IWF Launches “CAREforce for our WORKforce” in Support of Iowa’s Child Care Professionals

The Iowa Women’s Foundation is launching a new campaign to increase the recognition of child care providers as essential, professional workers. The campaign, CAREforce for our WORKforce, will also give the public information on how they can support child care providers during and after the pandemic.

“Child care workers are not babysitters—they are highly-trained professionals who provide the critical early childhood support kids need for success later in life,” said Dawn Oliver Wiand, Executive Director for IWF. “They’re essential for parents. They’re essential for businesses. And essential for society as we know it.”

IWF will be distributing window clings, stickers, posters, and yard signs emblazoned with the CAREforce for our WORKforce logo and is also launching a web page with information for those interested in helping their local providers.

Individuals looking to support their local child care professionals can visit https://iawf.org/careforce for a list of supplies and services that can be donated. Those interested in participating in the CAREforce for our WORKforce campaign as a volunteer may contact Dawn for more information.
The annual Run Like A Mother, turned virtual this year, was another great opportunity for women and girls, and all runners and walkers across Iowa to join forces and support the Iowa Women’s Foundation. Many thanks to sponsors Magee Construction Company, Humble Travel, Montage, Urban Pie and Craft-Cochran, Inc., and to the University of Northern Iowa Women in Business group for coordinating and organizing this annual run!

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**FASTEST FEMALE**
Liz Winter (23:05)

**FASTEST MALE**
Mark Zimmer (22:26)

**FASTEST MOTHER**
Carrie Dieken (24:28)

**FASTEST FEMALE W/STROLLER**
Angela Burk (23:57)

**TOP RUNNERS BY AGE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13-19</td>
<td>Cade Holtzen (23:00)</td>
<td>Liz Winter (23:05)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Josh Holtzen (28:26)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>Heather Cue (39:12)</td>
<td>Sarah Bishop (49:44)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>Michelle Holtzen (30:02)</td>
<td>Craig Holtzen (45:40)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>Isabelle Holtzen (25:31)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Megan Olson (25:39)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Madison Sallee (26:33)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>Dee Sallee (29:33)</td>
<td>Rachel Napoli (30:20)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60+</td>
<td>Tim Schmidt (30:49)</td>
<td>Debi Schmidt (1:04:00)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Run**

3.1 mi
7:41 /mi
23m 57s
A Tribute to Iowa Women & Girls

This year’s OVATION: A tribute to Iowa Women and Girls honors a diverse group of women that have made an impact on their families, friends, colleagues and communities across the state of Iowa. We are excited to celebrate this special group in the 7th edition of our signature publication. Many thanks to the tribute coordinators and the individuals that have supported each of the tributes.

Due to COVID-19 and the safety of our honorees and their friends and family, IWF is changing things up a bit with the Unveiling of Ovation. We invite you to join us for a special, virtual unveiling the week of June 15th. All of the women featured this year will be recognized throughout the week. Our Iowa City area honorees will be recognized on June 15th, North Liberty and Cedar Rapids on June 16th, Des Moines on June 17th and Cedar Falls-Waterloo area on June 18th. Please tune in as we pay tribute to these fabulous individuals and have a little fun with Mistress of Ceremonies, Megan Gogerty - University of Iowa lecturer, playwright, performer and local comedian! Specific details will be shared closer to the air dates.

Advocating for Child Care at the State Capital

The Iowa Women’s Foundation, along with Representative Ann Meyer, Representative Tracy Ehlert, Senator Mark Lofgren and Senator Zach Wahls, hosted an Iowa Child Care Status Update for legislators earlier this month. Over 80 individuals joined the session, including legislators from both parties and chambers, caucus staff, ECI area directors, CCR&R Regional Directors, DHS and IWF staff and child care advocates. Shanell Wagler, Administrator from Early Childhood Iowa, Mary Janssen, Region 2 Director of Child Care Resource & Referral, and Julie Alison, Child Care Bureau Chief from the Department of Human Services, shared updates from their respective agencies. Current providers told stories detailing the challenges they have been facing for some time. COVID-19 has exacerbated the issues, and as many struggle to stay open, the legislature can provide support as the state begins to reopen and get back to work. But we can’t do it without child care. Our economy depends on it.

We encourage you to reach out to your elected officials both at the state and federal levels, and share your thoughts and concerns regarding child care. Child care is essential to our economy to get back on track with a strong foundation for economic growth and educational opportunities for our pre-K children throughout the state.

The session was recorded and available for your viewing by clicking here.

To learn more on how you can assist our state’s child care professionals, go to the IWF website: https://iawf.org/careforce/. Support a child care center, share your story, tell your elected officials why child care is essential, and spread awareness of the CAREforce for our WORKforce campaign. We’re in this together!
Charitable Giving Strategies from James Investment Group

Spring is in the air, and that means planning for the 2020 Annual Iowa Women’s Foundation Luncheon is well underway. IWF Treasurer, Stan Miller, sat down with the match sponsor for the event, Jeremy James, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and Principal of James Investment Group, to discuss charitable giving strategies this month.

SM: Jeremy, I know you have a long history of supporting non-profits in our community -- James Investment Group has been the match sponsor of our Annual Luncheon for 7 years and you’ve served on the board of several non-profits. What is the greatest lesson you’ve learned through your personal experience with charitable giving?

JJ: A lot of what I’ve learned comes from watching my mom, Lois. She has been my mentor in business and nonprofit work. She taught me how important it is to always keep absorbing new ideas and information – while our values surrounding charitable giving stay the same, our strategies may need to evolve as regulations change. The recent tax reform is a perfect example.

SM: That’s a great point. We certainly braced ourselves for a change in giving following the new tax law. What are some lesser known charitable giving strategies that are becoming more common following those changes?

JJ: Donating highly appreciated stock positions directly to a charity or a donor-advised fund is a win/win -- the donor doesn’t pay any capital gains tax and the charity receives the full value of the stock, tax-free. This can be combined with a “bunching” strategy – the basic ideas is pulling multiple years’ worth of giving into one year to qualify for itemized deductions. Another powerful tool we’ve utilized for individuals who are 70 ½ or older is to make donations directly from retirement accounts. These Qualified Charitable Distributions are an extremely tax-efficient tool for charitable giving.

SM: We have collaborated with donors on all these strategies in the past, and they have been mutually beneficial for the IWF and for our donors. Jeremy. thank you for sharing your expertise and for your commitment to the Iowa Women’s Foundation – we’re thrilled to have your support for our Annual Luncheon and look forward to seeing you again this October.

Interested in utilizing a new strategy to support the Iowa Women’s Foundation? Be sure to mention these charitable giving strategies to your finance professionals.

James Investment Group, Inc is located at 673 Westbury Dr., Suite 101, Iowa City, IA 52245 | 319-354-7113

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