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A bridge does more than connect two sides of a river.

It joins communities, enabling people to work together to address challenges and broaden their impact.

Bridges are fixtures of the rural landscape in Eastern Iowa; at the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, we have been building our own bridge for 16 years.

The foundational blocks were laid in 2003 when a group of community leaders imagined a way to multiply the impact of generous individuals through community insight and a convening of resources.

Today, that dream lives on through the Community Foundation’s work, the generosity of every donor and the vision of every stakeholder. Using our collective resources and knowledge of community needs, we strive to increase access to opportunity for all residents through lasting, systemic change.

Our bridge stands tall and spans many communities.

We welcome you to cross it.
A BLUEPRINT FOR CHANGE
A retired prosecutor uses her knowledge and experience to help the Community Foundation build partnerships that lead to big impacts.

When considering how to use her post-retirement time, Chris Corken had one condition: “I was only going to spend it on things I cared deeply about,” she says.

After learning about the Community Foundation’s initiative to improve access to brain health services, the career prosecutor, who served the Dubuque area for 30 years, knew she found a project worthy of her time.

That was in 2016, not long after the Foundation learned through a needs assessment that barriers to brain health care were impeding many Dubuque residents’ ability to thrive.

“Throughout my career I saw how circumstances kept people from getting the help they needed and the frustration caused by a system that didn’t function the way it should,” she says.

Corken, already a member of the Foundation’s Board of Directors, jumped at the chance to be part of the solution. With deep knowledge of government, law enforcement and social services, she volunteered to help convene community leaders to address the problem.

Since Corken’s work began, significant progress has occurred, thanks also to a $50,000 Telligen Foundation grant. By connecting brain health providers and law enforcement, the foundation facilitated expansion of a “mobile crisis unit” that enables police to call for support from Hillcrest Family Services when they encounter someone having a brain health emergency.

Additionally, a new initiative helps people jailed for misdemeanors — and also diagnosed with brain health issues — move through the criminal justice system more quickly to ensure they remain connected with social safety net programs and other well-being resources upon release.

This work also led to the approval of a Dubuque County access center— one of six required statewide — to serve people with urgent brain health needs.

Through her work, Corken hopes to inspire others, particularly “ordinary people” like herself, to support the Community Foundation’s work addressing emerging needs in the community.

“The Community Foundation is uniquely positioned to do systems change work,” she says. “We can forge partnerships among local leaders to find solutions to regional issues. That’s the blueprint for change.”

29 police officers have called the mobile crisis unit 100% of them say they would use it again
CHRIS CORKEN
A BLUEPRINT FOR CHANGE

JIM & JEAN GANTZ
PLANNING FOR FOREVER
As native Dubuque residents, Jim and Jean Gantz have developed a plan to tie their legacy to the future of their community through giving.

To Jim and Jean Gantz, Dubuque is more than a home. It is a community that has supported them from birth through their respective careers — Jean as a special education teacher and Jim as the third-generation owner of a family beverage-distribution business.

Today, both retired, they are giving back to the community that has given them so much. Working with the Community Foundation, they have arranged for their assets to benefit the people of Dubuque for generations to come.

“I’m a firm believer in giving back,” says Jim Gantz, who serves on the Foundation’s Board of Directors. “We wanted to work with the Community Foundation, because it is best suited to understand the needs of the community. That’s what sets it apart from other charities.”

That understanding of local needs is why the Gantzes decided to make a legacy gift to the Community Foundation’s Greater Dubuque Forever Fund, an endowment through which generous individuals can help respond to the unexpected, from emerging needs to new opportunities that strengthen the region.

“I love endowments,” says Jim Gantz. “Because they pay out annual distributions to important causes, they are a way to leverage what you have to do more for the community.”

The Forever Fund isn’t the only beneficiary of the Gantzes’ generosity. Taking advantage of the Community Foundation’s estate planning services, they developed a creative roadmap for how their charitable giving can make the greatest impact possible while meeting the couple’s personal philanthropic goals. The creative options afforded to them include complex gifts during their lifetime and far into the future.

Through the estate planning process, the Gantzes determined how their assets will provide additional support for causes close to their hearts, including services for people with special needs and arts and cultural attractions.

The couple’s estate plan also will support initiatives that promote active, healthy lifestyles, reflecting a personal passion for outdoor recreation that runs deep in their family history.

“Health and fitness are so important,” says Jean Gantz. “We are always doing something, whether it be biking, cross-country skiing or just walking. Even my father was kayaking until he was 80 years old.”

The Gantzes learned more than fitness from their parents. They also learned the importance of giving. Today, they are passing that value on to their children, who have become charitable givers themselves.

