On July 19, an EF-1 tornado ripped through the historic downtown of McGregor, Iowa, tearing away the second floor of the Inkspiration tattoo studio, and raining bricks on cars parked nearby. Half a block away, the historic two-story Goedert Meat Market Building was reduced to a pile of debris. Lifelong residents had never seen such destruction in their hometown.

What happened next was a testament to the power of generosity. Immediately after the storm, Clayton County Emergency Services, the Salvation Army, volunteers and a crew of campers from an outdoor ministry in Minnesota jumped in to help with recovery efforts. "With power out, Kwik Star distributed fresh food to our volunteers and citizens," says Lynette Sander, McGregor city clerk. "One older couple even arrived from out of town and offered to rake our parks."

The Community Foundation was also ready to offer immediate assistance. In less than 24 hours, Foundation staff established the Restore McGregor 2017 Tornado Fund in coordination with...
**Restore McGregor**

“**This fund will be part of our long-term strategy to come back stronger than ever.**”

**Duane Boelman**, McGregor Director of Economic Development

McGregor officials, and spread the word through press releases and emails. In just two days, people from all over the country contributed $10,000 to the fund, which has since grown to $35,000.

Community foundations frequently engage as philanthropic centers for disaster recovery because of their unique ability to bring together service providers, community-based organizations, businesses, government and others—as well as their capacity to distribute funds from donors.

Disaster preparedness is just one way that community foundations take the long view for their communities. Gifts to the Community Impact Fund, for example—a general fund dedicated to future community needs—help our community prepare for unknown challenges.

“We have no idea what issues our region will face in 10, 20 or 50 years,” says Nancy Van Milligen, CFGD president and CEO. “The greatest strength of a community foundation is its ability to ensure that the gifts you make today help future generations when they need them most.”

The citizens of McGregor are grateful for the help they received when they needed it most. Just ten days after the tornado, the community was already on the mend. Debris had been cleared away and antique and gift shops were open for business.

“We were very lucky,” says Sander. “No one was injured. Currently, our residents are all in safe housing and have food and basic needs fully met. This is an amazing community, and together I believe we will turn this storm into a growing opportunity.”

According to Duane Boelman, McGregor director of economic development, community members will decide how to use the funds raised through the Restore McGregor fund. “We are convening a citizen committee to determine the most important ways we can use these donations to leverage and accelerate our restoration. With the immediate human needs met, we are considering the Restore McGregor funds as match for historic building repairs and improvements. This fund will be part of our long-term strategy to come back stronger than ever.”

Learn more or make a gift online at www.dbqfoundation.org/mcgregor.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**Wednesday, September 27**
Annual Charitable & Gift Planning Institute for Professional Advisors
9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. | Webcast
Dubuque, Decorah, Edgewood

**Tuesday, October 10**
CFGD Annual Luncheon
12–1 p.m. | Dubuque Golf & Country Club

**Thursday, October 19**
YAPPERS Feed the Need Luncheon
11 a.m.–1 p.m. | Roshek Building Lobby

**Tuesday, October 24**
Donor Luncheon with Estate & Charitable Giving Expert Johni Hays
Free event | Seating is limited
12–1:30 p.m. | Dubuque Golf & Country Club

**Thursday, October 26**
Women’s Giving Circle Social
Open and complimentary for those interested in becoming members
5:30–7:30 p.m. | Stone Cliff Winery

For the latest event details, visit www.dbqfoundation.org/events.

**IMPORTANT NOTE**

**Quarterly Fund Statements Going Paperless**

As part of our continued efforts to operate more sustainably, the CFGD will begin emailing fund statements to fund representatives quarterly. This will ensure a quicker turnaround time to our fund holders. Any fund representative with a valid email will automatically be enrolled.

If your preference is paper statements, call us at 563.588.2700 and we will ensure that you continue to get your statements in the mail.

Cover photo: In front of the McGregor Public Library, Lynette Sander and Duane Boelman review checks received from donors for the Restore McGregor 2017 Tornado Fund.
YAPPERS and Women’s Giving Circle Award Grants to Nonprofits

Catholic Charities was one of five 2017 Women’s Giving Circle Grants recipients. The Women’s Giving Circle and YAPPERS awarded over $21,000 in grants to Dubuque-area nonprofits this year.

