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**Community Foundation
of Louisa County**

An affiliate of
Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine

Annual Report



The Community Foundation of Louisa County strives to create positive, sustainable change.

The mission of the Community Foundation of Louisa County is to **support quality of life initiatives in our communities by connecting people who care with causes that matter.**

Established in 2005, the Community Foundation of Louisa County works to:

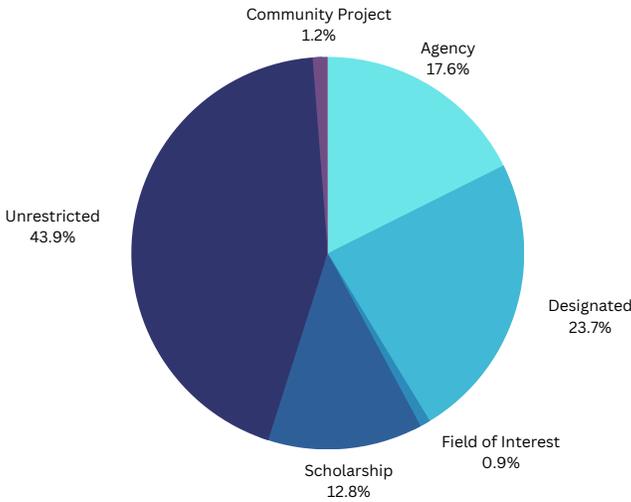
- Build community capital for today and for future generations.
- Serve donors' needs by providing flexible and cost-effective means to achieve charitable giving goals.
- Provide a neutral space for collaboration of community improvement initiatives.

The Community Foundation of Louisa County is an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine. Through this partnership, the Community Foundation of Louisa County serves residents of Louisa County through our granting program and the development of new funds that benefit Louisa County. The Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine provides policy governance and administrative oversight for the affiliate including tax-deductibility for donors.

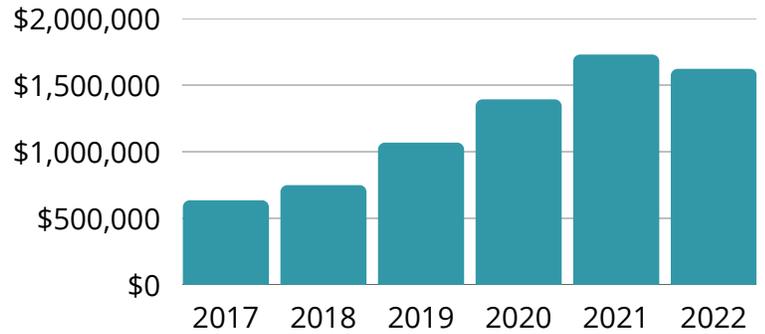
2022

By the Numbers

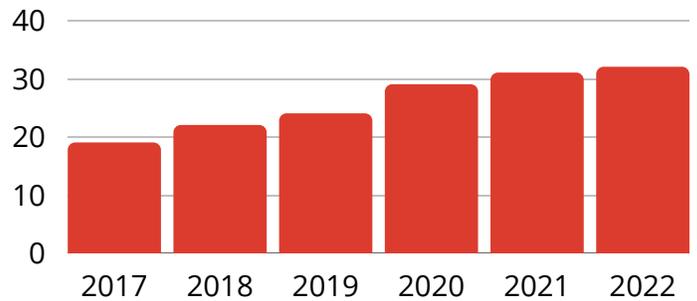
Assets by Fund Type



Asset Growth



Community Funds



TOTAL GRANTS

\$221
THOUSAND

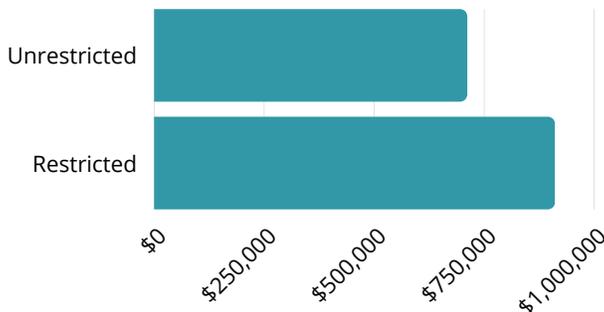
NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