“Our time and resources are precious,” says Jim Gantz. “It’s important to devote them to our passions.”
A BLUEPRINT FOR CHANGE

CHARLIE & LINDA GIESE

TRANSFORMATIVE CONNECTIONS
A natural athlete, Carter Giese excelled at numerous sports, including hockey, tennis and golf. But it was his sportsmanship and compassion for others that his parents, Charlie and Linda Giese, say really made him shine.

“He wasn’t that competitive,” says Linda Giese. “He just wanted to play, and he played for the team.”

In 2013 and on the cusp of receiving his bachelor’s degree, Carter died in a car crash, leaving his family and members of the Dubuque community heartbroken. Today, his parents honor his memory by giving back.

Through the Community Foundation, the Gieses’ family and friends established the Carter R. Giese Endowment Fund, enabling them to support sports and recreational experiences for local children and teens. Their passion is for programs that instill the values Carter exemplified, which is why they have supported initiatives like assistance for youth hockey players and free golf lessons for underprivileged youth.

“The Community Foundation knows the needs that exist in Dubuque. We’ve worked with them to help provide positive experiences for children who might not have the same opportunities as Carter,” says Charlie Giese.

Among the organizations the Gieses have supported is the Dream Center, an anchor of Dubuque’s Washington Neighborhood that provides programming to strengthen families and improve academic achievement.

The center aims to boost proficiency in math and reading—and extracurricular activities like athletics keep students motivated. They also teach interpersonal skills and offer opportunities that families might not otherwise be able to afford.

Thanks to funding from the Gieses, the Dream Center purchased basketball uniforms—each carrying Carter’s name—that have instilled pride in young athletes, the Giese family and the broader community.

“They are so much more than jerseys,” says Racquel McClellan, the center’s donor relations coordinator. “It makes students feel they are a true team and part of a community. And they feel proud to honor Carter and his family.”

For the Gieses, the ability to make such an impact in Carter’s name is the true benefit of the fund. Because the endowment will pay out annually, forever, they are confident Carter’s passion for life will always be felt in Dubuque.

“Thanks to the guidance of the Community Foundation, I feel like his name will go on forever,” says Linda Giese. “Thank you to all our family and friends who continue to support Carter’s foundation. Without you, this impact wouldn’t be possible.”
SUPPORT STRUCTURES
Our Affiliate Foundations

A bridge is only as strong as the components that support it. While a simple deck can span a gap, it will crumble without sturdy girders, cables or other supports.

Such is the relationship between the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque and its eight affiliate foundations. While Dubuque serves as an economic and cultural hub, the surrounding rural communities are vital to supporting the overall well-being of our region.

Our affiliates are important structural elements holding up the bridge that connects generous philanthropic partners with the future of our region.

With more than 614 funds totaling more than $26 million, our affiliate foundations help address our collective region's greatest challenges and seize opportunities to ensure our home remains welcoming and vibrant for everyone who lives here.
Learn more about our affiliate foundations at dbqfoundation.org/affiliates

Pictured: Keystone Bridge, Elkader, Iowa (Clayton County) / Photo by David Beck
PILLARS OF GENEROSITY

The future of our region is shaped by those who are here today. That’s why the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque is proud to recognize the generous donors who have committed to helping us make an impact that will last for years to come.

The Legacy Society honors individuals, couples and families who have made planned gifts to the Community Foundation. Often, these meaningful gifts go unrecognized because they come at the end of a donor’s life. The Legacy Society is our way of acknowledging this generous contribution to the future — today.

For more information visit dbqfoundation.org/legacysociety.

Anonymous
Ed and Shirley Babka
Alta Bailey
Mark D. Baker*
Joan Barton
Beverly A. Baum
Helen and Edwin Bishop*
Edwin and Barbara Blinks*
Tim and Christine Conlon*
Maury Conwell
Jack and Carla Crahan
Norma Denlinger
Raymond and Emma Diedrich
James and Jean Gantz*
Ed Geers*
Sharon Gilbert*
Charles and Joann Harrington*
Catherine Heinz
Donna Helble*
Joan Hoffman*
Bill Homrichhausen*
Doug and Karen Horstmann
Jackie Jan
Earl and Mary Jean Jarvis
Betty Jetter
Mary Kelley
Olive Kendall
Clark and Susan Kerndt
W. John and Elvira Koski
Keith and Sherry Kramer*
Lawrence Kruse*
Norris Kuenzel
Chris and Kathie Lampe*
Bruce and Jeanne Lauritsen
Russell and Juanita Loven
Carol Machael*
Jack Marlowe*
George Maier
Leo and Joy McCarthy
Verda McLendon
Roy Blair and Susi Nehls
Edwin Oberbroeckling
James Owen Jr.*
Barry and Mary Lammer Pickart
Melvin and Mabel Randolph*
Harlan and Helene Ruff
Phil and Judy Ruppel
Laurabelle Mae Rutenbeck
Linda Sandford*
Merle and Mary Santjer
Thelma Schlueter
Fritz Schmid
John and Bette Schmid Sr.
Mary and James Schmid
Richard T. and Carolyn M. Schmid
Dr. Andy and M.J. Smith
Dr. James Snyder
Helen Stoddard
Ted and Diana Strait*
A.W. Sunleaf
Jim and Marita Theisen
John Tilton and Christine Chapin-Tilton
Sharon Tinker*
Alan and Myrna Tubbs*
Grace Tubbs
Mike and Nancy Van Milligen
John W. Voss Estate*
Neil Webster
Greg Welp
Jean Welsh*
Laura Wendel
Dr. Joseph and Teri Zuccaro