The Community Foundation offers opportunities for community members to become grantmakers through two unique community grant programs.

The YAPPERS (Youth Area Philanthropists) are youth grantmakers who engage in teambuilding/leadership activities, discuss local youth issues, plan service projects and make grants to support local youth-serving organizations.

The Women’s Giving Circle brings together women from diverse backgrounds to study local needs and contribute financially to build the WGC endowment, which supports annual grants that promote self-sufficiency for women and their families.

2017 WOMEN’S GIVING CIRCLE GRANTS ($13,800)
- Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque Jail & Prison Ministry Program: $5,000
- Cedar Valley Friends of the Family: $1,000
- Dubuque Community YMCA/YWCA Empowering Women: $4,458
- Dubuque Red Basket Project: $500
- The Red Basket Project of Jackson County: $500
- Riverview Center: $2,342

2017 YAPPERS GRANTS ($7,400)
- Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque: $1,000
- Camp Albrecht Acres: $1,657.08
- Dubuque Community YMCA/YWCA: $2,117.92
- Dubuque Mercy Health Foundation: $1,000
- Hills & Dales Child Development Center: $1,250
- St. Mark Youth Enrichment: $375

Learn more this year’s YAPPERS and WGC grants on our website at www.dbqfoundation.org/news.

FOURTH ANNUAL GREAT GIVE DAY RAISES $380,000

The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque’s fourth annual Great Give Day—a 24-hour giving day presented in partnership with Theisen’s Home • Farm • Auto—raised $380,899 for local nonprofits, breaking last year’s record of $367,453.

Since 2014, Great Give Day has raised $1,262,455 for local nonprofits. Learn more at www.greatgiveday.org.
Research shows that summer learning loss is one of the most significant causes of the achievement gap between lower- and higher-income youth, and one of the strongest contributors to high school dropout rates. This was one of the challenges that prompted the CFGD to create the Dubuque Campaign for Grade-Level Reading in 2012. This group of funders, nonprofit partners, schools and parents works together to help ensure that more low-income children succeed in school and are prepared for college, careers and active citizenship.

Five years later, with campaigns now going strong in Dubuque as well as Dyersville and Jackson County, more kids than ever are learning all summer long.

**Dubuque**

Back in 2012, the Dubuque Campaign for Grade-Level Reading launched its work with the Community Solutions Action Plan—a roadmap for partners to develop effective community programs based on best practices from across the country. Today, hundreds of students in Dubuque are benefiting from quality summer learning opportunities like the Summer Academy (facilitated by the school district), St. Mark’s Heroes Summer Academy, and Cool School at the YMCA/YWCA. All of these programs include high-quality literacy instruction and enrichment activities—and data shows they are boosting kids’ reading proficiency more than a traditional summer school model. In addition to literacy instruction, enrichment activities and field trips, the program also eliminates common obstacles faced by low-income kids by providing free meals and transportation.

Summer Adventure was developed by administrators at four school districts and two parochial schools—all partners in the Jackson County Campaign for Grade-Level Reading—who were determined to help improve summer learning opportunities for students struggling to read. With the Community Solutions Action Plan as a guide, they launched the Summer Adventure pilot program in 2016 and data proved its success: 76% of students maintained or improved their reading proficiency.

What the data cannot always show, however, is the potential for such innovative programs to inspire a love of learning. As one parent noted, “I think this is such an amazing program and I’m very fortunate that my daughter has been able to attend. She continues to work on her math and reading and...”
Inclusive Dubuque Launches “I’m a Dubuquer Campaign”

For as long as anyone can remember, people from Dubuque have called themselves “Dubuquers.” The term is deeply embedded in the community and its language. From time to time, it has also been used to draw a line between insiders and outsiders.

Over the past two years, as the Inclusive Dubuque Network gathered information about the community through a Community Equity Profile and various community conversations, one theme repeatedly rose to the top: for someone who is new to the community, Dubuque is a closed network that is hard to break into if you weren’t born here—and that can make it difficult for newcomers to access opportunities.

With this in mind, Wartburg Theological Seminary professor and Inclusive Dubuque Network member Sam Giere pitched the idea for a campaign to help redefine what “Dubuquer” means. After living in Dubuque for over a decade, Giere had noticed that the word had deep roots in the community. As the city changes and grows, he suggested it was time to expand what it means to be a Dubuquer. Instead of using this word to draw a line between who’s in and who’s out, why not use it to expand the circle and welcome all who call Dubuque home?

