

M  V I N G

O U R C O M M U N I T Y

F O R W A R D



2017

A Publication of The Legacy Foundation

This publication is
dedicated to our advisor,
friend, and consummate
Ottumwa cheerleader,
Christian Rushing.

1972-2017

A Letter from the President

Moving Our Community Forward. It's bold. It's declarative in the sense that there is no retreat. It's a stake in the ground that we are on the offense with no time to waste.

In this document, our first ever Report to the Community, stories and pictures bear witness to how far we have come since opening our doors in May of 2010. These pages celebrate the milestones reached, the lives touched and the partnerships built. And yes, they show a glimpse of what is yet to come.

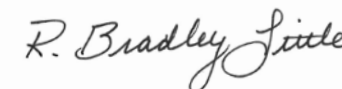
This vision for the future of Ottumwa and Wapello County has been built out of hundreds of community conversations, advice from experts in their respective fields, best practices learned from our peers all over the country who have succeeded where others have failed and vast amounts of research and hard data all applied to our work in a thoughtful way.

This progress has not always been easy and has not happened as quickly as most of us would like. The good news is that along the way, long-standing silos and walls have come tumbling down; replaced by a new sense of hope, optimism, cooperation and most importantly – trust. Trust in a communal vision that Ottumwa is a great place to live, work, play, raise a family and even retire.

My hope is that over time this report becomes dog-eared and tattered as you pick it up time and again, flip through the pages to your favorite pictures and stories...and smile. I think of the Plum Crazy Building then and Market on Main now. One-way streets then to block parties and street festivals now. Empty buildings then to thriving places of commerce now. And the list goes on and on...

Then, roll up your sleeves, look to neighbors, friends and organizations for help and support and dream big for all Ottumwa can be.

Sincerely,



R. Bradley Little



Table of Contents

01	Intro	5
02	Initiating & Advancing Promising Ideas	10
03	Making Grants	32
04	Convening	55
05	Providing Sound Information	62
06	Celebrating Success	74
07	Thinking Forward	92
08	Who We Are	100

01



Introduction

Our vision for the future has been built out of hundreds of community conversations, advice from experts, best practices learned from our peers all over the country who have succeeded where others have failed and vast amounts of research and data.

Within all that we do, our values are the compass that guides us in our work.



Our mission is
to improve the
health, education,
and vitality of the
Ottumwa area.



Strategic Priorities

Objectives

01

Jobs: Attract & create good paying jobs.

02

Education: Provide first class training opportunities.

03

Revitalization: Revitalize downtown Ottumwa & the surrounding area to make it an attractive place to live & work.

04

Housing: Provide quality housing that is appealing to professionals & middle income workers.

05

Leadership: To carry out these initiatives successfully will require supportive leadership & public policies on all levels.



By the Numbers

10

Legacy Board
Members

< 48
DAYS

Average Funding
Decision Wait Time

108

Partner
Organizations
Funded

137

Legacy Community
Committee Members

2010

Year Foundation
Created

\$4.6
MILLION

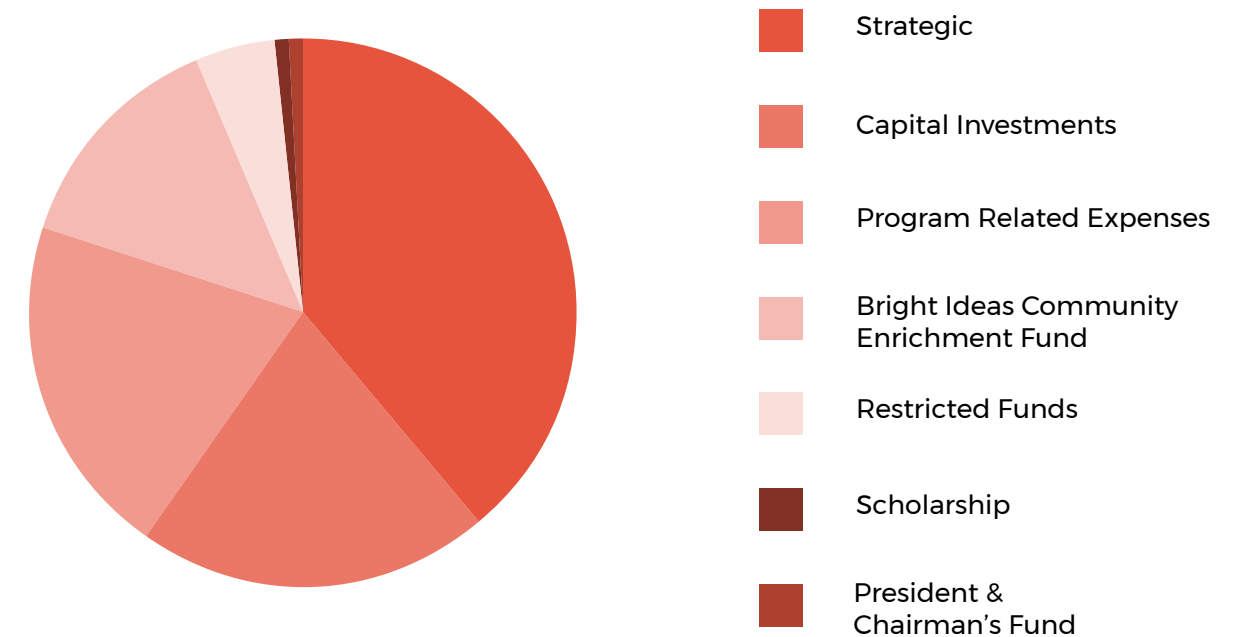
Strategic Grants
Leveraged Dollars

> \$67.5
MILLION

Net Assets
(as of 12.31.16)

\$17.7 million

Total Grants & Distributions by Program



02

Initiating & Advancing Promising Ideas

Developing Effective Leaders

for the betterment of our community

Leadership expert Bob Nelson once said, “You get the best efforts from others not by lighting a fire beneath them, but by building a fire within.” If this is true, then Ottumwa Leadership Academy is providing the kindling. One of the first major investments undertaken by the Foundation in 2013, the Ottumwa Leadership Academy, offers a 10-month, tuition-based program that provides participants an “MBA” in Ottumwa and Wapello County with targeted leadership development strategies.

