One year ago, Candace Boots needed help. When addiction made her life “spiral out of control,” she found a fresh start at the Maria House.

“Without this place, my days would be dark and dim,” she says. “Words could never express how grateful I am to have a roof over my head and my children’s heads.”

**Homelessness Can Happen to Anyone**

Candace is not alone. Since 2000, nearly 3,000 homeless women and children like her have received a second chance at life at Maria House or Teresa Shelter, two women’s shelters supported by the nonprofit Opening Doors.

“Our story started with a homeless woman and her dog on a park bench in Jackson Park,” says Ann Lorenz, development and marketing director for Opening Doors. “The dog found a home easily, but there was no place for the woman to go. We opened our doors shortly after.”

According to the Institute for Community Alliances, 12,918 Iowans were homeless and...
Some people are dealt bad cards in life. There are many reasons why people become homeless, so we try and break that cycle of homelessness by giving them the skills they need to find another way.”

Ann Lorenz, Development and Marketing Director, Opening Doors

They’re been sober for a year and hopeful about her future. Today, Candace is feeling grateful.

Providing a Second Chance

Many reasons why people become homeless, so we try and break that cycle of homelessness by giving them the skills they need to find another way.

Providing a Second Chance

Today, Candace is feeling grateful and hopeful about her future. She’s been sober for a year and she’s pursuing her High School Equivalency Diploma and a career in social work with hopes of someday working to improve the lives of others like herself.

“If I can help at least one person like me, I know I’ve succeeded,” she says.

A Constant Source of Support

Ann Lorenz is also grateful—for the many community members who support Opening Door’s endowment fund at the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque. This year’s payout will help fund a new program at Opening Doors called Doorways to Hope, a job skills training program that teaches women soft and hard job skills so they can secure living wage jobs.

“In 2013, we lost a very large federal Housing and Urban Development grant, and the endowment payout was there to fill that gap,” says Ann. “It was there for stormy times like that and it is there for the future growth of our organization.”

Watch an interview with Ann Lorenz of Opening Doors at www.dbqfoundation.org/freshstart.

Cover photo: Candace Boots (left) is grateful for the support she received from Opening Doors and Maria House Case Manager Brittany Beeseker (right).

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Dine Out for Dubuque Public Schools Thursday, April 20 Dine at participating restaurants to benefit school grants. Restaurant list available at www.dbqfoundation.org/events.

The Journey Towards Racial Healing Plenary Session with Dr. Jennifer Harvey Friday, April 28 6:30–8 p.m. | Wartburg Theological Seminary

The Journey Towards Racial Healing Workshop with Dr. Jennifer Harvey Saturday, April 29 9–4 p.m. | Wartburg Theological Seminary

Inclusive Dubuque Community Conversation Tuesday, May 2 6–7:30 p.m. | Steeple Square

Women’s Giving Circle Provides Meal at Circle Initiative Tuesday, May 9 5:30 p.m. | Prescott Elementary

Great Give Day Thursday, May 11 Give online at www.GreatGiveDay.org

Women’s Giving Circle Gifts and Grants Celebration Thursday, June 1 5:30–7:30 p.m. | Dubuque Arboretum

Women’s Giving Circle Provides Meal at Circle Initiative Tuesday, September 12 5:30 p.m. | Prescott Elementary

Women’s Giving Circle Annual Meeting & Social Thursday, October 26 5:30–7:30 p.m. | Stone Cliff Winery

For event details and to register, visit www.dbqfoundation.org/events.

Nonprofits Receive $2.47 Million in 2017 Endowment Payouts

Last month, the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque (CFGD) authorized $2,473,140 in endowment payouts for fiscal year 2017, up from $2,151,140 last year. This total will rise as CFGD continues to calculate endowment payouts for two new affiliate foundations in Clinton County.

Endowment payouts are generated by more than 650 endowment funds established by donors and nonprofits through CFGD and its eight rural affiliate foundations. Endowment funds are invested and pay out 5% annually to designated nonprofits; any earnings beyond the 5% are reinvested.