The campaign fit with Inclusive Dubuque’s mission to create an informed, equitable and inclusive community where all people feel respected, valued and engaged. With the support of the Telegraph Herald, the network launched the campaign in July. By combining simple, black-and-white portraits of community members from all walks of life, age groups, occupations, and backgrounds with the words “I’m a Dubuquer,” the campaign invites conversation about the community and aims to broaden the collective understanding of who our neighbors and fellow Dubuquers really are.

Nearly 50 photos and stories are housed on the “I’m a Dubuquer” website. Visit www.imadubuquer.com to read, listen and learn more about a diverse group of people who choose to call Dubuque home, and to find out where you can see the campaign out in the community in the coming months.

Learn more about Inclusive Dubuque at www.inclusivedbq.org.
Lanark’s “Workation” Brings Neighbors Together

Last June, volunteers in the small town of Lanark, Illinois, came together for a summer “Workation” to support their neighbors.

Organized by the Lanark First Brethren Church, “Workation” offered locals the opportunity to spend a week meeting with, dining with, and helping their neighbors. For six consecutive days, 51 volunteers donated a combined 1,098 hours of time raking lawns, cutting weeds, and repainting porches, among other tasks. Together, these caring citizens completed 50 community projects impacting more than 200 people.

The project was funded by a $500 grant from the Lanark Area Community Foundation (LACF), an affiliate fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque (CFGD). The grant supported the costs of paint, materials, and administration.

“This Workation project was a perfect example of what we do at LACF,” says Floyd Roberts, LACF president. “It’s the largest community service project this congregation and our community has ever had.”

Formed in 2014, LACF is advised by local volunteer community ambassadors with a mission to assist individuals and area nonprofit organizations by providing the means for permanent charitable giving, resources and grants for charitable projects and programs that contribute to the quality of life in eastern Carroll County, Illinois. LACF provides scholarships, grants to qualified nonprofit organizations and charitable causes, and tax benefits for individuals.

“Lanark’s Workation project is a reminder that our region is full of generous people creating greater good through gifts of time, talent and treasure,” says MJ Smith, CFGD director of affiliates. “In addition to creating a sustainable source of funding for schools, churches, art centers and hospitals, the Foundation and its partners bring neighbors together to claim and define their future, harnessing the power of local philanthropy to accomplish their own visions.”

To learn more about our affiliate foundations, visit www.dbqfoundation.org/affiliates.

CELEBRATING GIFTS AND GRANTS

Women’s Giving Circle members (from left) Jillayne Pinchuk, Tami Ryan and Anne Benda enjoy the Women’s Giving Circle Gifts & Grants Celebration on June 1 at the Dubuque Arboretum & Botanical Gardens. The event included the announcement of the 2017 Women’s Giving Circle grants recipients (see a full list of grantees on page 3) as well as stories from last year’s recipients.

Learn more about the Women’s Giving Circle at www.dbqfoundation.org/WGC.
New Gifts and Funds as of August 7, 2017

Memorial Gifts
Allamakee County Community Foundation Endowment in memory of Peter Bieber and Hazel Rissman
Beckman Catholic Schools Blazing Forward Endowment in memory of Carla Ries
Bell Tower Theater Endowment Fund in memory of Bill Hoerstman
Camp Courageous Foundation Fund in memory of Rev. Louis Trzil
Central Dollars for Scholars Endowment Fund in memory of Aldean and Marvin F. Kuehl
Community Fund to Rebuild Lake Delhi in memory of John Duster
Crescent Community Health Center Endowment Fund in memory of Richard ‘Dick’ Schmid
Allison Cress Endowment for Art Education in memory of Allison Cress
DeWitt Area Fine Arts Foundation Fund in memory of Arlene Eggers
DeWitt Area Fine Arts Foundation Non-Endowed Fund in memory of Ken Muller
Dubuque Arboretum Fund in memory of Edna Mozena
Dubuque Dream Center Endowment Fund in memory of John Haupert
Dubuque Food Pantry Endowment Fund in memory of Viola Farrey
Foundation for Dubuque Public Schools Operating Fund in memory of Dr. John E. Hess and Freda M. Reynolds
Jones County Safe and Healthy Youth Coalition in memory of Sharon Nodurft, Gary Petersen and Lavonne Owen
Maquoketa Area Family YMCA Endowment in memory of Bud & Lois Myatt
Maquoketa Valley Dollars for Scholars in memory of William Billings, Virginia Bradke, Dean E. Carr, Kathleen Hogan, Kevin Kramer, Bud Laht, Mary June McDonald, Mary June McDonald, Anna Netzger, Eugene Perrig, Lela Sands, Lela Sands, Ruth Schulte, Anita Sells, Lisa Steger, Judith Wilhelm and Wilma ‘Billie’ Wolf
McGregor 2017 Tornado Fund in memory of Dave Homewood, Curtis D. Nuehring, David A. Vukovic and Roger Witter

