



# Iowa Women's Foundation

## FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

Since 1994, Iowans from all 99 counties have relied on the Iowa Women's Foundation to improve the lives of women and girls in our state. How do we measure our impact? We count it!

**WORKING  
WITH  
30** *Communities*  
to increase the availability of quality,  
affordable child care

**25**  
YEARS OF  
SERVICE

**23** *Years*  
of grantmaking

**18** **SHE MATTERS  
COMMUNITIES** (and counting)  
collaborating to  
expand opportunities  
for women

**7** *Editions*  
of *OVATION: A Tribute to  
Iowa Women and Girls*

**6** *Barriers*  
to women's economic  
self-sufficiency



Housing



Mentors



Transportation



Child Care



Education



Employment



Education



Collaboration



Advocacy



Research



Grantmaking

**5** **KEY  
STRATEGIES**

**3** **SIGNATURE  
EVENTS**

**RUN LIKE A MOTHER  
OVATION  
ANNUAL LUNCHEON**

**250+**  
*Volunteers*



in grants to more than  
200 programs

# *A Letter From the* **PRESIDENT**

## **Welcome to the next 25 years of the Iowa Women's Foundation.**

You and I are part of the Iowa Women's Foundation (IWF) history AND its future! It calls to mind the Dr. Seuss poem, "Oh the Places You Will Go" and the dreams we have for women and girls in this place called Iowa. It also reminds us that we cannot get mired in what Seuss referred to as "The Waiting Place," where people do nothing but sit around, waiting for something to happen.

We have traction on child care, and we must use this momentum to keep pushing forward. Don't be in "the Waiting Place" this next year as we move into elections. And don't be in "The Waiting Place" in your support of our mission—our issues cannot wait. The greatest challenge for any organization is procrastination and believing someone else will carry the weight. We can only improve the lives of women and their families through your support!

It's true that for many of us, we support the IWF because we feel its importance in our bones. We are not charity—we are an opportunity to be a part of the solution. We DO make a difference in lives. We DO challenge communities to confront their issues and solve them. And we DO keep dreaming of where we will go next.

Together, this 25-year-old grass roots organization can do mighty things. You and me—we can make dreams happen by investing in the women and girls in Iowa. We will not wait. Our activism will not sleep. We will shatter barriers to improve the lives of women and girls in our state because each of us—yourself included—can all contribute something to make this dream happen.

Imagine if in 25 years, our conversations centered around what was left to do—that in the next quarter of a century, IWF had supported and solved the major issues confronting women and girls in Iowa. We can only get there by taking one step at a time out of the Waiting Place and onto Mainstreet Iowa.

Our resolve has deepened. We are smarter, bigger, and stronger because of your support. Lend your hands, your voice, and your resources however you can. And in 25 years, you can tell your children and your grandchildren that you fought for something bigger than yourself—that you fought for them.

**We're not**

***"Waiting for the fish to bite  
Or waiting around for Friday night...  
[We're] off to Great Places!  
Today is [our] day!  
[Our] mountain is waiting.  
So get on your way!"***

**— DR. SEUSS**



A stylized purple ink signature of Jill Olsen.

**JILL OLSEN**  
Board President, IWF

# 2019 ANNUAL LUNCHEON

**800** attendees filled the Coralville Marriott Hotel and Conference Center ballroom on October 3rd to celebrate 25 years of improving the lives of Iowa's women and girls. Guest Speaker, Mikhayla Hughes-Shaw, shared her experience with Love Girls Magazine and the valuable impact it has had on teenage girls in the Quad Cities area. Keynote Speaker, Dr. Angela Sadler Williamson, spoke about her Cousin Rosa Parks, who, even before her historic stand, was quietly bringing activists together and encouraging young people to protect their human rights.

As Rosa's legacy has taught us, activism never sleeps, and freedom fighters never retire. Their activism continues on through their families and communities. Activism lives in all of us as we work to strengthen the lives of Iowa's women and girls. Celebrate today knowing we have come a long way. And look to the future knowing there is still much work to be done.

## YOU MET THE MATCH!

**M**any thanks to our luncheon attendees for showing their support! Because of the generous donations totaling almost \$30,000, we met our sponsor match and took in an additional \$10,000! Our gratitude to Lois and Jeremy James of James Investment Group, who have been our Match Sponsor for the last six years.