Since the Foundation’s inception in 2002, more than 9,500 community members have made donations or created funds at CFGD. As the largest annual grantmaker in the greater Dubuque region, the Foundation has made a total of $29.8 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, as well as to plan for the future and sustain their good work. Donors who give to a community foundation endowment can also benefit from the Endow Iowa 25% State Tax Credit. For event details and to register, visit www.dbqfoundation.org/events.

Endowment funds help to diversify nonprofits’ funding and make their operations secure so they can deliver on their missions and continue to enrich life in our community forever,” said Nancy Van Milligen, CFGD president and CEO. “Each fund is unique and the payouts fund everything from special projects to facility repairs and general operations.”

Great Give Day Returns on Thursday, May 11

Great Give Day is a 24-hour, online giving day presented by CFGD to celebrate and support the work of nonprofits throughout our region. Over the past three years, it’s raised nearly $900,000 for nonprofits. Let’s come together to break $1 million in 2017!

• Give on May 11. Make a gift of $10 or more to your favorite nonprofits on May 11 at GreatGiveDay.org. (Search by “Gift Types” to determine which gifts are eligible for Endow Iowa.)
• Give before May 11. This year, you can also schedule your gift ahead of time through GreatGiveDay.org beginning April 20. Pre-scheduled gifts will be processed on May 11.
• Give with your donor-advised fund. Contact us to schedule your DAF gift before May 11.
• Become a corporate sponsor. Corporate sponsorships qualify for the Endow Iowa 25% State Tax Credit. Contact us to learn more. Visit www.GreatGiveDay.org to learn more, or call us at 563.588.2700.

Let’s come together to break $1 million in 2017!

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Act Early for Endow Iowa

Last year, Endow Iowa credits ran out earlier than ever before. We encourage you to give early to ensure you don’t miss out on this 25% state tax credit. Learn more at www.dbqfoundation.org/EndowIowa.
Community Foundation Grade-Level Reading Initiatives Make a Difference for Kids in Rural Communities

In 2014, the Community Foundation received an anonymous donor grant to expand the Dubuque Campaign for Grade-Level Reading into two rural communities—Dyersville and Jackson County. CFGD brought together people in each community to discuss how children were faring, and how the Campaign might be able to help drive positive change while building rural capacity.

After discussing eye-opening statistics—29% of third-grade students in Dyersville and an average of 76% of students across the four public schools maintained or increased their reading proficiency—community leaders signed on to help drive positive change. CFGD brought together communities—Dyersville and Jackson County—to local businesses, there was a passion to help all children in the district succeed in school. Once funding was secured, CFGD provided support to help community members collaborate effectively, which proved effective as partners started taking initiative to move the needle on grade-level reading.

Local donors, CFGD affiliate and local businesses have all committed to continued support of the Campaign in both Dyersville and Jackson County, and are demonstrating the power of community-wide collaboration to create long-term, positive impact for youth.

To learn more about grade-level reading in Dyersville and Jackson County, visit www.dbqfoundation.org/affiliates.

Vision To Learn Hits the Road in Northeast Iowa

Vision To Learn is officially on the road helping students see more clearly in Northeast Iowa. Since January, the mobile clinic has traveled to 17 elementary schools to provide vision screenings to students identified by school screenings. So far, in 2017, the clinic screened 291 students and prescribed glasses to 220 students. Each of these kids will receive two free pairs of glasses. Additionally, 18 children have been referred for further vision care to address more significant vision problems.

“It’s amazing to see how many kids the clinic has helped so far,” said Nancy Van Milligen, president and CEO of the Community Foundation. “Giving kids the tools they need to succeed in the classroom is such a gift and we are thankful to have wonderful community partners supporting this work.”

This year, Vision To Learn pilot program will be visiting 40 schools in seven counties, with the potential to serve more than 700 kids in need of vision care.