Honorary Gifts
Envision Mental Health Endowment in honor of Darlene Schambow and Jayne Schambow
Hillcrest Family Services Endowed Fund in honor of Gary Gansemer
Jones County Safe and Healthy Youth Coalition in honor of Chris & Helen Hones and Doug Kleinsmith
The Miracle League of Dubuque in honor of Joe & Linda Chlapaty, Jennifer Kray and Kurt Strand
More Moments More Memories Foundation in honor of Belinda Holder, Christi Shaw, Shelley Shaw and Shelley Whiford
Parks to People - Prairie Creek Park in honor of Joan Bybee and John & Jean McMurray
Rural Heritage Field of Interest Fund in honor of Mike Breitbach

New Endowments
Allison Cress Endowment for Art Education
DeWitt Area Fine Arts Foundation Fund
Healthy Kids Endowment Fund
Maquoketa Valley Alliance Endowment
Paul and Pamela Peckosh Endowment
Raven Family Foundation Endowment Fund
James R. & Venice B. Richardson Fund
J.L. Stangeland Memorial Scholarship

The Miracle League of Dubuque in memory of Luke Thielten
Mississippi River Parkway Commission Endowment in memory of Patsy Ramacitti
Monona Garden and Trail Endowment in memory of Louis Seitz
Oxford Junction Cemetery Endowed Fund in memory of Raymond and Laron Benischek
St. John’s Lutheran Matthew 28:19 Endowment in memory of Marj Felland and Marie Gull
Together We Build: Jackson County Fair & Extension in memory of Leroy Johnson and Stuart Wilson
Grant Vogt Memorial Baseball Endowed Scholarship in memory of Carter R. Giese
Molly K. Zelinskas Endowment Fund in memory of Molly Zelinskas

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The Community Foundation created the Dubuque Campaign for Grade-Level Reading in 2012 to engage community partners to help more low-income kids read at grade level and succeed in school.

In June, many of those partners were gathered in Denver, Colorado, for Grade-Level Reading Week where Dubuque was awarded the prestigious All-America City Award for its civic engagement to help more low-income kids achieve grade-level reading proficiency and early school success. Dubuque was one of just 15 communities nationwide to receive the award from the national Campaign for Grade-Level Reading and the National Civic League, which created the award program 67 years ago.

The award honors Dubuque for making measurable progress in attendance, summer learning and overall grade-level reading for children from low-income families. For example, thanks to the strong collaboration of Campaign partners:

- The number of kindergartners who were chronically absent in five Title I schools fell from 14.5% in 2014-15 to 9.5% in 2015-16
- Results from the Summer Academy, a six-week program facilitated by the Dubuque Community School District, showed that 64.9% of low-income students maintained or improved reading scores in 2016 compared to 56.3% in 2015
- At the end of the 2015-16 school year, 59% of low-income third graders were reading proficiently compared with 53% the previous year

“Our entire community shares in this honor,” said Nancy Van Milligen, president/CEO of the Community Foundation. “The All-America City Award recognizes the collaboration of so many organizations, educators, parents and volunteers working together to help all our young children learn the skills needed for success in school, regardless of income status.”

In 2017, Campaign partners will be updating their action plan, analyzing the work that has been completed and building upon that success. The plan will help set a strategy for future work to help all young people succeed in school, a career and our community.

To learn more about the Dubuque Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, visit www.readdbq.org.