38
FUNDED

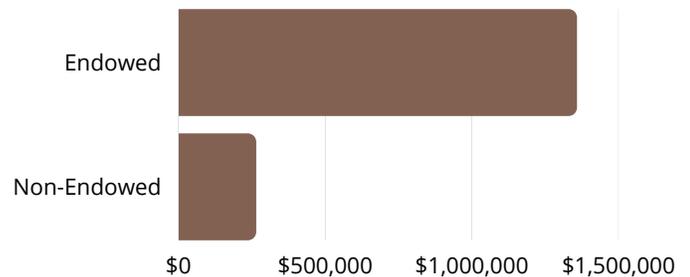
SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

\$9.6
THOUSAND

Restricted vs Unrestricted Assets



Endowed vs Non-Endowed Assets



Improving quality of life in our community takes a network of strong nonprofits and community groups.

We provide expertise and strategic solutions to area organizations so they can thrive in serving out their mission for years to come. To celebrate the good work being done, we also recognize local volunteers through our annual Community Caring Award.

Granting in Action



In November 2022, the Community Foundation of Louisa County **awarded more than \$99,000 in local grants** to support 35 charitable programs or projects through the Endow Iowa Granting Program.

Additional grants were also provided to local organizations to offer support in response to the Grandview fire. Through the **Louisa County Emergency Disaster Relief Fund**, the Community Foundation provides services and assistance during an emergency or disaster.

Community Caring Award

The 2022 Community Caring Award was presented to **Verl Lekwa**. Verl has been an active member of the American Legion, Lions Club, Sons of Norway, Louisa County Historical Society, Cedar County Historical Society, and the United Methodist Church. He has served on various Boards and has written over 485 articles on local and family history for newspapers and magazines. Verl and his wife, Earlene, have lived in Columbus Junction for 55 years.



Endow Iowa Grant Awards

- City of Columbus Junction** for live music at Columbus Day 2023 (\$2,100).
- City of Letts** for Letts street signs (\$1,000).
- City of Letts** for mental health support for all ages at the Letts Public Library (\$2,100).
- City of Morning Sun** for library events (\$2,450).
- City of Wapello** for jump kit & bags replacement for the Wapello ambulance (\$2,240).
- City of Wapello** for Wapello community mural (\$1,650).
- City of Wapello** for hotspots at Keck Memorial Library for mobile internet access (\$1,000).
- City of Wapello** for programming at the Keck Memorial Library (\$1,000).
- Columbus Community School District** for the Girls' Basketball Program (\$1,000).
- Columbus Community Softball Corp** for basketball equipment (\$1,400).
- Columbus Community Softball Corp** for backpacks (\$1,750).
- Columbus Junction Fire and Rescue** for a rescue randy training manikin (\$1,200.15).
- Community Action of Southeast Iowa** for housing assistance (\$3,500).
- Community Foundation of Louisa County** for Partners in Philanthropy (6,025.13).
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes** for the 2023 sports camp in Pella, Iowa (\$1,722).
- Friends of the Columbus Junction Public Library** for book clubs (\$1,855).
- Hometown Pride Louisa County Inc.** for Fairview Preservation Group (\$1,000).
- Hometown Pride of Morning Sun** for Lions Locust Grove Shelter House upgrades (\$1,000).
- Hometown Pride of Morning Sun** for seed funding for the playground and splashpad project (\$7,000).
- Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity** for the Helping Hands Program (\$5,600).
- Letts United Methodist Church** for food backpacks (\$1,000).
- Louisa County Conservation** for programming and repairs on the Langwood Challenge Course (\$4,200).
- Louisa County Conservation** for Kayak Louisa County (\$5,140.61).
- Louisa County Extension** for Animal and Vet Science Youth Camp (\$1,000).
- Louisa County Public Health** for Healthy People, Healthy Communities program (\$10,500).
- Louisa County Sheriff's Office** for deputy equipment upgrades (\$5,250).
- Louisa-Muscatine Community School District** for Business Professionals of America (\$2,870).
- Louisa-Muscatine Community School District** for FCCLA training and competition (\$3,795).
- Louisa-Muscatine Community School District** for the Industrial Tech. Program (\$2,475).
- Louisa-Muscatine Community School District** for purchasing a kiln (\$2,551.29).
- Morning Sun Community School District** for the elementary school (\$1,925).
- Morning Sun PTO** for a carnival and end of year fun day (\$1,000).
- Pack 16 - Wapello Cub Scouts** for national re-charter assistance (\$1,237.50).
- Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation** for eco-tourism for water trails in Louisa County (\$5,110).
- Wapello Community Schools** for high school soccer travel bags (\$2,362.50).
- Wapello Community Schools** for safety/security cameras for FFA (\$2,475).