Inclusive Dubuque Report Tracks Progress in Equity

Inclusive Dubuque recently released Advancing Equity: Community Efforts and Outcomes, an annual report highlighting equity initiatives implemented in Dubuque by government, nonprofit, educational, private-sector and faith-based organizations. Here are some highlights:

• The Dubuque Marshall Islands Health Project began enrollment in its Community Health Program. In the last three months of 2016, this collaboration among Mercy Medical Center, University of Dubuque, Crescent Community Health Center and other organizations removed regulatory and financial barriers and restored health care services for 25 Marshallese people at Crescent Community Health Center.

• The Dubuque Museum of Art revised its mission, vision and values statements using a diversity and equity lens.

• The University of Dubuque Student Life Department held ally training focused on creating awareness and insight into the lives and experiences of LGBTQ people.

• Washington Middle School formed the Moxie Squad, a group of students who receive training on how to navigate and understand cultural differences to foster a positive learning environment.

View the full report online at www.inclusivedbq.org.

The Dyersville Campaign provided funding to support St. Mark Youth Enrichment’s summer learning program, which helped 88% of its students maintain or increase reading proficiency.

Last year, Vision To Learn and the Community Foundation partnered to pilot the vision program in eight Title I schools in Dubuque and Jackson Counties. Nearly 180 students received free eye exams and 90 students each received two free pairs of glasses. This year, the vision program is expanding to serve 40 schools in Allamakee, Clayton, Clinton, Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson and Jones counties where it has the potential to serve more than 700 kids in need of vision care. The clinic will continue its journey through these counties during the remainder of the school year.

This program is made possible through donations from Theisen’s Home Furniture, Auto, Klauser Optical Co., Steve and Elaine Kahler, Vision To Learn and CFGD.

Learn more about Vision To Learn at www.dbqfoundation.org/vision.

*Vision To Learn performs a modified vision screening with full auto refraction, which determines exactly what prescription is needed for glasses.
Project HOPE Needs Assessment Key Findings Now Available

Brynn, who suffers from major depression, moved to Dubuque in 2015. After signing up for Medicaid, she had to wait three months to see a general practitioner to be referred to a psychiatrist for treatment, then another eight months for an appointment. In the meantime, she struggled to manage her disease and its detrimental effects on her daily life.

Nia began her search for child care for her daughter immediately after she moved to Dubuque. It took her six months to find a center with a full-time opening. Even then, she had to settle for one that did not offer the special support she wanted for her daughter.

These are just two stories uncovered by recent needs assessments focused on mental health and child care services. In 2016, the Community Foundation and the United Way partnered with the Project HOPE Network in this effort to collect data about the needs and barriers to accessing these systems, and to learn from people like Brynn and Nia about the real impact of these challenges.

In early February, more than 30 mental health stakeholders gathered to review the mental health key findings and discuss how to work together to build long-term strategies and align systems to address the recommendations. Child care stakeholders will convene in April to have a similar conversation.

Project HOPE seeks to increase access to education and career opportunities for all by creating awareness and exploring solutions to systemic barriers. The hope is that these needs assessments will serve as resources to help inform the work of those in the field; influence current programming; aid efforts to obtain funding and resources; and provide data to help engage policy makers.

Download the full key findings reports for each focus area at www.dbqfoundation.org/ProjectHOPE.

KEY FINDINGS: MENTAL HEALTH
• Need for increased provider coordination
• Medicaid and funding challenges
• Difficulty meeting specialized and changing needs
• Lack of options for dual-diagnosis patients
• Limited capacity
• Lack of prescribing providers

KEY FINDINGS: CHILD CARE
• Low pay for providers
• Challenges in changing standards and regulations
• Challenges and opportunities in professional development
• Difficulties navigating complex licensing and regulations
• Low-income families disproportionately affected
• New information about different types of child care parents need as well as barriers faced in finding care

New Showcase Celebrates Local Nonprofits

In honor of its 15-year anniversary, CFGD hosted the Community Showcase on February 3 at the Mystique Community Ice Center. Community members enjoyed free ice skating and entertainment from local performers, while nonprofits like the RiverView Center shared their missions and competed for prizes. Check out www.facebook.com/dbqfoundation for more photos.