Overseen by Executive Director, Hollie Tometich, the mission of Ottumwa Leadership Academy (OLA) is to develop effective leaders for the betterment of our community. One such leader, 2015 class graduate and Regional Manager for C1st Credit Union, Wesley Krenz continues to demonstrate these acquired leadership skills by serving as President of Ottumwa Morning Kiwanis, Red Cross Heroes of the Heartland Co-Chair, Board Treasurer for Ottumwa Habitat for Humanity, and Chair of C1st

Skatefest. Wesley sums up his experience of the program in the following way, “The Ottumwa Leadership Academy exceeded my expectations and equipped me with the necessary tools and skills to become a more versatile leader. The curriculum consists of a broad range of critically important leadership topics and gave me the rare opportunity to have engaging discussions with some of the most influential people in our community. Despite having lived in the Bloomfield and Ottumwa area most of my life, OLA was also able to broaden my scope of the inner workings and unique circumstances that surround our community. Above all, the knowledge that I gained from this experience was outweighed by the friendships that I developed with the other emerging leaders in my class.”



“We consider Ottumwa Leadership Academy as part of our leadership development process for individuals we are trying to develop and raise up in leadership roles.”

– Dr. Marlene Sprouse
Indian Hills Community College President

Participants of the program have ranged in age from **19** to **63**.

Team Projects Incorporate Sustainable Community Change

One of the requirements for Academy graduation is to participate in a team project. The project must address an issue in the community and provide a solution that will make a positive impact on that issue. One project team from the Class of 2015 wanted to focus on the lack of fresh produce available to the elderly who live in rural areas—especially those who also face the added challenge of living in poverty. In order to address this need, they came up with the idea of Bountiful Buckets. With the help of local supporting organizations, the project team created tomato plant buckets that were then delivered to elderly

residents in these rural areas by Cardinal high school students. The sustainability plan included picking up the buckets in the fall which would be replanted and delivered to residents again the following spring. The team, along with assistance from Cardinal students, distributed 125 buckets to kick-off the program. The FFA at Cardinal then adopted the program, which is teaching students not only how to grow produce but also how to care for others in the community. Kala Miller, Cardinal’s

92

Alumni
upon graduation of
the current class

FFA teacher shared, “We showcased the project at the State FFA Leadership Conference in Ames and have had contact with several other chapters to spread the word about Bountiful Buckets. I know several other chapters that are now doing similar projects within their community. This project has helped students learn how to grow tomatoes and how to market and advertise the program. Most importantly, students learn about specific needs in their community and how they can be an integral part of addressing those needs.”

--

Hollie Tometich
Ottumwa Leadership
Academy Executive Director





Innovation, Ideas, and Incubation

When Josh Lunt started his business, Lunt Reliability Service, in January of 2013, he was working out of his garage. By July of that year Josh had hired his first employee and landed his first major account, Heartland Lysine. Prior to taking the leap into entrepreneurship, he had enjoyed a 21-year career at Cargill. With solid business skills and expertise in predictive and precision maintenance including vibration analysis, ultra-sonic testing, thermal imaging and tribology, the business continued to expand and soon outgrew the garage office.

After researching many options, Lunt Reliability Services relocated to the Regional Entrepreneurship Center (REC) at the IHCC North Campus. But moving there wasn't just about more space. "Locating at the REC has benefited my company by the assistance received in recruiting employees from IHCC technical programs, developing marketing materials, implementing the training program, and office management," says Josh. Today, Lunt Reliability Service has 11 employees and 11 maintenance

busi•ness in•cu•ba•tion

noun

: a unique and highly flexible combination of business development processes, infrastructure, and people, designed to nurture and grow new and small businesses by supporting them through the early stages of development and change.

accounts throughout Southeast Iowa, and it shows no signs of slowing down. "By 2020 I would like the company to be at 25 employees and business accounts," states Josh. He also envisions major roles for others in his family, "I would provide training for future Industrial Maintenance individuals and my sons Adam and Quinton would lead the day to day operations of the business."

For those considering starting their own business Josh offers the following advice, "To be successful, it is critical that you become an expert in your particular field and understand every facet of the business."

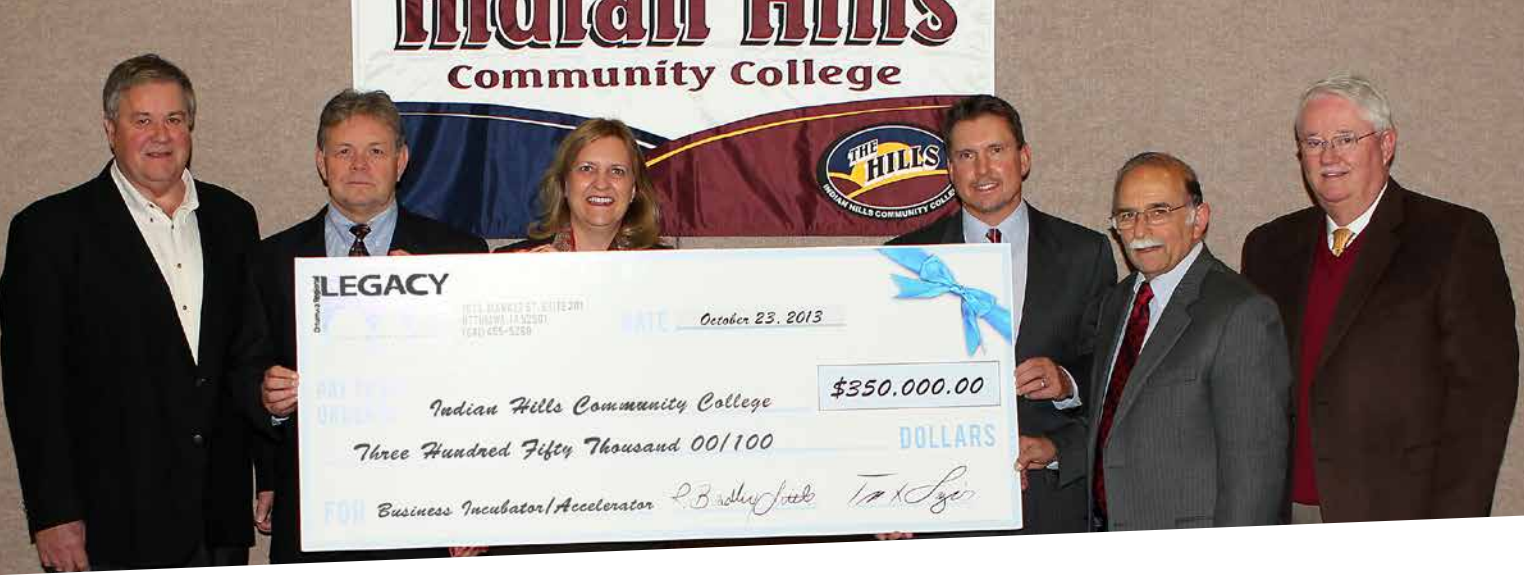
If you are considering starting your own business, contacting the Regional



Adam Lunt uses diagnostic equipment to check vibration levels on a piece of rotating equipment.

