



In 2025 IWF Awarded 92 Grants For \$12.4 Million

The Vision

The Iowa West Foundation strives for communities where families *LOVE* to live and businesses *THRIVE*.

THE MISSION: Improve lives and strengthen communities for current and future generations.

HOW

- Catalyze creativity and collaboration
- Empower partners for community success
- Foster leadership that reflects the community
- Support people-focused outcomes



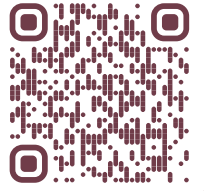
A Blue Ribbon Venue for Pottawattamie County

IWF announced a **\$2.5 million lead gift** to Council Bluffs' Westfair as part of a multi-phased **\$20 million campaign** to revitalize the beloved fairgrounds and amphitheater and enhance the visitor experience for years to come.

Much of the infrastructure dates back to 1974 and is at critical end-of-life stages. Addressing outdated power, water, and accessibility needs is paramount for Westfair to attract hundreds of thousands of visitors to the fair, concerts, and events throughout the year.

Projections show that the Westfair rejuvenation has the potential to create more than **\$25 million in annual economic impact**.

Voices and Vision Community Engagement



Scan the code and watch how Council Bluffs is shaping a vibrant future!



Keeping Iowans Housed & Fed

GRANTS CYCLE 3

Many in our community faced significant financial challenges this year, struggling with rent and basic needs like food and shelter. The IWF Board of Directors approved **\$1.6 million** in grant and initiative funding to **24 nonprofits and cities** throughout Southwest Iowa in Cycle Three alone, with a focus on these most basic needs.

- Anawim Housing | \$360,000
- Corporation for Supportive Housing | \$50,000
- Habitat for Humanity of Council Bluffs | \$300,000
- New Vision Homeless Services | \$125,000
- Saving Grace Perishable Food Rescue | \$20,000
- Timothy Lutheran Swaddling Clothes | \$5,000
- United Way of the Midlands | \$50,000
- And more!

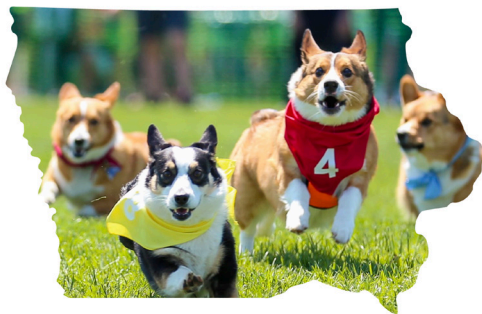
Read our full press release at bit.ly/IWFCycle3.

3D rendering of the upcoming Westfair Fairgrounds



Iowa: For Visitors & Residents

GRANTS CYCLE 2



IWF continues to inject funds into non-profit organizations that retain residents and attract visitors to Council Bluffs, while also adding to the housing stock to allow more people to call Pottawattamie County home. In Cycle Two of 2025, the Board of Directors for IWF approved **\$5 million** in grants and initiative funding. More than **\$500,000** will support arts and sports entertainment events, while upwards of **\$2 million** will contribute to creating and rehabbing housing units.

- *Front Porch Investments* | \$500,000
- *Habitat for Humanity of Council Bluffs* | \$1,000,000
- *Omaha Sports Commission* | \$140,000 over 4 yrs.
- *Pottawattamie Arts, Culture & Entertainment* | \$200,000

What Else Has IWF Been Up To?



RURAL SUMMIT
Registrants



VOICES AND VISION
Survey Respondents



Local Artists

PAINTED "TRACKS OF TIME"
on trail-facing wall of Katelman
Steel building

SECURED STATE FUNDING OF



FOR SPIN LOFT PROJECT
Affordable Rental Home



Student Support & Enrichment

GRANTS CYCLE 1

The Iowa West Foundation Board of Directors approved **\$2.9 million** in grants and initiatives to more than **40 local organizations** in Cycle One, many of which will benefit Pottawattamie County's youngest residents. Several grants were awarded to provide literacy options, arts experiences, mentoring partnerships, nature encounters, and more.

- *DIBS for Kids* | \$10,000
- *Firefly's Early Head Start Program* | \$330,000
- *Green Hills AEA Pottawattamie County Preschool* | \$1,350,000
- *Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation* | \$23,747
- *Iowa Western Community College Foundation* | \$35,000
- *Kiewit Luminarium* | \$25,000
- *Lauritzen Gardens* | \$25,000
- *NAMI Southwest Iowa* | \$30,000
- *Omaha Symphony Association* | \$21,000
- *RESPECT* | \$10,000
- *And more!*

Message from the CEO

At the Iowa West Foundation, we believe strong communities start with ensuring people have what they need to thrive. Many of our neighbors face financial challenges—from affordable housing access to basic needs. Our grants help partners support families on their path to financial stability.

We also remain committed to investing in young people and opportunities for them to grow and achieve their goals. When students build skills and confidence for their future careers in the classroom, as well as learn and grow beyond those walls, they gain life-lasting benefits.

For years, Iowa West has focused on creating communities where people love to live. We've heard over and over just how much Southwest Iowans love living here. Our small-town vibe with big city access is the perfect mix. Thank you for the work you are doing to help our communities thrive.



Brenda Mainwaring,
President and CEO of IWF

New Faces at IWF

BOARD



Laura
Heisterkamp

BOARD



Sarah
Yrkoski

ADVISORY



Maria
Torres

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