Building a Stronger Community Together

The Community Foundation is a place for individuals, families, businesses, and organizations to invest in our community. By opening a fund—or joining your friends and neighbors in giving to a community fund—you can get more impact out of every dollar. We make giving simple, convenient, and tax-advantageous, so that you can give more to the causes you care about and create a lasting legacy.

A Sampling of Local Generosity

Hal Cross Wapello Music Endowment

The **Hal Cross Wapello Music Endowment** benefits the Wapello School music program in honor of Harold Cross, a beloved music instructor from 1952 to 1983.

Established in 2015, this endowment fund has supported purchases of a drum set and cymbals, sound system, materials to build a recording studio within the music room, and LED portable stage can lights.



Because this fund is permanent and perpetual, it will continue to help ensure that students will continue to participate in the school's music program, expand their talents, and develop a lasting love of music for generations to come.

“ Our group of past Hal Cross music students were looking for a way to honor our beloved instructor who was still living at the time. We decided that instead of a one time gift, we would honor him with a gift that kept on giving forever with an endowment fund through the trusted Community Foundation of Louisa County. ”

-Ken Purdy, Fund Representative

Ways to Give

ENDOWED FUND

An endowed fund can transform a community's future by serving as **sustainable resources** for many future generations. They provide an annual stream of revenue to fund local charitable initiatives or important charities.

ORGANIZATION FUND

A fund established by a charitable 501c3 agency, church, public school, or unit of government to **grow charitable dollars or further a purpose**.

UNRESTRICTED FUND

An unrestricted fund provides the **flexibility to meet ever-changing community priorities**, today and for future generations.

DONOR ADVISED FUND

A **simple, tax-efficient investment account for charitable giving**. A donor advised fund gives you flexibility to make a donation at one time, then distribute funds to charitable organizations at another time in the size and frequency of your choice.

LEGACY GIVING

Plan to gift a percentage of your estate and impact your community for generations to come. This planned giving allows donors to **support the causes they care about most** and create a lasting legacy.

Types of Donations Accepted



CASH



STOCKS



REAL ESTATE



GRAIN



LAND

...and more. Talk to us for details.

Sparkling Change to Address Key Community Issues

We serve as a community catalyst and connector to help address our county's most pressing issues. Our unique role as a community convener allows us opportunities to support change in key areas.

MENTAL HEALTH

As we continue to develop creative solutions to meet present and emerging needs, such as addressing our priority of mental health, your generosity helps us create greater impact and responsiveness.

Please consider giving to our new Partners in Community for Mental Health Fund which has been established to increase accessibility to mental health services and reduce the stigma around mental illness in Louisa County.

A donation to the Partners in Community for Mental Health Fund will create sustainable, long-term funding for mental health services, support, and counseling for youth and residents in our communities.

The **Community Foundation of Louisa County** committed up to **\$5,000 as matching dollars** for any gift to this fund. Donations are tax-deductible and will have double the impact to help increase giving and awareness of the need for mental health services.

Our hope is that this fund will allow us to have sources of funding available to ensure that our neighbors and children experiencing mental health-related distress will have access to the support and care they need, this year and for years to come.



Our Team

Advisory Board

Ashley Bartenhagen

Don Foor

Lindsey Ford

Kara Hammer

Thad Helmig

Sherry Humphreys, Chair

Rich Koffend

Jesse Register

Donna Williams, Vice Chair

Affiliate Director

Lynsey Krusie

Fund List

Cedar River Haven Charitable Fund - Supports the mission of Cedar River Haven to help women in recovery from substance use disorder to learn a new way of life and embrace their potential by offering safe shelter, employment opportunities, community, and life skills.

Columbus Junction Community Pool Fund - Provides funding support for the Columbus Junction Community Pool Project.

Columbus Junction United Methodist Church Endowment - Supports the charitable, scientific, and educational purposes of the church.