Entrepreneurship Center for assistance is a great way to begin the journey. This 10,000 square foot facility allows tenants to inexpensively rent various types of space and have access to small business and entrepreneurial training and education, mentoring and networking. The REC was one of the first projects to receive Legacy Foundation funding back in 2011. It currently houses 6 different businesses ranging from food service to hi-tech agriculture to aviation solutions.

--



Fast Facts

01

Only 50% of businesses survive at least 5 years.

(Source: U.S. Small Business Association)

02

Small businesses pay 44% of U.S. Payroll.

(Source: U.S. Small Business Association)

03

There are 28 million small business in the U.S. – which outnumber corporations 1162 to 1.

(Source: United States Small Business Association Office of Advocacy)

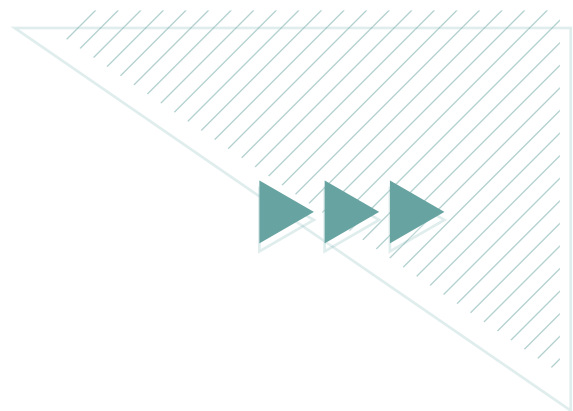
IAM AGTECH,

a photonics and laser optics technology startup firm founded in Ottumwa Iowa is the newest occupant of the Regional Entrepreneur Center (REC). IAM AGTECH is a startup company committed to bringing precision optics-based technology measurements to not only the agribusiness industry but many other applications as well. The firm will capitalize on IHCC's Laser and Electro-Optics Technology program and most importantly its students and graduates. The jobs needed will leverage the skillsets of locally trained technicians, generate new knowledge

and attract new skills from other regions and create new high-tech, employment opportunities. The Legacy Foundation was an early investor in the REC and through a partnership with Indian Hills has provided the initial seed money to launch IAM AGTECH. "Good paying jobs that leverage our existing employee base have always been a top strategic priority for Legacy Foundation" said Legacy Foundation CEO Brad Little. "Especially those that pay well and keep our graduates from leaving the area."

--





Welcome & Connect Services

When Nusaybah Ismail was being recruited by Ottumwa Regional Health Center as a new orthopedic physician assistant, she had a lot of questions about the community that was courting her. After all, she was coming from Chicago which looks quite a bit different than Ottumwa, Iowa.

Thankfully, during her initial interview at the hospital, she was introduced to Andy Maw of Welcome & Connect Services who was the first to officially introduce her to the community through a comprehensive community tour. In addition to the tour, Nusaybah was provided information about activities and amenities specifically of interest to her. What stood out the most to her was the concerted effort to assist her in finding suitable housing, which was a challenge.

“My ultimate decision to move to Ottumwa was directly based on the fact that, within a few hours of contacting Andy about my housing concerns, I was sent a list of property owners and realtors in addition to prices and

descriptions of available properties,” explains Nusaybah. “I didn’t receive the same kindness or thoughtfulness anywhere else.” But she affirms that the service didn’t stop there, “I have been contacted by Andy several times since to make sure I am transitioning well.”

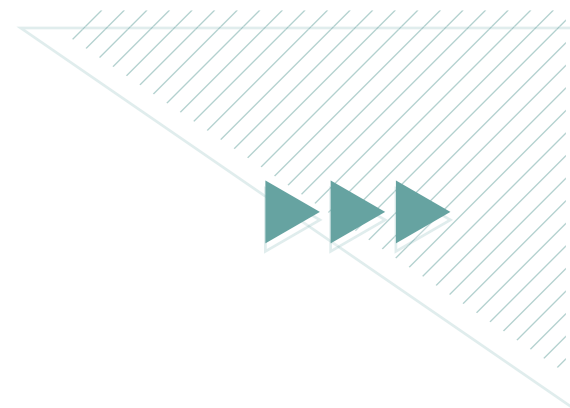
This is exactly what we were hoping would happen when the Legacy Foundation invested in the seed funding for Welcome and Connect Services and hired Andy Maw to run the program. This program was created in direct response to research done by an Ottumwa Leadership Academy project team which identified deficits in attracting and retaining newcomers to our community. This research was verified by multiple conversations with our employer groups who rated recruitment and retention as one of their greatest challenges.

Welcome and Connect Services are available without charge to individuals and businesses alike. For more information, logon to www.welcomeandconnect.org or check out the Welcome and Connect Facebook page.

--

Andy Maw
Newcomer Relations
Coordinator





Incorporating Tech with Coaches

How do you impact the use of technology in the classroom? This was a question Ottumwa Schools was asking several years ago as they debated adding more devices into classrooms to support instruction.

Aware that not all teachers are comfortable in their use of technology, the district decided to pilot a position to help elementary teachers learn to integrate technology in their classroom, identify resources, and move instruction toward 21st century practices.

The district incorporated the position into their request for funds to add technology at

a faster pace from the Legacy Foundation. Rapid expansion of technology would result in the need for more teacher training. The district was awarded \$1.5 million over three years and immediately created, advertised, and filled the position of a Technology Coach.

