



Supporting Community Development

One of the Iowa West Foundation's main focus areas is community development and beautification. For example, the Foundation has recently funded aesthetic improvements and landscaping along major roadways such as the Avenue G viaduct (above) and the Veterans Memorial Highway in Council Bluffs.

\$3 Million in Grants Awarded for Third Quarter

Iowa West Foundation grants leverage public funds in Pottawattamie County

"In this quarter, a majority of the Foundation's grants were related to two of our focus areas: community development and beautification; and, human and social needs," said Todd Graham, President and CEO of the Iowa West Foundation. "During the economic downturn, it is important for foundation grants to leverage public funds that will serve our community."

"The two largest grants of the quarter were for programs to implement beautification improvements along major traffic corridors and to provide services to families with young children," Graham said.

As reflected in many of the grants, Pottawattamie County organizations and communities continue to make efforts to improve their infrastructure and beautify their communities. **This quarter \$750,000 was announced for Council Bluffs streetscape improvements.** The Iowa West Foundation has nearly completed its funding for the Veterans Memorial Highway (formerly South Omaha Bridge Road), and will fund final work near the

east end of the Avenue G viaduct, as well as future streetscape work related to the reconstructed West Broadway viaduct just west of downtown. The Foundation's funding leverages city, state and federal funding for these projects.

A grant of \$435,000 went to FAMILY, Inc., a resource center for young families in Pottawattamie County. Recently, FAMILY received some public funding for its projects and programs, which includes parenting classes and home visitations for families with pre-natal to five-year-old children. However, the public funding required a local match, and the Iowa West Foundation grant will be part of that match for the FAMILY programs. Recent grants from the Foundation have been awarded to other Pottawattamie County organizations in the areas of early childhood education, educational attainment, and college access programs.

Graham explained, "the Foundation understands the importance of meeting family needs early in this continuum of education, as a result, this key grant was

awarded to FAMILY for its programs and collaborations."

Also, this quarter, the Pottawattamie County Firefighters Association approved funding for new equipment purchases by local volunteer fire departments. This program is funded by the Iowa West Foundation.

Grants averaging \$2,400 were awarded to these five departments: Carson Volunteer Fire Department, Carter Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Crescent Volunteer Fire Department, McClelland Fire Department, and the Treynor Fire District.

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

25 Main Place, Ste. 550 | Council Bluffs, IA 51503 | IowaWestFoundation.org | 712-309-3000

2010

THIRD QUARTER GRANT RECIPIENTS

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands

Community-based mentoring program for children in southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska

Brush Up Nebraska Paint-A-Thon

Painting of residences for elderly and disabled in Omaha metro area

Children's Square U.S.A.

Data management system for treatment service delivery in Pottawattamie County

City of Avoca

Construction of municipal golf clubhouse and community meeting space

City of Council Bluffs

Way-finding signage for visitors to community attractions

City of Crescent

Equipment to maintain the city's recreation fields/courts

City of Griswold

Upgrades for lighting and electrical system at youth sports complex

City of Macedonia

Removal of condemned building and creation of a park in its place

City of Oakland

Renovations to municipal swimming facility

City of Tabor

Community redevelopment project and memorial garden

Community Education Foundation, Inc.

Feasibility study for the organization's future projects

Essex Public Library

Transfer of microfilm records onto CDs

FAMILY, Inc.

Projects and programs of Pottawattamie County Young Families Resource Center

Heartland Family Service

General operating support for substance abuse services in southwest Iowa

HEAT 2011 - housing and emergency assistance for residents and families in Pottawattamie County

Historic General Dodge House, Inc.

Window replacement and repairs for historic landmark in Council Bluffs

Hope Medical Outreach Coalition

Medical interpretive services for low-income patients in southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska

Iowa Newspaper Foundation

Newspapers for classrooms in southwest Iowa schools

Iowa West Foundation

Youth Initiative - Assessments of youth and recreation needs in Pottawattamie County

Streetscape Initiative - Beautification of primary corridors in Council Bluffs

Justice For Our Neighbors-Nebraska

Civil rights education for immigrants in southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska

Keep Council Bluffs Beautiful, Inc.

The CURB program - Creating Ultimate Residential Beautification

Kids and Kinship

Child mentoring program in Montgomery County

Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc.

Early childhood intervention services at the North Omaha Center for Healthy Families

Make-A-Wish Foundation of Iowa

To fulfill wishes of southwest Iowa children with life-threatening diseases

MICAH House

New office equipment for an emergency family center in Council Bluffs

Mills County Public Health

The "Family Matters" methamphetamine family recovery program in Mills County

Mission For All Nations

Homeless and hunger prevention programs

Omaha Down Syndrome Parents Network

Expansion of Down Syndrome project in Omaha metro area schools

Pottawattamie County Conservation Board

Addition of open space to expand Hitchcock Nature Preserve

Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

One-on-one after school reading program for Council Bluffs community youth

Southwest Iowa Families, Inc.

Enhancement of therapy for children and families in Clarinda area

Ted E. Bear Hollow, Inc.

Expansion of family grief services into Omaha and Council Bluffs region

United Way of the Midlands

2010 campaign for local non-profit agencies to meet human needs

Vocational Development Center, Inc.

Wheelchair vans to meet transportation needs of disabled persons in Omaha metro area

Western Central Iowa Sheltered Workshop

Wheelchair accessible minivan to serve disabled individuals in Crawford County

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.



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.

