

Story County Community Foundation Awards \$117,413 to local organizations

Contact: Sunni Kamp
Title: Executive Director
Phone: 515.232.9200
Email: skamp@storycountyfoundation.org



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Representatives from each of the organizations that received a 2019 grant gathered at Reiman Gardens to celebrate this year's recipients and uplift our nonprofit community serving Story County.

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(AMES, November 7, 2019) – The Story County Community Foundation has awarded \$117,413 in grants to Story County nonprofit organizations. The awards were announced November 7 during a reception at Reiman Gardens.

Among the awards was a \$25,000 Major Grant to the City of Zearing's Fire Department for their Emergency Zearing Fire Dept. Retrofit project.

Funding from the Story County Community Foundation will support modifications to the Zearing Fire Department Building. This support is essential for work to proceed, work that will address two emergency concerns. The first aspect of this project is to remedy the deterioration of the Zearing Fire Department building, constructed in the late 1970s. The second part of this project will allow for relocation of the Zearing Emergency Medical Services (EMS) vehicle and volunteers to the Zearing Fire Department.

“The Zearing Fire Department will use these funds to make some longstanding updates needed to the Fire Station. Without this support from the Story County Community Foundation, we would have to rely on donations from department members and local business. We appreciate the grant award and extend our heartfelt thanks to the community foundation,” commented Mike Pierce, Zearing Fire Chief.

The Story County Community Foundation also awarded a \$14,000 Community Grant to the City of Collins for Community Center / Walk of Murals project.

The City of Collins is going to be adding an addition to their current community center to provide for a dedicated space to display local artifacts and historical research. In addition, they will be adding a mural walk, to help showcase our heritage, promote local art, and create connections to our past traditions. The intent is that this will be developing a point of community pride, as well as a new attraction for Story County and a stopping point that compliments the upcoming improvements of the Heart of Iowa Trail.

“SCCF's contribution will provide a huge boost to our efforts in revitalizing our town and in helping to guarantee that our local heritage is protected for future generations. Even though the monetary help is wonderful and very needed, it is even more important that someone outside our community has taken the time to recognize the value of our efforts and is willing to invest in our future,” states Brett Comegys, Mayor of Collins

In addition to the City of Zearing Fire Department and the City of Collins, the following is a list of Story County discretionary grantees and the program or fund that received a 2019 Community Grant award from the Story County Community Foundation.

Community Betterment: City of Colo (Colo Community Center Renovations project); KOHI (Community Engagement Productions program)

Education: Iowa College Access Network (I.C.A.N.) (Preparing for Life After High School - Education and Training program); Raising Readers (Thrive by Five program); Threshold Learning Center (TLC Kids Club & Fields Schools Wish List program); The Arc of Story County (Health and Nutrition program classes)

Environment: Prairie Rivers of Iowa Resource Conservation and Development (Water Quality Monitoring Program)

Health and Wellness: City of McCallsburg (McCallsburg Wellness Center); Maxwell Area Renewal Committee (Automated External Defibrillator (AED) purchase)

Human Services: ACCESS – Assault Care Center Extending Shelter & Support (Ames office technology upgrade); ChildServe – Ames (Universal Exercise Unit equipment purchase); Emergency Resident Project (Shelter Diversion Program); Food Bank of Iowa (Feeding Story County program); Friendship Ark Inc. (Community Inclusion through Day Hab program); Mainstream Living (The Center - Safety and Accessibility Improvements project); Martha’s House of Hope (Technology and appliance upgrade); Wings of Refuge (Transitional Living Center Renovation project)

“Our grantmaking committee reviewed 48 funding requests this year from nonprofit organizations serving Story County. While these funding decisions are never easy, we pleased to partner with each of these organizations to support furthering the work of their mission and work. The unwavering

leadership and commitment that our entire nonprofit community demonstrates to help our communities thrive makes us proud to serve as a partner in philanthropy in Story County,” says Sunni Kamp, Executive Director of the Story County Community Foundation.

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The Story County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, has been created by and for the people of Story County. The Community Foundation’s main goals are to support charitable projects and programs in Story County and to attract additional funds to assist donors in creating lasting legacies through a variety of giving options within Story County.

For more information, contact the Story County Community Foundation at 515.232.9200 or visit www.storycountyfoundation.org. The organization is now accepting online donations.