The first tech coach, Kristi Ridgway, hit the ground running in the first year. A former fourth grade teacher, she was familiar with elementary technology use and the struggles of using district systems such as PowerSchool and the electronic grade book. The position responsibilities included keeping up-to-date on technological

innovations; organizing and coordinating the full integration of technology throughout and across the curriculum; professional development opportunities to staff; and one-on-one support for teachers.

It soon became apparent that one coach wasn't enough to serve over 150 elementary teachers. The district also saw a need to provide technology support at the secondary level as well.

In the fall of 2013, the grant's first year, the district learned of a state initiative to create teacher leaders. Ottumwa was fortunate to be one of 39 in the state to be awarded an inaugural Teacher Leadership System

"I appreciated the openness and willingness of teachers to let me come into their classroom to assist with their technology needs...It's amazing to see how far they have come from that first year to what is currently being implemented."

— Kristi Ridgway
Former Tech Coach

4,000 +
Students reached

(TLS) grant from the Iowa Department of Education. The grant allowed the district not only to sustain the Technology Coach position over time but to expand to three full-time Technology Coach positions. These were patterned directly from the Legacy grant position.

“The need for assistance has increased as curriculum has changed,” said Ridgway. For example, Everyday Math and science curriculums, such as Project Lead the Way, rely heavily on internet resources. These online components are an integral part of the instructional practice. Teachers are also using online student assessments, Google Classroom, and PowerSchool, the district’s student information system.

Since 2014, the district has taken advantage of these positions to provide professional development and one-on-one support to teachers when needed. Staff competencies have improved, but the work is ongoing as newer technologies are integrated into the system each year. There is even a classroom at the high school that relies solely on internet resources, and no printed textbook.

Technology Purchased with Grant	
532 netbooks	450 tablets
62 interactive boards	500 chromebooks
240 laptops	210 iPads

Teachers realize the impact of this shift in support. “Over the course of the last few years, I have moved from being a passive user of technology to being a consumer,” said Marisue Blacksmith, currently a fifth-grade teacher at Eisenhower. She had previously worked with David Eaton, a tech coach serving Douma and Liberty. “As a result of David’s talents and compassion not only for technology but for fellow educators, he helped me to embrace my fears and has challenged me when he knows I am ready for the next step as I travel this road into the 21st Century. As an educator, I feel I am becoming better equipped in assisting my students.”

--



“Our support from the Legacy Foundation has allowed the Ottumwa District to incorporate a variety of technological devices into our classrooms at a much faster rate than would have been possible without their generosity.”

- Nicole Kooiker
Ottumwa Community School District Superintendent



Tunnel Underpass

The Hwy 34 Underpass Project, a vision of the Wapello County Trails Council, turned out beautifully. Have you used it yet?

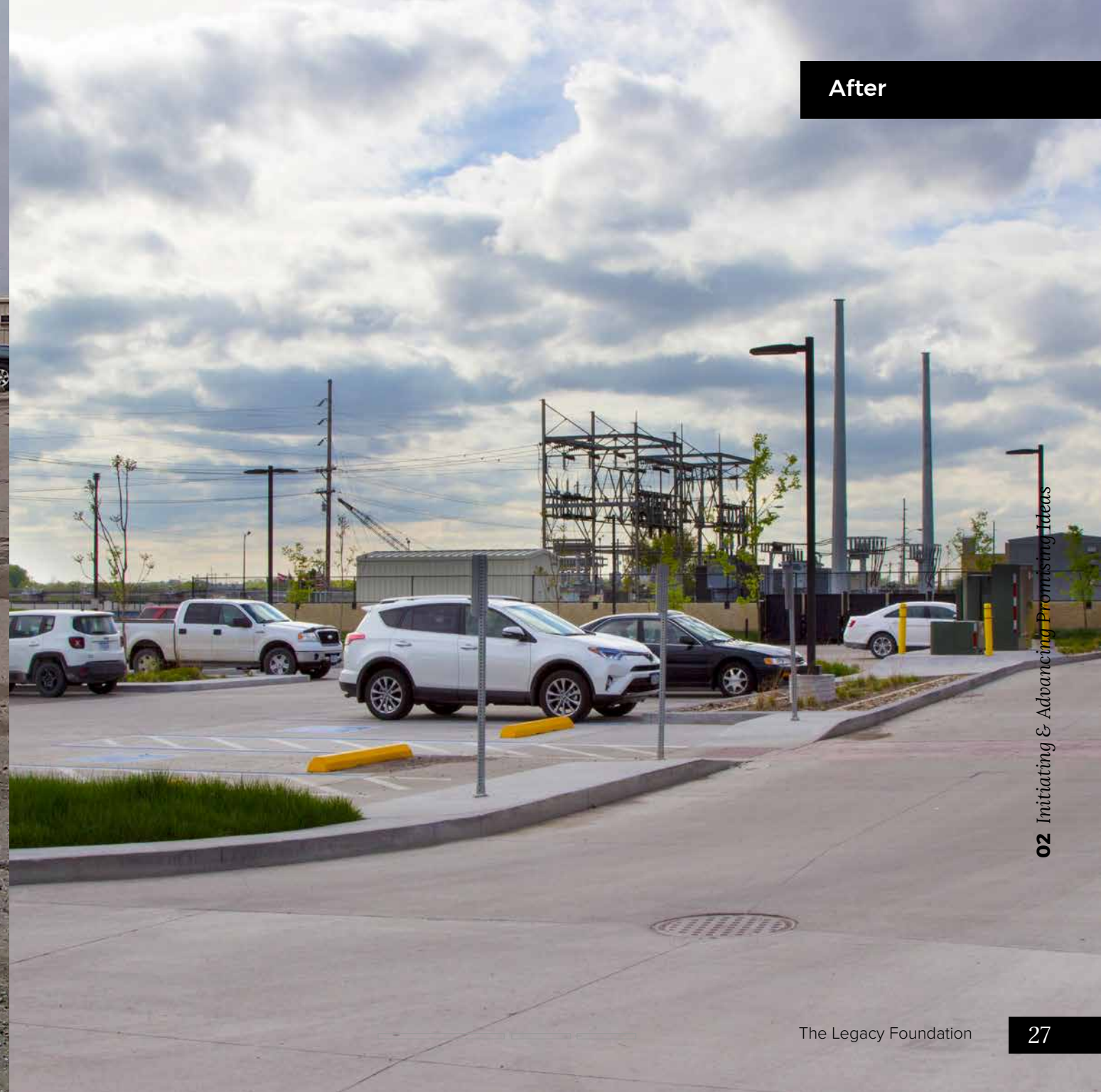


Before

The Rushing Way Parking Lot (behind Appanoose Rapids) is unrecognizable with new pavement and pavers, groundwater management system, landscaping, lighting, and metal art installation.