*2017-2019 honoree

The Endowment Society recognizes individuals, couples, families and businesses who establish an endowment with the Community Foundation and contribute $10,000 or more to that fund during their lifetime. We are proud to honor these 2017 and 2018 donors and their exemplary leadership in growing permanent resources to benefit the region.

For more information and a full list of honorees visit dbqfoundation.org/endowmentsociety.

Pat Bresnahan
Donna Borcherding
Donald Burzlaff
Chad and Laura Chandlee
Krisitn and Kirby Clark
DeWitt Bank & Trust Company
First Central State Bank
Sharon Gilbert
Phillip and Leona Golladay
Great River Technologies
David and Suzanne Hahn
David Helscher
Patricia Henricksen
Dr. Richard Hermeier
Dave and Sheri Herold
Bill Homrichhausen
Iowa Mutual Insurance
Lisa Johnson
Darwin Kilburg
William R. Klauer
Krieger’s of DeWitt
Chris and Kathie Lampe
Bernard Lehman
James and Susan Lindsay
Carol Machael
Ron McGauvran
James and Pamela Miller
John and Yvonne Nelson
James Owen Jr.
Paul and Pamela Peckosh
Ronald and Mary Radloff
Tom and Amanda Rauen
Venice and James Richardson
William and Deborah Seiffert
John H. Simmons
Dave Sivright Jr.
Brian and Linda Southwood
Wayne and Nancy Stuedemann
Don Thiltgen
Jim and Marita Theisen
Tony and Susann Theisen
Alan and Myrna Tubbs
Patti Waack
Phil and Joan Weber
Donna Welterlen
Evelyn Wieck
Jill Wilgenbusch
Michael and Kari Zelinskas
Julie Zimmerman
For more than 130 years, the Dubuque region has been linked with its neighbors by bridges.

These bridges are massive feats of human ingenuity requiring years of planning and labor that nevertheless address a humble human need: connection.

At the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, we look to these structures for inspiration, because we, too, are in the business of building bridges:

**Bridges to residents who, with a little support, can realize their full potential.**

**Bridges to donors who want their generosity to have a lasting impact and improve lives.**

**Bridges to leaders — from the person next door to the elected official — who want to roll up their sleeves and make a difference.**

Building bridges begins with the ability to visualize something bigger than yourself. For us, that is a vibrant and inclusive region rich with opportunities for everyone who lives here.

Like the structural engineers and architects who designed Dubuque’s bridges, we devise a framework for accomplishing our goal — and then build. We assess and analyze our region’s needs and bring together a diverse and engaged group of stakeholders who can help develop and implement solutions to pressing challenges.

The results, as you can read about in this report, are transformative. Through our work, we don’t just improve individual lives. We positively impact policies and systems that influence daily life for everyone in our region, creating new opportunities for people to prosper.

Perhaps the biggest bridge we are building to date is the Greater Dubuque Forever Fund, a tool to connect residents of the region with its future. Through this fund, we can strategically deploy resources to address our communities’ greatest needs and opportunities in many different sectors, including health, education and culture.

The beauty of the Forever Fund is that it is a bridge anyone can help strengthen. Each gift to the fund is another brick, another truss, another pillar that holds it up and connects all of us to a better tomorrow.

Dubuque’s bridges have stood for decades, and it is impossible to imagine our region without them. Our hope is that the bridges we build at the Community Foundation have the same resiliency and serve as links to new opportunities for generations to come.
2018 BY THE NUMBERS

$83.9 Million
Total Assets

$10.7 Million
Total Gifts & Pledges

$7.6 Million
Total Grants & Scholarships

46
Number of New Funds

250
Number of Nonprofit Endowment Funds

2,447
Number of Grants Awarded

TOTAL ASSETS

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TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED

$40.2 Million
Total Grants to Date

Endowed Funds  Non-Endowed Funds  Operating Funds

Endowed Funds
Non-Endowed Funds
Operating Funds

OUR COMMUNITY’S STRONGER FUTURE IS WITHIN REACH.

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU

The Community Foundation Board of Directors, staff and affiliates express appreciation for the individuals, families and organizations who share gifts of time, dollars and personal experience to keep our region strong, thriving and vibrant.

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