Northeast Iowa Food & Fitness Initiative: Creating Vibrant, Healthy Communities

NIFFI is one of more than 240 Northeast Iowa nonprofits that relies on earnings from an endowment fund at CFGD for a reliable and sustainable source of income. (See page three for more information on endowment funds.)

“Citizens across the region take pride in the health outcomes supported by NIFFI,” says CFGD Director of Affiliates MJ Smyth. “From walking school buses to school lunch salad bars to vibrant farmers’ markets, one can taste and feel the impact of this decade of community engagement. The Community Foundation has provided a backbone of support for many voices and organizations to join around a compelling vision that ‘the healthy choice should be the easy choice’ for our kids and families.”

The project is part of a collaboration among Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, Luther College, Northeast Iowa Community College, the Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission, the WK Kellogg Foundation Food & Community Program, the Northeast Iowa Business Network, Northeast Iowa Funders Network, and the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque.

Learn more or make a gift to support this initiative at www.dbqfoundation.org/NIFFI.

Last year, 1,200 Northeast Iowa preschool students tasted and learned about healthy, local food through a farm-to-preschool program. More than 500 early child care providers learned how to incorporate more daily movement and fruits and vegetables into their programs. And farmers reported that local food sales had increased to $2.58 million, up from $25,000 in 2006.

These are just a few of the successes of the Northeast Iowa Food and Fitness Initiative (NIFFI). This collaboration between community members, local farmers, and organizations has been shattering the old stereotype that young children want nothing to do with healthy foods.

NIFFI’s mission is to increase access to healthy, locally grown foods and to provide abundant opportunities for physical activity and play for children, especially those in the most vulnerable groups.

For more than a decade, NIFFI has worked in strategic alliance with the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, sharing best practices and resources and convening partners to impact health and wellness in six rural counties in Northeast Iowa: Allamakee, Chickasaw, Clayton, Fayette, Howard and Winneshiek.

"CFGD helped us create a framework for collective impact in our region," says NIFFI Initiative Coordinator Ann Mansfield. "While the WK Kellogg Foundation was our backbone funder, CFGD coached us to work with multiple funders and build many streams of support. CFGD gave us the liberty to do business where it made sense to create healthy outcomes for kids and families in Northeast Iowa.”

In early February, more than 30 mental health stakeholders gathered to review the mental health key findings and discuss how to work together to build long-term strategies and align systems to address the recommendations. Child care stakeholders will convene in April to have a similar conversation.

Local students feed and pet cows at WW Homestead Dairy in Waukon during Edible Earth Camp, a week-long summer camp that teaches students about locally sourced foods firsthand.
GO GREEN!
To receive Giving Matters electronically, email hillary@dbqfoundation.org and include Go Green in the subject line.

www.facebook.com/dbqfoundation
www.twitter.com/dbqfoundation

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Jim (Leo) Theisen
Ken Townsend

Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.
Memorial Gifts

Allamakee County Community Foundation Endowment Fund: Keith Fahey
Allamakee County Fund for After School Programs: Verla MacCanon
Alzheimer’s Support Endowment Fund in Memory of Robert F. Cronin: Rose Manders
Anamosa Library Endowment Fund: Ellis Lambersen
Ed and Shirley Babka Family Fund for Bethany Home: Rose Manders
Mark D. Baker Memorial Scholarship for Northeast Iowa Community College: Mark Baker
Joan D. and Rudolph A. Bellmann Foundation for Envision Mental Health: Hilda Haxmeier
Bernard Rescue Unit Endowment: Eleanor Burke
Doc Broman Athletic Scholarship: John A. Broman, MD
Camp Courageous Foundation Fund: Darling and Medintz families
Clay-Gar Veterans Endowment: Jim Nelson
CFGD Community Impact Fund: Joan Schoen
CFGD Endowment Fund: Joan Schoen
CFGD Operating Fund: Dick Friedman
Crescent Community Health Center Endowment Fund: Drew Schmid and Mrs. Mary Schmid Christiansen