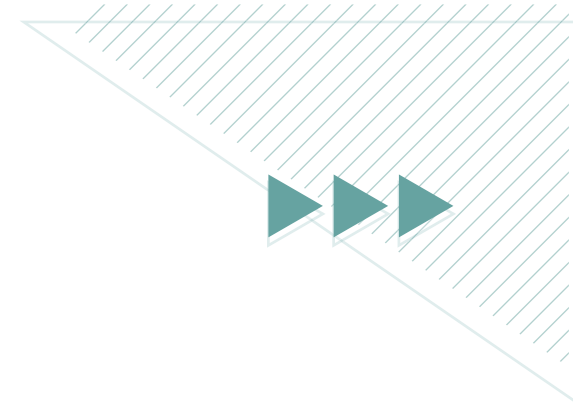
After



Market on Main: Los Roy

It's easy to look at the structure of Market on Main and think about the physical transformation that has occurred. What was once an ugly purple, blighted, and empty building now serves as a beautiful anchor to the revitalization that is occurring in Downtown Ottumwa. But the Market is about so much more than the building. The Market is about trying out ideas, connecting with people, nurturing new businesses and becoming an entrepreneur.

It's important to remember that Ottumwa's entrepreneurs can't be pigeonholed based on age or ethnicity. Reynaldo and Alicia Royval are a great example of this having both led long and rewarding careers as businesspeople and laborers. The Royvals



worked as small businesspeople in Juarez, Mexico and El Paso, Texas before relocating to Ottumwa and leading successful careers at Cargill Meat Solutions pork processing plant. Their love for family, food, and recipes led them to successfully launch second careers as owners of Burritos Los Roy within Market on Main.

During their time at Cargill, the Royvals built a wide community network. These friends, family-members, and co-workers now serve as devoted patrons of Burritos Los Roy, stopping on a regular basis to enjoy the restaurant's authentic northern Mexican cuisine. While it's true that entrepreneurs are often thought of as energetic twenty or thirty-somethings with wild new ideas, that's

not always the case. Sometimes the most successful entrepreneurs are experienced immigrants who are realizing their American dreams of launching fruitful second or third careers in the heart of Ottumwa's revitalized Main Street district. Many feel that some of Ottumwa's greatest strengths are its work ethic and diversity. Market on Main reflects these strengths and serves as an important platform for all to launch new careers and new businesses.



David Camphouse
Market on Main Director

Shiloh Seim
Operations Manager



Before

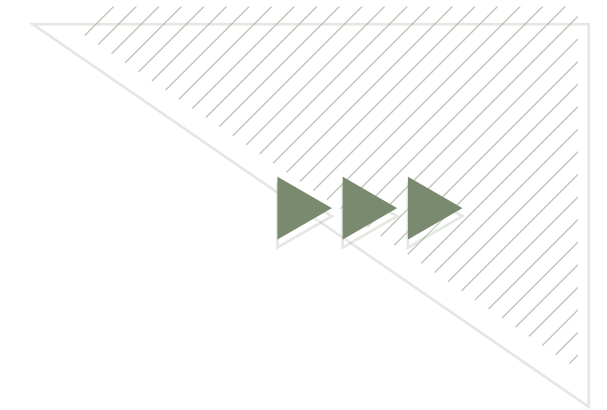


After



03

Making Grants



Grantee Listing

We are pleased to present the following list of organizations who have received grant funding from the foundation.

Agency Fire & Rescue
AHEAD, Inc.
Alzheimer's Association
American Cancer Society
American Gothic House Center
American Home Finding Association
American Red Cross
Batavia Volunteer Fire Department
Best Buddies International, Inc.
Blakesburg Historical Preservation Society
Blakesburg Summer Ball Parents

Bridge View Center
Buena Vista University
Camp Wapello Preservation Group
Cardinal Community School District
Chief Wapello Trail Committee, Inc.
Children and Families of Iowa
City of Ottumwa
Court Hill Preservation Association
Crisis Center & Women's Shelter
Ecumenical Lord's Cupboard
Eddyville Community Foundation

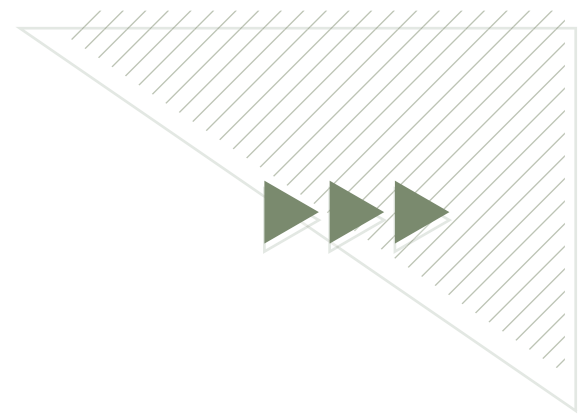


Eldon Depot Committee
Eldon Fire and Rescue
First Resources Corporation
Food Bank of Southern Iowa
Friends of Iowa CASA and ICFCRB
Friends of Lake Wapello State Park
Friends of NAS Ottumwa, Inc.
Friends of the Blakesburg Public Library
Friends of the Eddyville Public Library
Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa
Gothic Area Tourism of Eldon (GATE)
Greater Ottumwa Vocal Arts Project, Inc.
Heartland Humane Society
Heartland Pregnancy Center
Hillcrest Family Services
Hospice of Davis & Wapello County
Indian Hills Community College
Development, Inc.
Iowa Babe Ruth Leagues
Iowa Council on Foundations
Iowa Justice for Our Neighbors
Iowa Legal Aid
Iowa Radio Reading Information Service for
the Blind & Partially Handicapped
Iowa Special Olympics, Inc.
Jefferson County Health Center
Knights of Columbus
Latinas Latinos Al Éxito, Inc.
Lifeline
Little League Baseball
Main Street Ottumwa