**Thank you to all of our sponsors and luncheon table hosts for your support of the Iowa Women's Foundation:**

### MATCH SPONSOR



Lois and Jeremy James

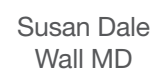
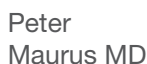
### VISIONARY/PUBLISHER SPONSORS



### LEADER/DIRECTOR SPONSORS



### ALLY/EDITOR SPONSORS



# 2020 CORE GRANTS

## **Christian Community Development DBA House of Hope, Waterloo**

### ***House of Hope Case Management***



House of Hope offers furnished apartments for single mothers with children, as well as young women aging out of foster care. While living at HOH, residents work or attend school and life skills classes. HOH provides the support system and staff/resident relationships designed to empower the women to overcome barriers while attaining skills and habits to move toward a financially independent future. Now in its third year of IWF funding, this program's long-term success rate of 86% is attributed to the strong case management support system provided by House of Hope.

## **Domestic Violence Intervention Program, Iowa City**

### ***DVIP Prevention Education Program***



DVIP has a longstanding history of serving women facing trauma-based, domestic violence crises in southeast Iowa. With this third year of support from IWF, DVIP is expanding prevention education by presenting the Healthy Relationships 101 curriculum to youth professionals, teachers, administrators, and students in all 7th-12th grade schools in their eight-county service area. This program aims to educate youth on healthy relationship basics, types of abuse, bystander intervention, and resources for help.

## **Girls on the Run of Eastern Iowa, Iowa City**

### ***Expansion & Scholarship Support in Black Hawk County***



Girls on the Run uses running and other physical activities as a platform for promoting holistic health outcomes for girls in grades 3-8. The curriculum includes lessons that help girls learn critical life skills like managing emotions, helping others, making intentional decisions, and resolving conflicts at home, at school, and with friends. Completing a 5K gives a girl a tangible sense of achievement as well as a framework for setting and realizing goals. This fourth year of IWF funding will support expansion of the program to three new sites in Black Hawk County for a total of 200 girls participating from grades 3-8 at 12 sites.

## **Grin & Grow Ltd, Waterloo**

### ***Removing Child Care as a Barrier to Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency***



Founded by the Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls 76 years ago, this child care program, with a second year of support from IWF, will assure availability of up to 20 full-time, year-round slots for infant or preschool children of single mothers who are seeking work, working, or in training; and whose incomes are under 200% of household poverty levels. Moreover, their children are provided with a nurturing environment and opportunities to acquire developmental skill levels necessary for school-readiness and future success.

## **Heartland Family Service, Council Bluffs**

### ***Workforce Managers***



People who are employed when they leave treatment for substance abuse and mental health disorders are two to three times more likely to retain a healthy lifestyle than those who are unemployed. With a second year of IWF funding, Heartland will continue its comprehensive, wraparound service support for women in the Iowa Family Works program to help them obtain and maintain gainful employment that supports themselves and their families.

## **Lutheran Services in Iowa, Des Moines**

### ***Refugee Child Care Business Development Program***



Committed to supporting programs with a proven track record, IWF is proud to invest in this outstanding program for a sixth year. LSI helps refugee women increase their families' financial stability by becoming registered in-home child care providers through the Iowa DHS; thereby also improving the number of quality culturally and linguistically appropriate child care spots available for refugee parents. Support from IWF has enabled LSI to not only expand this program in central Iowa, but to offer technical assistance and training to other communities interested in starting a refugee child care training program.

## **Mason City Family YMCA, Mason City**

### ***GLOW (Girls Leading Others Wisely) Program***



There are a number of youth programs in the Clear Lake and Mason City area, but none focus primarily on preteen girls. GLOW is an eight-week mentoring program for girls ages 7-12 of various cultural and socio-economic backgrounds to connect with one another and engage in discussions and activities that help them build towards future success. Here, girls set personal and fitness goals and participate in a project that connects them to their community.

## **Planned Parenthood of the Heartland, Inc., Des Moines**

### ***Pregnancy Prevention Education***



Planned Parenthood of the Heartland

With a third year of support from IWF, Planned Parenthood will provide 1,600 comprehensive sexuality education programs to youth in middle schools and high schools across Iowa. Access to medically accurate information about contraception, pregnancy, sexuality, preventive reproductive health, and healthy behaviors and relationships empowers young women to avoid unintended pregnancy, complete their education, and take advantage of career and other life opportunities.

## **St. Mark's Youth Enrichment, Dubuque**



### ***Social Emotional Learning: Breaking Down Barriers to Success***

St. Mark's will expand their highly successful before and after school and summer programs to rural Eastern Iowa towns. The programs not only address affordable access to care beyond school hours, but effectively improve students' reading, STEM, and social-emotional skills. Curriculum, like Conscious Discipline, engages families and community in developing skills to promote social-emotional learning. This is the third consecutive year of IWF funding.

## **University of Iowa Labor Center, Iowa City**

### ***Iowa Women in Trades Apprenticeship Opportunity Network***

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

**Labor Center**

Quality employment via a self-supporting job with livable wages and benefits is a major hurdle to women's self-sufficiency in Iowa. The University of Iowa Labor Center will launch Iowa Women in Trades Network in 2020, setting up a pre-apprenticeship program and a network to improve access to registered apprenticeships and ensure completion rates and job placement for women in the construction trades.

## **YWCA Clinton, Clinton**

### ***She Rises***



The Clinton YWCA was founded by women in 1915 to serve other women and fight for equality and social justice. This third year of funding from IWF will be used to implement a new suite of programs—She Rises—aimed at tackling the barriers to success faced by at-risk women and young girls. New programs include one-on-one mentoring, group mentoring, and educational programs. A special focus is placed on building resiliency while linking women and girls with existing programs and resources they might need, such as rehousing, job mentoring and shadowing, employment counseling and preparation, child care, and wellness.



# 2020

# CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS FUND GRANTS



The Iowa Women's Foundation, in partnership with Casey's, announces the 2020 Child Care Solutions fund grant awards.

## Opportunity Dubuque

**Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, Dubuque**  
**County Served:** Dubuque

**Child Care Focus:** Child Care Entrepreneurs

Opportunity Dubuque builds career pathways for students to enter the workforce and continue their education and training, while filling employers' demand for talent. The Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) Opportunity Dubuque program has created an Early Childhood Care Certificate training. IWF funding will help pay the tuition for six students to participate in this program.

## Refugee Child Care Business Development Program

**Catherine McAuley Center, Cedar Rapids**

**County Served:** Linn

**Child Care Focus:** Refugee Child Care Entrepreneurs  
The Catherine McAuley Center addresses a critical lack of child care for refugee families by partnering with local agencies to help refugee women establish a registered in-home child care business. Funding from IWF will be used to enroll four to five women, creating approximately 15-20 new child care slots in Cedar Rapids and contributing to participants' household incomes.

## Montgomery County Child Development Center

**Montgomery County Child Development Association (MCCDA), Red Oak**

**Counties Served:** Montgomery, Mills, Page, Adams, Cass, Fremont, Pottawattamie and Taylor

**Child Care Focus:** New Center

The Red Oak Community School District, in partnership with the MCCDA, will open the Montgomery County Child Development Center on January 2, 2020. IWF funds will be used to help furnish these four rooms with safe, age-appropriate furniture.

## Stronger Together: Supporting Families with High Quality, Accessible Child Care

**YWCA Clinton**

**County Served:** Clinton

**Child Care Focus:** Expanded Before and After School Program  
The YWCA Clinton, in partnership with the Clinton Community School District, has implemented an innovative new program that provides convenient on-site after school child care in their elementary schools. This program eliminates the need for parents to leave work or secure help transporting students from school to child care. It also maximizes the time the students spend on safe, engaging activities. Funds from IWF will be used for program costs, which include hardware/software, furniture, activities, equipment, and supplies.

## Marita Theisen Child Care Center

**Friends of St. Mary's DBA Steeple Square, Dubuque**

**County Served:** Dubuque

**Child Care Focus:** New Center

The Marita Theisen Child Care Center has enrolled more than 40 children, 70% of whom come from low-income families. IWF funds will be used to support the salary of a new licensed staff person to provide evening care for 12 children whose parents are participating in Opportunity Dubuque, a program that provides free child care to individuals earning job certificates and continued assistance during their first year of employment.

## Clinton Early Head Start

**Community Action of Eastern Iowa, Davenport**

**County Served:** Clinton

**Child Care Focus:** Center Expansion, Infants

The Early Head Start program in Clinton County is adding a classroom to serve eight more infants and their families. Early Head Start is an evidence-based program specifically for children ages birth to 36 months. The children will attend five days a week, six hours per day, for a full year. IWF funds will be used to help purchase the needed equipment for the classroom.