Don and Donna Williams Scholarship Endowment - Scholarship established by Don and Donna Williams for graduating Wapello High School students pursuing a career in Agriculture, Medicine, or Education.

Edwin R. Hicklin Memorial Scholarship - Scholarship established in memory of Edwin R. Hicklin for Wapello High School graduating seniors pursuing post-secondary education in the state of Iowa.

Endow Iowa Fund - Supports projects that improve the quality of life in Louisa County.

First United Presbyterian Church of Morning Sun Endowment - Supports the church's mission.

Frank H. Jolly Memorial Endowment - Support for the ongoing maintenance, improvement, and eventual replacement of the Frank H. Jolly Memorial Shelter located in Shadle Park in Pleasantville, Iowa.

Friends of the Columbus Junction Public Library Endowment - Promotes lifelong learning, including to support the overall mission and strategic plan of the library and to provide equitable access to needed resources.

Friends of Community Foundation of Louisa County - Supports the programs and operations of the Community Foundation as directed by the local Advisory Board.

Hal Cross Wapello Music Endowment - Supports the Wapello School music program in honor of Harold Cross, a beloved music instructor from 1952 to 1983.

Impact Endowment - Provides granting support for qualified charitable organizations or charitable causes in Louisa County.

Letts Public Library Endowment - Supports the mission of the Letts Public Library for the educational, informational, and recreational needs of the community.

Lisa Ostrem Memorial Endowment Fund - Ardith Ostrem established the Lisa Ostrem Memorial Endowment Fund to support the Friends of the Columbus Junction Public Library in memory of Lisa Ostrem.

Lisle "Doc" & Jeanette Luithly Scholarship Endowment - Scholarship given in memory of Lisle (Doc) Luithly, a long time Columbus Wildcat Fan and Southeast Iowa Conference Secretary, for a Columbus Community High School graduating senior pursuing full-time post-secondary education at an accredited institution.

Louisa County 4-H Foundation Endowment - Supports Louisa County 4H youth and 4H programs.

Louisa County Emergency Disaster Relief Fund - Provides services and assistance during an emergency or disaster.

Louisa County Equity Fund - Provides funding support for projects and services aimed at benefiting minority populations in Louisa County.

Louisa County Fair Endowment - Supports Louisa County Fair programs.

Louisa County Historical Society Endowment - Supports the maintenance and preservation of the Littleton Memorial in Toolsboro.

Louisa County Trails Association Endowment - Supports the development and maintenance of trails in Louisa County.

Louisa-Muscatine Community School District Foundation Designated Charitable Fund - Supports the mission and betterment of the Louisa-Muscatine Community School District.

Louisa-Muscatine FFA Alumni Association Future of Agriculture Endowment - Provides the Robert and Marillyn Schlutz Future of Agriculture Scholarship to L-M graduating seniors, and supports the future of agriculture with grants in the support of FFA student development in leadership and career preparedness.

Morning Sun Community Center Endowment - Supports the community center's maintenance and operations.

Oetken RFD Postal Museum Endowment - Assists in the continued operation and maintenance of the R.F.D. Postal Museum in Morning Sun, Iowa.

Partners in Community for Mental Health - Provides support for mental health initiatives in Louisa County.

Partners in Philanthropy - Supports the operations of the Community Foundation of Louisa County and provides the immediate flexibility to impact current community priorities.

Presbyterian Church USA of Columbus Junction Endowment - Supports the church's mission.

Ray & Evelyn Werner Scholarship Endowment - Scholarship given in honor of Ray and Evelyn Werner for a Wapello High School graduating senior pursuing full-time post-secondary education at a 2- or 4-year college or university in the state of Iowa with preference given to a student who intends to pursue a career in education or human service.

Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation Endowment - Supports initiatives that promote the preservation and enjoyment of the area's natural resources.

Wapello Alumni Association Endowment - Scholarship awarded to a graduating Wapello High School student, as well as providing support for school improvements as designated by the WAA Board.

William Paris Conservation Scholarship Endowment - Scholarship awarded to a graduating Louisa County student pursuing a career in a conservation related field. This fund was established by family members in memory of William J. Paris.



Community Foundation of Louisa County

— An affiliate of —
Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine

Contact Us:

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Donate:

