



Council Column

April 2006

ENDOW IOWA GRANT PROGRAM 2006

The Iowa Council of Foundations (ICoF) has released the **Endow Iowa Grant Program 2006 Competitive Application** for community foundations/affiliates in Iowa. The Endow Iowa Grant Program is administered by the ICoF in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Economic Development (IDED).

In order to qualify for Endow Iowa grant funds, the entity must show a raised "match" in the form of actual donations to an *unrestricted endowment fund*. The State of Iowa has appropriated funds to the ICoF to be provided to selected community foundations/affiliates in the form of grants (**total** awards distributed in 2006 will amount to \$50,000). Recipients of a 2005 Endow Iowa Grant are not eligible for the 2006 program and applications must be postmarked by June 1, 2006.

The 2006 Application and Review Criteria Information can be downloaded from the ICoF web site (www.iowacounciloffoundations.org) or from the IDIED web site (www.iowalifechanging.com/EndowIowa).



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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

In an effort to encourage and grow philanthropy across Iowa, the ICoF is very interested in legislative action that directly impacts charitable giving- specifically for Iowans. Below is an update on federal as well as state legislative issues.

FEDERAL: H.R. 4297

According to the Government Relations department at the Council on Foundations in Washington D.C., action in regard to the tax reconciliation bill (H.R. 4297) is still possible once session resumes on Monday, April 24 at which time congressional leaders will consider a number of issues and approaches. Senate Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley (R-IA) has indicated that he is committed to including charitable reform in the final tax bill.

More detailed information about H.R. 4297 as compiled by the Council on Foundations can be downloaded at www.cof.org/files/Documents/Government/06_Summary_of_H_R_4297_0222.pdf. (www.cof.org).

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“To give away money is an easy matter ... and in any man’s power. But to decide to whom to give it, and how large and when, for what purpose and how, is neither in every man’s power nor an easy matter. Hence it is that such excellence is rare, praiseworthy and noble.”

- Aristotle

ICoF WELCOMES DIRECTOR

The Iowa Council of Foundations has named Angie Dethlefs-Trettin as the organization’s first Director since the organization’s inception in 1998. Dethlefs-Trettin has served in multiple capacities over the past five years at the Community Foundation of Waterloo/Cedar Falls and Northeast Iowa, most recently as that organization’s Director of Outreach; she has also been actively involved with the ICoF serving as the Endow Iowa Coordinator. She is currently working toward a Master of Arts Degree in Philanthropy and Nonprofit Development.



“Angie Dethlefs-Trettin will be a resource person for foundations and grantmakers across the State of Iowa,” said Steve Schaaf, President of the ICoF. “Angie brings a deep understanding and passion to her new role that will complement a growing interest in philanthropy in Iowa.” 

To connect with Angie email ADTrettin@IowaCouncilofFoundations.org




CONT. FROM COVER...

STATE: HF 2791 AMENDED TO HF 8537

Pending legislation in front of the Senate (passed the House on 4.19.06 with a vote of 92-0) would increase the support to the County Endowment Fund Program from .5% to 1% of gaming tax revenues. **The legislation has been amended to HF 8537.**

The increased allocation would allow for .8 of one percent to be deposited into the county endowment fund that would provide dollars to the community foundation/affiliate organizations in non-gaming counties for distribution of grants, .1 of one percent would be directed to the Endow Iowa Tax Credit program (eliminating the sunset date currently imposed on that incentive), and additional funds would be earmarked for tourism marketing within the state.

Here is just a glimpse at what the County Endowment Fund Program is doing in Iowa.

-  All across Iowa, in 85 non-gaming counties, grants are being made to improve the quality of life and build sustainable communities.
-  More than 1,500 community leaders have emerged in communities who are involved in grantmaking and growing permanent community endowments.
-  Endow Iowa has created more than \$20 million in endowed funds across the state. These funds will be in place for generations, providing support to help keep Iowa healthy.

To read HF 8537 (previously HF 2791) visit <http://coolice.legis.state.ia.us/Cool-ICE/default.asp?Category=billinfo&Service=Billbook&hbill=HF2791>. To find local legislators, visit www.legis.state.ia.us/asp/Legislators/LegislatorInfo.aspx. 

NEW ICoF CONTACT INFORMATION

The Iowa Council of Foundations has NEW contact information. Please make the adjustments in your databases.

MAILING ADDRESS:

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PHONE NUMBER:

515.537.6956

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The Iowa Council of Foundations is a leader in advocating for and strengthening philanthropy in Iowa, facilitating and promoting effective grantmaking, as well as serves as a forum for the exchange of information on programs and issues in regard to the import role philanthropy plays across the State of Iowa.