



Nurturing Young Minds

The Iowa West Foundation has now given \$9.3 million over the past eight years to make a substantial impact on the availability of quality preschool programs for area four-year olds. The \$1 million grant this quarter was awarded to continue efforts to provide quality preschool services in eight local public school districts. This early childhood education will provide a strong foundation for our youth.

\$3.8 Million in Grants Awarded for First Quarter

\$1 Million goes to Pottawattamie County Preschool Program

"Many Iowa West Foundation grants this quarter will help meet needs of children," said Todd Graham, President and CEO of the Iowa West Foundation, "with the largest of those being a \$1 million grant for early childhood education in Pottawattamie County schools."

Graham explained that the preschool grant went to Loess Hills Area Education Agency 13, which provides the funding to the local districts in the county. The \$1 million grant brings the Foundation's support of the Pottawattamie County preschool program to \$9.3 million over the past eight years.

"Early childhood learning programs are critical for the development of our youth," stated Glenn Grove, Administrator of the Loess Hills Area Education Agency. "Iowa West's recognition of this importance and the Foundation's grant award will help

leverage our other funding to keep the program at a quality level," he added.

Graham highlighted other grants for children related programs (in alphabetical order):

\$5,000 for a summer camp for Omaha metro area children with asthma organized by the American Lung Association of the Central States;

\$30,000 for a Big Brothers Big Sisters pilot program for school-based mentoring at Lewis & Clark Elementary School in Council Bluffs;

\$14,000 to the Children's Center for an additional childcare site to serve Council Bluffs and southwest Iowa;

\$20,000 for renovations to a Little League baseball complex in Harlan;

\$10,000 for Discovery Dome and Mobile Planetarium programs at the Omaha Children's Museum;

\$15,000 support for childhood lead-poisoning prevention program efforts by Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance; and

\$30,000 for construction of an early childhood center playground at Southwest Iowa Family Services, Inc., located in Atlantic.

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. For more information about the Iowa West Foundation, visit its website at www.iowawestfoundation.org or call 712-309-3000.



IOWA WEST FOUNDATION

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2010

FIRST QUARTER GRANT RECIPIENTS

African Culture Connection

Cultural education program and artistic performances in Council Bluffs

Alegent Health

Charity care assistance at Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs

Alzheimer's Association Midlands Chapter

Training for in-home caregivers in southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska

American Lung Association of the Central States

Summer camp for Omaha metro area children with asthma

American Red Cross Loess Hills Chapter (Council Bluffs)

Haiti disaster relief donation for Miami evacuation center

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands

Pilot program for school-based mentoring at Lewis & Clark Elementary School in Council Bluffs

Bluffs Arts Council

Concert and film series in downtown Bayliss Park

Board of Regents/University of Nebraska-Omaha

Science field trips and camps for youth from southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska

Children's Center

Additional childcare site to serve Council Bluffs and southwest Iowa

City of Carter Lake

Streetscape improvements along city's main street (Locust Street)

City of Council Bluffs

Educational outreach for city's Civil Rights Commission

City of Denison

Construction of community bike and skate park

City of Walnut

Construction of a "splash pad" (water play area) in a city park

College of Saint Mary

Summer academy program for Latina high school students in Omaha metro area

Community Education Foundation, Inc.

Youth led "Graduating is Our Norm" program at three Council Bluffs area high schools

Council Bluffs Community Health Center, Inc.

Improve capacity to meet increased demand for services

El Museo Latino

Summer educational programming in Omaha for local families

Harlan Little League

Renovation to baseball complex in Harlan

Harrison County Conservation Board

Lincoln Highway/Loess Hills Interpretive Center project near Missouri Valley

Indian Creek Historical Society and Museum

Restoration of 1860's log cabin at museum near Emerson

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Civic environmental project for two rivers in southwest Iowa

Iowa Legal Aid

Collaborative effort with healthcare providers to assist low-income people in Southwest Iowa

Iowa West Foundation Streetscape Initiative

Beautification of corridors in Council Bluffs

Loess Hills Area Education Agency 13

Early childhood learning programs in Pottawattamie County school districts

Loess Hills Humane Society, Inc.

Improvements to surgery and veterinary care clinic in Glenwood

Lutheran Services in Iowa

Expansion of the teen pregnancy prevention program in Crawford County

Merrymakers Association

Entertainment programs in southwest Iowa long-term care centers

Omaha Children's Museum

Discovery Dome and Mobile Planetarium programs

Omaha Community Foundation

Capacity building demonstration project with three Council Bluffs nonprofit agencies

Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance

Childhood lead poisoning prevention program

Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisors

Support for the CITIES infrastructure fund of Pottawattamie County

Pottawattamie County Conservation Board

Facility upgrades at Arrowhead Park

Pottawattamie County Development Corporation

Support for downtown revitalization fund

Southwest Iowa Family Services, Inc.

Construction of playground at early childhood center in Atlantic

The Kent Bellows Foundation

Artist mentoring programs for youth in Omaha metro area

Visiting Nurse Association of Pottawattamie County

Collaborative nursing program with local homeless shelters

Word-of-Mouth

Oral health program for at risk older adults

The Iowa West Foundation has evolved into one of the largest non-profit organizations in the Midwest making a positive impact on the lives of thousands of area citizens. The Foundation's mission is to improve lives and strengthen communities for today and future generations. It does this by providing leadership, creating partnerships, leveraging resources and serving as a catalyst in identifying and supporting community needs.



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.