McCreery Cancer Center
Mercy Foundation
Mid-Iowa Council Boy Scouts
Midwest Little League
Milestones Area on Aging
Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce
Ottumwa Area Arts Council
Ottumwa Athletic Club, Inc.
Ottumwa Babe Ruth
Ottumwa Christian School
Ottumwa Civic Music Association
Ottumwa Community Children’s Playhouse
Ottumwa Community Players
Ottumwa Community School District
Ottumwa Community School Foundation, Inc.
Ottumwa Community Thanksgiving Dinner, Inc.
Ottumwa Economic Development Corporation
Ottumwa Habitat for Humanity
Ottumwa High School Music Boosters, Inc.
Ottumwa Immigration and Learning Center
Ottumwa Mason Lodge No. 16 A.F. & A. M.
Ottumwa National Little League
Ottumwa Noon Lions Club
Ottumwa Police Department
Ottumwa Property & Redevelopment
Ottumwa Public Library Foundation
Ottumwa Public Library Friends, Inc.
Ottumwa Regional Health Center
Ottumwa Regional Health Center Auxiliary
Ottumwa Shrine Clowns
Ottumwa Symphony Orchestra

Partners in Progress, Inc.
Pennsylvania Place
Regional Economic Development Investments
Regional Service Guild
Relay for Life
SBBF, Inc.
Serve Our Youth Network
Seton Catholic School
South Central Iowa SCORE
Southeast Iowa Symphony
Southern Iowa Economic Development
Association
Southern Iowa Family Planning
Southern Iowa Mental Health Center
Starr Workforce, Inc./Blessings Soup Kitchen
Tenco Industries, Inc.
The Bridge Church
The Salvation Army
Victory Ranch
Wapello County 4-H Exposition
Wapello County Children’s Alliance
Wapello County Genealogical Society
Wapello County Historical Society
Wapello County Sheriff’s Reserve
Wapello County Trails Council
Wapello County’s McHaffey Opera House
Wesley United Methodist Church
YMCA of Ottumwa
--





Responding to the Needs of the Community and Our Nonprofit Partners

The Bright Ideas Community Enrichment Fund was created in 2011 to support the great work in Wapello County that nonprofits are doing each and every day. Since its inception the program has provided over \$2.3 million dollars of funding in the following areas: education, human resources, community vitality, technology, arts and culture, public safety, health, recreation, and youth development.

The Bright Ideas Community Enrichment Fund centers around three grant cycles per year. Each grant application is scored by a volunteer committee comprised of community members. In the past five years 331 grant applications have been submitted for evaluation. Of these, 198 have received full or partial funding.

We often say that the reason that we love the Bright Ideas program so much is that it has the power to touch so many different people because of the diversity of projects and organizations that are supported.

While we can't tell the stories of every grant project, we have chosen a few that highlight the ways in which our partners have utilized the funding to enrich their communities.

Vital Communities

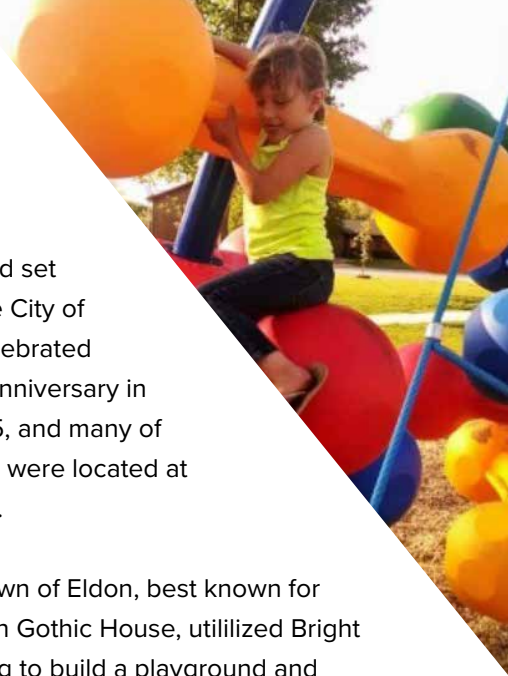
Community Vitality is not only measured by economic aspects of a community, but also the quality of life of its residents. Both Eldon and Eddyville received grant funds for the repair and renovation of each of their libraries. Likewise, both towns have also received funding for new recreational equipment.

Central Park in Eddyville has become the gathering place for picnics, family gatherings, and the summer library reading program. The Bright Ideas Community Enrichment Fund assisted the City of Eddyville with the purchase of colorful, ADA compliant playground equipment. The Eddyville group strategically partnered with the Eddyville Parks and Recreation Committee to make sure the project was

successfully designed and set in place. The City of Eddyville celebrated their 175th Anniversary in June of 2015, and many of the activities were located at Central Park.

The small town of Eldon, best known for the American Gothic House, utilized Bright Ideas funding to build a playground and new basketball court. The total cost of the project was approximately \$100,000. Now the young residents of Eldon have a safe place to play and exercise.

Donna Jeffries, a GATE volunteer, shared that Bright Ideas funding has been a catalyst in the continued revitalization of the Eldon area. She said, "The Foundation has been most generous with support for our many 'Eldon Projects.' Our trails, parks, playground, library and historic sites have all benefitted from the grants we have received. The improvements that have been made to Eldon have given us the desire to continue working to restore our Main Street."



New Program Catalyst

Seed funding new programs is not an opportunity that arises often, but when a great idea is presented, the Bright Ideas committee is eager to help get the project off the ground. This is the case of both the Best Buddies and Back Pack Program at Ottumwa High School.

In 2013, Best Buddies International applied to the Bright Ideas Community Enrichment Fund to start an Ottumwa High School Best Buddies Chapter. Best Buddies pairs youth who have intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) with a peer without a disability to produce a mutually enriching friendship while improving the social skills among the individuals with IDD. The Bright Ideas fund has continued its support of the Best Buddies program in Ottumwa with program growth funds in 2014, which resulted in a total of 74 program participants, and program expansion funds in 2015 which opened the program in Evans Middle School. The program at Evans currently has 30 members including one chapter leader with IDD. Blake Campbell, State Director for Best Buddies conveys the impact of this wonderful program, “As a direct result of funding provided by the Legacy Foundation, Best Buddies Iowa has

been able to open chapters at both Ottumwa High School and Evans Middle School. Combined, the chapters have an averaged 100 plus friendships which has resulted in creating a more inclusive environment in both the school and community.”