Dolly Parton Imagination Library
Jackson Co.: Joan Bybee, John McMurray and Virginia “Ginny” Meder
Dubuque Community School District Scholarship Fund: John D. Soley
Earlville High School Alumni Association Scholarship Endowment Fund for Maquoketa Valley Dollars for Scholars: Mary Patton and Lois Zollars
Elkader Opera House Endowment Fund: Jane Griffith
Envision Mental Health Endowment: Hilda Haxmeier and Jayne Schambow
Every Child/Every Promise Endowment Fund: Claudia Hanson Brown
Ewalu Camp and Retreat Center Endowment Fund: Robert D. White
Fairview Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Fund: LoElla Richter
Farley Garden Club Endowment: John Henry Haugen, John Heyer, Gladys Gaul and Tom Ludwig
Foundation for Dubuque Public Schools Operating Fund: Dr. John E. Hess and Matt Moore
Carter R. Giese Endowment Fund: Eugene “Gene” Siegert
Grant Wood Mississippi River Region Acorn Endowment Fund: Don F. Nissen
Grant Wood Mississippi River Region Fund: Nathan Hinke

This list reflects memorial gifts, honorary gifts and new endowment funds recorded between November 17 and March 22, 2017.
Guttenberg Hospital Endowment Fund: Jim Hansel and Karen Ullerich
Hargrafen Family Scholarship Endowment Fund for Maquoketa Valley Dollars for Scholars: Cletus & Grace Hargrafen
Imagination Library for Clinton County Fund: Ruth Swanson
Jackson County Vision To Learn: John Gannon
Jones County Safe and Healthy Youth Coalition Endowment Fund: Nancy Cosner, Keith Dirks, Joe McGonegle, Sharon Nodurft, Gary Petersen and Debra Ross
Joe and Sue Kaesbauer Memorial Scholarship Fund: Sonia Hickson Lanark Area Community Foundation Operating Fund: Penny
Lawrence March Memorial Endowment Fund for Maquoketa Valley Dollars for Scholars: Alice Baty, Larry Drees, Darrell Hornung, Virgil Hunt, Donald Meyer, Michael Newhaus, Billie Rardin and Kenneth Schwarzhoff
Community Foundation Operating Fund: Jeanne Rogis
Loras College Endowment Fund: Dr. Roger Ott, Sr.
Maquoketa Valley Dollars for Scholars: Clara & Ray Murray Family, William Billings, Deb Burke, Ray & Joanne Cassutt, Karl & Opal Clark, John & Lois Dabroski, Cindy Freiburger, Roger L. Grimm, Helen Hanson, Raymond Hillers, Dennis Holtz, Mary Jo Knutson, Rosemary Lux, Scott Lux, Ray Marbach, Terry McQuillin, Harold & Ettagen Petlon, Harold Putz, Betty Redmond, Ellene & Nida Reth, Howard Rohr, Phyllis Rose, Lela Sands and Maynard Wilson
Maria House Endowment Fund: Alfred Van Milligen
Merritt Cemetery Endowment Fund: Merle Arp
Mississippi River Parkway Commission Endowment Fund: Martin Beekehn
Monona Garden and Trail Endowment: Beverly Fueling, Louis Seitz and Jon Vangen
More Moments More Memories Foundation: Henry G. Aleck, Kathy Malanga and Karen Shaw
Oxford Junction Cemetery Endowed Fund: John & Marie Petersen
Preston Area Betterment Fund: Alan & Charleen Hoffman
Resurrection’s Endowment Fund: Rose Manders
River Bluff Community Foundation Community Impact Endowment: Eugene Machel
Sacred Heart School Endowment: V.M. “Joe” and Mary B. Manning
St. John’s Lutheran Matthew 28:19 Endowment: Kathryn Borcherding, Wallace Felland and Lorimer Olson
Steeple Square: Joann Heiderscheit
Stonehill Benevolent Foundation: Todd Dunkel and Alfred Van Milligen
The Rod and Mary Jo Tangeman Family Endowment for Guttenberg EMS/Ambulance Service: Jim Hansel
Veteran’s Freedom Center Endowment: Jerry Stoffel
Anna Weitz Foundation for Childhood Cancer: Sam Ruppel
YAPPERS Endowment: Verna Hilbert and Rose Manders
Honoraty Gifts
Anamosa Library Endowment Fund: Lynn & Cindy Decious
Breast Cancer Survivors of the Tri-States Endowment Fund: Katherine Steffens
Clayton County Foundation for the Future Fund: Norb and Donna Borcherding
Dolly Parton Imagination Library Jackson Co.: Mary Helen Stewart
Dubuque Chorale Endowment Fund: Susan Tonn
Dubuque Dream Center Endowment Fund: Chris & Angie Ryan
Dubuque Rescue Mission Endowment Fund: The Matson Family
Farmsburg Wagner Cemetery Field of Interest Endowment Fund: Virgil & Gertrude Radluff Family Foundation for Dubuque Public Schools Operating Fund: Mike & Susan Snuttjer
Carter R. Giese Endowment Fund: Dirk Hamel, Art Gilloon and Dave Wright
Jackson County Endowment Fund: Kendra Beck, Abe Tubbs, Al Tubbs and Birg Tubbs
Maquoketa Area Family YMCA Endowment: Roger Stewart
Maria House Endowment Fund: Mary Ann Conzett
The Miracle League of Dubuque: Joe & Linda Chlapaty and Kurt Strand
More Moments More Memories Foundation: Belinda Holder and Shannon Schweiger
National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium: The Matson Family
Preston Area Betterment Fund Endowment: Dr. Darwin and Jackie Schipper
Riverview Center for Sexual Assault Endowment Fund: Andy Hawkinson
Sister Water Project, Sister of St. Francis: Vanguard Customers
Steeple Square: Father Gene Kutsch Vision To Learn: Landon Schauer
Anna Weitz Foundation for Childhood Cancer: John & Sheila Walsh’s 50th Wedding Anniversary