## Stanton Child Care Resource Center Expansion

**Stanton Child Care Resource Center, Stanton**

**Counties Served:** Montgomery, Mills, Fremont and Page

**Child Care Focus:** Center Expansion

The Stanton Child Resource Center is working to more than double capacity (80 to 162) through an addition and renovation of their current facility. Funds are currently being raised for the construction. IWF funds will be used to support these costs.

## Sliding Fee Scale for Professional Development Day Services

**LINK Grinnell**

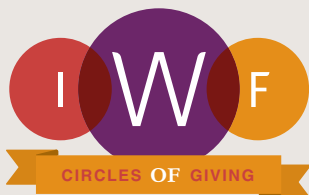
**County Served:** Poweshiek

**Child Care Focus:** New Before and After School Program

LINK Grinnell is a newly established after school program that was created in response to a gap of 437 spaces for after school care in the community. The program is currently offering care on regular school days from 3 – 6:30 pm. During the school year, there are five no-school days and four teacher professional development and parent-teacher conference days. Funds from IWF will be used to provide full-day care on the no-school days via a sliding fee scale.

 To read more about each of these programs, visit [iawf.org/get-the-facts/child-care-solutions](http://iawf.org/get-the-facts/child-care-solutions).


## JOIN OUR CIRCLES OF GIVING



Circles of Giving is a network of committed donors who provide ongoing support to IWF. Their sustained giving allows us to award grants, conduct research, educate,

and advocate for women and girls in Iowa. There are many advantages to joining, including recognition at events and on our website, invitations to special meetings and events, and an opportunity to meet with our Annual Luncheon keynote speaker.


There is strength in numbers. Together, we can grow IWF's statewide impact, resources, and capacity. Please join this extraordinary group and be a part of a larger effort to support Iowa's women and girls.

 To learn more or submit your pledge online, visit [iawf.org/circles-of-giving](http://iawf.org/circles-of-giving). You may also request a copy of the physical form by calling the office at (319) 774-3813.

## 2020 OVATION

*Ovation: A Tribute to Iowa Women and Girls* is IWF's signature publication. This collection of personal stories and tributes chronicles the ways women and girls make a difference at home, at school, and in their professions. They are advocates, mentors, philanthropists, volunteers and role models. This living history of women and girls is Iowa.

*Ovation* also serves as a critically important part of IWF's annual operating funds and enables the Foundation to accomplish its mission. To date, more than 600 women and girls from all walks of life have been honored. But we're not stopping until ALL of Iowa's women and girls are recognized! *Who will you honor in 2020?*

 Reserve your page today by downloading and completing the Commitment Form at [iawf.org/whats-happening/events/ovation](http://iawf.org/whats-happening/events/ovation). You may also request a copy of the physical form by calling the office at (319) 774-3813. **Commitments made with full payment by January 15th receive a 10% allowance.**



## IOWA WOMEN'S FOUNDATION

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NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
TRU ART

## SAVE THE DATE

<b>JAN</b>	Accepting <b>OVATION</b> Tributes. Receive a 10% allowance if received with full payment by January 15
<b>FEB</b>	Core Grant Applications open for 2020 funding Shoot High, February 16
<b>MAR</b>	Deadline for <b>OVATION</b> Tributes, March 27
<b>APR</b>	Core Grant Applications deadline for submission, April 30
<b>MAY</b>	Run Like a Mother - Cedar Falls, Iowa 7th Edition of <b>OVATION: A Tribute to Iowa Women and Girls</b> is unveiled throughout the state.
<b>JUN</b>	Building Community Child Care Solutions Fund (BCCSF) LOI's accepted for 2020 funding
<b>JUL</b>	Community Review Panelists meet
<b>AUG</b>	BCCSF LOI deadline for submission, August 1
<b>OCT</b>	24th Annual Luncheon, Friday, October 9, Coralville Marriott Hotel and Convention Center
<b>NOV</b>	Grapes & Gratitude, Iowa City
<b>DEC</b>	Dine & Unwind, Cedar Falls and Des Moines

## INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THE IOWA WOMEN'S FOUNDATION?

Want to do more? Looking for volunteer opportunities?  
Contact Dawn Oliver Wiand at (319) 774-3814.



dawn@iawf.org



iawf.org



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