Another program in the Ottumwa Schools that received seed funding is the Backpack Program. This program, spearheaded by American Home Finding Association, provides nutritious food to low-income students in need. The Backpack Program consistently serves 20-30 students each week in Ottumwa High School and 10 students at Evans Middle School. The Backpack program is working to increase academic growth and achievement while fighting hunger in the Ottumwa Community School District.

Leveraging Resources

The Bright Ideas Community Enrichment Fund also serves to promote partnerships and collaboration. The Ottumwa Fire Department, which responds to nearly 3,000 fires a year, determined that more than half of the homes where these fires occurred did not have working smoke alarms. To help alleviate this problem, they partnered with the American Red Cross to put together a proposal for funding and rallied the troops. A Bright Ideas grant helped the American Red Cross purchase smoke alarms and the Ottumwa Fire Department recruited over 60 volunteers to walk door-to-door and install the smoke alarms free of charge. At the end of the day, 555 alarms were installed in 533 homes across Ottumwa.

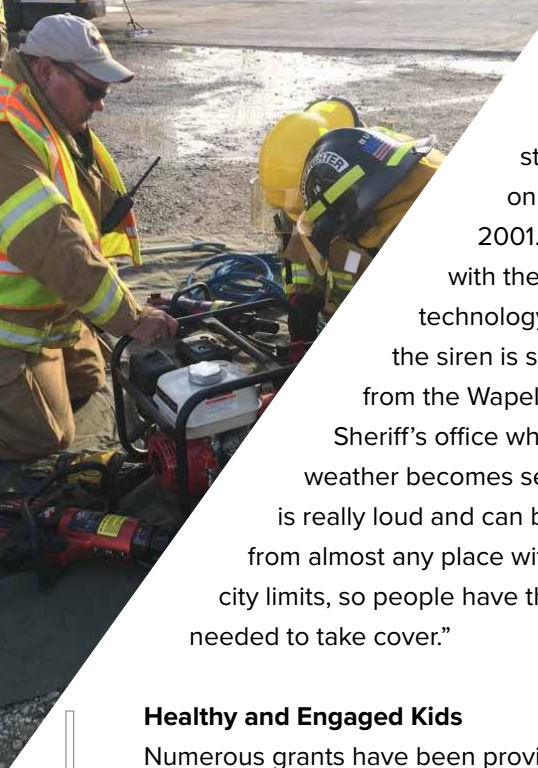
“The Ottumwa Regional Legacy Foundation has been a strong force in bolstering the Red Cross and Ottumwa Fire Department’s impact in disaster preparedness. The grant award also enabled the Red Cross to provide critical services, including financial assistance, to people impacted by home fires and other disasters.”

– Bryce Sitter
Major Gifts Officer at American Red Cross



Safer Communities

Making our communities safer is another area in which Bright Ideas funding has been able to make a significant impact. Past Public Safety projects funded include storm sirens in Agency and Eldon, a new emergency hydraulic extrication tool for Agency Fire & Rescue, thermal imaging cameras for the Eldon Fire and Rescue, and in-car computer systems for the Wapello County Sheriff’s Department. Unfortunately, these organizations, whose goal is to keep everyone safe, often perform these lifesaving efforts on a shoestring budget. Cindy Hewitt, Agency resident and health professional confirms that these dollars have the ability to save lives, stating, “The outdoor warning system was a long time coming after an F2 tornado ripped through Agency destroying or damaging dozens of



structures on April 11, 2001. Now, with the new technology in place the siren is set off from the Wapello County Sheriff's office when the weather becomes severe. It is really loud and can be heard from almost any place within the city limits, so people have the time needed to take cover."

Healthy and Engaged Kids

Numerous grants have been provided in the areas of sports & recreation and youth development and often grants cover both areas. A few examples include support given to the Ottumwa Bulldogs Special Olympics Team, Youth Basketball, National, Midwest, American and Babe Ruth baseball leagues, Bulldog Swim Team, 4H, Boy Scouts and the Wapello County Trails system. The recent popularity of archery and trapshooting incentivized the Ottumwa School District to seek grants to build and expand the OHS Trapshooting Club into Evans Middle School and archery at all grades. Studies show that students involved in extracurricular activities are more likely

to graduate from high school. 70% of the high school trapshooting club had no prior participation in extracurricular activities. When these students are participating in activities such as these, they are also more engaged academically.