**New Endowments**

Felix Adler Children’s Discovery Endowment Fund
Gertrude Behne Memorial Scholarship
Bresnahan & McCullough Family Endowment
Camanche Schools Foundation Endowment
Judi Chandlee Tribute to Teachers Endowment
Triston Chandlee Memorial Scholarship
Friends of the Clinton Public Library Endowment
Curtis Mansion Historical Foundation Endowment
Dubuque County Conservation Society Endowment Fund
James P. Gantz Endowed Gifts Fund
Great River Learning Fund
JoAnn and Charles Harrington Endowment for Agricultural Education
JoAnn and Charles Harrington Endowment for DeWitt Community Hospital Foundation
JoAnn and Charles Harrington Endowment for DeWitt United Methodist Church
Alice Hermeier Foundation Endowment Fund
William D. and Shirley J. Homrighausen Endowment Fund

Hopkinton Blood Drive Endowment for Maquoketa Valley Dollars for Scholars
John and Yvonne Nelson Family Endowment for Special Education Preschool of Eastland Community Unit School District
Keith and Sherry Kramer Endowment for the Clinton Area Showboat Theater
Lampe Family Foundation Fund
LincolnWay Community Foundation 25th Anniversary Endowment
Little Shepherd Preschool Endowment
Motor Mill Foundation Endowment
Ms. Marsha’s Endowment for Eastland Music
LeRoy and Marion Ryan Endowment Scholarship Fund
St. Stephen’s Food Bank Endowment
Dave and Rosie Salow Family Endowment for Maquoketa Valley Dollars for Scholars
Mark and Diane Sands Family Endowment for Maquoketa Valley Dollars for Scholars
Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton Endowment
David H. Sivright Jr. Endowment Fund for the Clinton Area Showboat Theater
Dr. Alan R. and Myrna J. Tubbs Family Endowment
Keith Wilgenbusch Scholarship Endowment
YWCA Clinton Endowment

“Giving is an expression of gratitude for our blessings.”

– Laura Arrillaga-Andreessen