also recognize the women and girls who have advocated, researched, educated, collaborated, and mentored others on their paths to success. Celebrate the women in your life and record their history with a tribute in *OVATION: A Tribute to Iowa Women and Girls*.

OVATION is the signature publication of the Iowa Women's Foundation. The book celebrates women and girls from across the state who are everyday heroes, as well as those that are leading us with innovation for large-scale breakthroughs in every professional field. These women are pioneers, paving the way for others to follow in their footsteps and setting wonderful examples for their families, friends, colleagues, and communities. They are part of Iowa history. To date, more than 600 women have been honored in Ovation. Who will you honor with a tribute this year?

Tributes are now being accepted. Reserve a page in this special publication by submitting a commitment form, photo, text, and payment before **March 27, 2020**. [Forms and information may be found by clicking here.](#)

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## Core Grant Applications for 2021 Funding Now Open

Core Grant Applications are now being accepted for 2021 funding. Core grants focus specifically on six areas that have been identified as the most critical barriers for Iowa women and girls to achieve economic success. All applications must address one of the following barriers to be considered for funding: employment, child care, housing, education/training, transportation, or mentoring.

An information session will be held **March 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.** at the Iowa Women's Foundation office. You may also attend via Zoom/electronic conferencing. Please RSVP to Ann at [ann@iawf.org](mailto:ann@iawf.org) to reserve your place or to request electronic conferencing information.

Each year IWF receives many outstanding applications for funding. For the Core Grant Application and details for submitting the application, see [the IWF website](#). Please follow the instructions carefully to ensure that your application is completed correctly. If you would like a mentor to review your application before you submit, please email [grants@iawf.org](mailto:grants@iawf.org) no later than March 6, 2020 and include "Mentor Inquiry" in the subject line.

Core Grant Applications must be received via email no later than **April 30, 2020, 5:00 p.m. CST.**

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