



IMPROVING THE LIVES OF *Iowa's Women and Girls*

January 2023

Happy New Year!

What a great time to join IWF! This organization has really put its mark on Iowa in the past several years by raising its voice and bringing together communities, funders and policymakers to tackle a tough issue. IWF has learned so much from stepping into this critical convening role around one of the identified barriers to women's economic success – childcare. We have built partnerships, gained stakeholders and developed advocacy skills. This will be valuable experience as IWF continues to work with Iowans to improve the lives of women and girls by addressing all six barriers.

I hope we are well on the way to achieving the vision held by a small group of committed women who gathered in 1994. Much has been accomplished and much remains to be done. We go into 2023 with a renewed understanding of the power of our purpose and dedication of our advocates. It is exciting to consider all the possibilities ahead for IWF.

Thanks to those who have already given me a warm welcome! I look forward to many events and convenings in the coming months to learn more about your interests and support of IWF. Please consider organizing or participating in an OVATION tribute for a woman you admire prior to the March 17th deadline. I'm so anxious to be inspired by the women across the state we'll discover through this 10th anniversary edition.



Deann Cook
President & CEO

25 Years of Grantmaking



The Iowa Women's Foundation presented grant funds to 23 recipients from across the state at a check presentation event on Wednesday, January 11, at the Kirkwood Regional Center in Coralville. Grantmaking serves the Foundation's longstanding mission to shatter barriers to economic self-sufficiency faced by Iowa's women and girls every day, and this round of grantmaking was the largest to date.

The room was filled with grantees, donors, sponsors, and Foundation affiliates as each recipient had the opportunity to share their mission and discuss the programs receiving funding.

To learn more about this year's grant recipients, visit the IWF [website](#).

To date, the Iowa Women's Foundation has awarded \$1,681,677 to 172 organizations across the state—furthering 307 projects that serve Iowa's women and girls.

A Year in Review

2022 was a year of research, collaboration, and advocacy for the Iowa Women's Foundation. Every effort was a step toward shattering barriers, and improving economic self-sufficiency and success for women and girls across the state. Staff has increased and technology upgraded in response to expanding programs and statewide growth. This, in addition to a partnership with Iowa Economic Development Authority on Building Community Child Care Solutions (BCCCS), positions the Foundation to further advance its positive impact on the lives and livelihoods of Iowa's women and girls. For a full list of the top ten accomplishments, visit the news section of the website [here](#).

Legacy Fund Continues Progress Toward Goal



IWF's Legacy Fund, which will ensure that the organization's grant, outreach, and advocacy programs remain strong in future years regardless of economic fluctuation, is now 84% toward its goal of \$3 million. ***Thank you to everyone who has already contributed or made a planned gift to Legacy.*** Your commitment is truly sustaining the important work that will be done for and on behalf of every woman and girl in our state far into the future. If you have not yet made a commitment to Legacy and would like to discuss it further, please reach out to

Lori Lane (lori@iawf.org, 319-431-2429).

OVATION - Who will you honor?

It's OVATION season again! OVATION is one of only two fundraisers IWF does each year, and 2023 will mark the 10th edition of this publication which pays tribute to women and girls of all variety of accomplishment across the state.



Is there someone you would like to see featured in this 10th edition of OVATION? Please contact Lori Lane (lori@iawf.org, 319-431-2429) or go to the [IWF website](#) for additional details. Deadline for photo and text submission is March 17; commitment and payment deadline is April 7. Proceeds from OVATION enable the grantmaking and advocacy that IWF does statewide, year-round.

2023 Board Changes

Please help us welcome Andi Riem, JD to the IWF Board of Directors. Andi lives in Cedar Rapids and is the Director of Human Resources for New Leader Manufacturing. And a huge thank you to the following retiring Board members: Ramon Calzada, Crystal Ford, Carrie Koelker, Chelle Lehman, and Cindy Nodorft. Their dedication and contributions to IWF have been meaningful.

2023 Board officers are Chair Jen Neumann, Vice Chair Anne Rierson, Secretary Danette Kenne, and Treasurer Mark Ruggeberg. Former Board Chair Chelle Lehman and former CEO Dawn Oliver Wiand will join IWF's Advisory Council.

Like what you are reading? Want to get further involved by serving on a committee or providing valuable professional services? There is an opportunity for every skill and interest area. For more details click on the Volunteer button below and join us as we work together to improve the lives of Iowa's women and girls!

[Volunteer](#)

[Donate](#)



Iowa Women's Foundation
2201 East Grantview Dr - Suite 200 - Coralville, IA 52241
319-774-3813 info@iawf.org

[Unsubscribe info@iawf.org](mailto:info@iawf.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data
Notice](#)

Sent byann@iawf.orgin collaboration with



Try email marketing for free today!