

# \$3.4 Million in Grants Awarded for Third Quarter

## INCLUDES \$1.4 MILLION FOR LOCAL DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

The Iowa West Foundation has announced \$3.4 million in grants for the third quarter of 2011. The grants will be used to assist 30 non-profit organizations and governmental entities with funding for area projects. **This round of Foundation grants includes \$1.4 million to support the downtown revitalization fund of the Pottawattamie County Development Corporation (PCDC). Many of the projects enhance historic downtown Council Bluffs.**

“Community and economic development is one of the focus areas of the foundation,” said Jerry Mathiasen, Interim President and CEO of the Iowa West Foundation. “This significant grant can help PCDC generate development opportunities and continue stimulating downtown,” he added.

Mathiasen cited four of the fund’s recent redevelopment successes: the 1884 Creston House; the Hughes-Irons building in the historic 100 block; the former International Harvester warehouse; and the original Daily Nonpareil newspaper building. “All are now viable locations of businesses in our community,” he said.

“Iowa West has been generous in providing our nonprofit organization the financial spark for this revitalization fund,” said Amy Recker, PCDC Executive Director, “and we really appreciate this important support for downtown redevelopment and revitalization.”

Mathiasen highlighted two other sizable grants:

- \$825,000 went to the Iowa West Foundation streetscape initiative—in cooperation with the City of Council Bluffs—to beautify major corridors in the community; and,
- A \$515,000 grant to the Loess Hills Chapter of the Red Cross to assist families with flood clean-up in Fremont, Harrison, Mills, and Pottawattamie counties in Iowa, as well as Cass, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties in Nebraska.

For more information regarding grant applications and deadlines, visit [www.iowawestfoundation.org](http://www.iowawestfoundation.org), where funding guidelines and procedures can be accessed, or call 712-309-3000.

The Iowa West Foundation, which is headquartered in Council Bluffs, receives its funding for grants from investment income and also from the Iowa West Racing Association. The association receives contracted fees from casino operators—Ameristar and Harrah’s.

Iowa West has provided \$280 million in grants to non-profits and governmental entities since the inception of its grants program in 1996.

## MISSOURI RIVER 2011 FLOOD RECOVERY

One of Iowa West Foundation’s top focus areas is to help meet human and social needs. A \$515,000 grant was given to the Red Cross Loess Hills Chapter in Council Bluffs to help meet the needs of individuals and families negatively impacted by the Missouri River flooding.

The grant included funds to provide for critical client services, clean-up kits, seed money to establish a COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disaster), continued support of cooperative programs, and replenishing supplies that were provided to all of the sandbagging volunteers and National Guard soldiers.



IOWA WEST FOUNDATION

25 Main Place, Ste. 550 | Council Bluffs, IA 51503 | [IowaWestFoundation.org](http://IowaWestFoundation.org) | 712-309-3000

# 2011 Third Quarter Grant Recipients

## **African American Empowerment Network**

Coordination of neighborhood revitalization efforts in Omaha metro area

## **American Red Cross Loess Hills Chapter**

Flood recovery assistance for families in southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska

## **Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands**

Community based mentoring for children in Pottawattamie and Mills County

## **Bluffs Arts Council**

Arts classes for local youth

## **Carson Business Club**

Dreamland Theatre digital projector upgrade for the facility in Carson

## **Carstens 1880 Farmstead, Inc.**

Exhibit of "Pingel Hybrids" at historic farmstead near Shelby

## **CASA for Douglas County (NE)**

Children advocacy services

## **Christian Home Association Children's Square U.S.A.**

Recruitment program for qualified foster parents in Council Bluffs and Omaha

## **City of Avoca**

Equipment and furniture for municipal clubhouse

## **City of Macedonia**

Roofing and renovation at Stempel Bird Museum

## **City of Shelby**

Improvements to city park playground

## **Council Bluffs Goodfellows**

Program to assist local families during holiday season

## **Council Bluffs Housing Trust Fund, Inc.**

Project to increase housing opportunities

## **Family Housing Advisory Services**

Housing and financial counseling program in Council Bluffs

## **Green Hills AEA**

Career internship program for high school seniors in Pottawattamie County

## **Iowa West Foundation Streetscape Initiative**

Beautification of primary corridors in Council Bluffs

## **Malcolm X Memorial Foundation**

Concepts and preliminary designs for visitor center in Omaha

## **Mills County Public Health**

"Family Matters" substance abuse recovery program

## **Omaha Children's Museum**

Partnering program with Council Bluffs and Omaha schools

## **Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisors**

Creation of video library and marketing campaign

## **Pottawattamie County Development Corporation**

Support for downtown revitalization/redevelopment fund

## **Pottawattamie County Firefighters Association**

Equipment to assist volunteer fire departments

## **R.E.S.P.E.C.T.**

Technology upgrade to support Omaha metro area response to bullying

## **Southwest 8 Senior Services, Inc.**

Evidence-based disease/disability prevention program in southwest Iowa

## **Southwest Iowa Nature Trails, Inc.**

Trail maintenance equipment

## **Turnbull Child Development Center**

Playground enhancement project in Page County

## **Visiting Nurse Association of Pottawattamie County**

Nursing services for families in local shelters

## **West Pottawattamie County Agricultural Extension District**

"Caregiving in Rural Communities" project

## **Women's Center for Advancement**

School-to-work program in eastern Nebraska

## **YMCA of Greater Omaha**

Council Bluffs YMCA market feasibility study



**IOWA WEST**  
FOUNDATION

The Iowa West Foundation is a 501(c)(3) private foundation that is funded from its investment income and from the Iowa West Racing Association, which receives fee income from local casino operators.



**AMERISTAR**  
CASINO • HOTEL

**Harrah's**  
COUNCIL BLUFFS

**HORSESHOE** U  
CASINO • COUNCIL BLUFFS

**OUR VISION**  
is a community  
where families  
choose to live, and  
businesses choose  
to locate, because  
of its quality of life  
and standard  
of living.