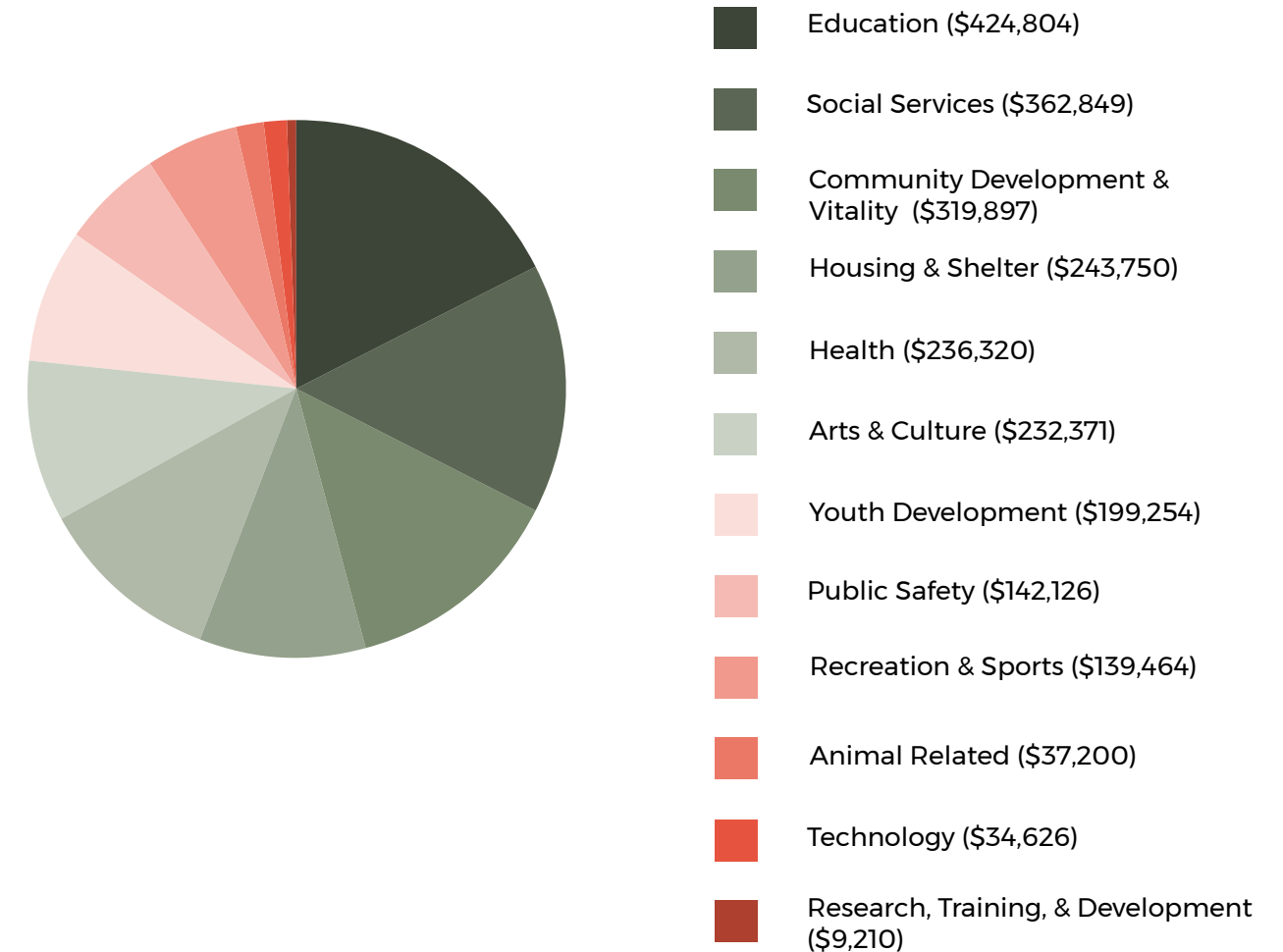


Information about the Bright Ideas Community Enrichment Fund, including descriptions of past grants and requirements to apply can be found on our website at www.orlf.org.

--

Bright Ideas Community Enrichment Fund Grants

198 Grants Funded = \$2.3 Million





Market Street Bridge Enhancement Project

We were thrilled to partner with the Wapello County Trails Council for the Market Street Bridge project to bring wider walkways, beautiful rails, and upscale lighting. The banners were later added as a finishing touch.

Robert McCune Endowment

Did you know that the Legacy Foundation has several endowments that are reserved for specific purposes? One of these is the Robert McCune Endowment, which is restricted specifically for cancer care. The endowment, created in honor of Robert McCune, is utilized to benefit the cancer patients, facilities, and services located within Wapello County. Disbursements from this endowment are overseen by a volunteer committee comprised of ORLF staff and board members, medical professionals, cancer survivors and McCune Endowment donors. Past funds have been utilized to purchase medical equipment, family support programs, and patient care items such as wigs. It has also helped to subsidize underinsured patients, provide continuing education for medical professionals who specialize in cancer

treatment, and support initiatives around cancer awareness education.

Interested in helping? Donations are encouraged and funding proposals are accepted at any time during the year.



Robert McCune

New Medical Clinic Not Just About Health

One of our favorite words at the Legacy Foundation is “leverage.” It excites us to find ways we can leverage our investment to multiply the benefits to our community. That’s why we were so intrigued when Mercy Health Network first approached us about providing a grant to assist in the building of a new medical clinic in Ottumwa. After all, the new 32,000 square foot facility represents a staggering \$18 million dollar investment into the Ottumwa community.

Plans for the project include an expansion of the current primary care presence as well as an urgent care clinic. Services to be offered at the new clinic are numerous and include: family medicine, internal medicine, urgent care, physical therapy, diabetic education, and health coach services.

Going Beyond Just Healthcare

Legacy Foundation President/CEO Brad Little shares that “The Mercy Ottumwa Medical Clinic will feature many of the elements that contribute to a vibrant and growing community — health-related jobs, revitalization of a key site in the city, and expanded health-related services and options, all in a state-of the-art facility.”

In fact, this project directly hits on two primary focus areas for the Legacy Foundation - “Revitalization” and “Jobs.” A Brownfield site containing a former grocery store building that had been vacant since 2009 will be redeveloped, and 19 new jobs will be added over the next few years. These jobs will consist of various levels of health professionals including a bi-lingual physician.

19

New Jobs

projected over the next few years.

“The new clinic will create the opportunity to attract and increase the number of high quality providers, create a beautiful new campus where an abandoned building sat, and position Ottumwa to be the hub of primary and secondary health care services in the region.”

– Joe LeValley
Senior Vice President of Mercy Health Network.

Often, these types of health professionals can be difficult to recruit which is yet another reason why this project is so important. “We believe building a new, state-of-the art clinic campus will represent a turning point in healthcare in Ottumwa and elevate the overall quality of health in the region,” stated Joe LeValley, senior vice president of Mercy Health Network.

--



Gear Up Program

We are proud to provide funding to support the Gear Up program at Ottumwa Community Schools. Gear Up works to engage students and build pathways to success by developing a college-going culture. An important element of this program is facilitating college visits for students, like these pictured, who visited the University of Iowa.



Jobs is Partnership Priority

As “Jobs” is our number one strategic priority, much time and effort is put into the attraction and retention of good paying jobs to Wapello County. Moving the needle in this area would be impossible without great partners. One of the partners we have worked extensively with in this area over the past year is REDI. REDI (Regional Economic Development Investments) is an affiliate organization of Area 15 Regional Planning Commission. Two exciting announcements have resulted from this partnership including:

01

The opening of a new contact center, TLC Associates, Inc., in downtown Ottumwa. This new center has already hired 90 people and is projected to increase the number of employees to 150 by the second year.

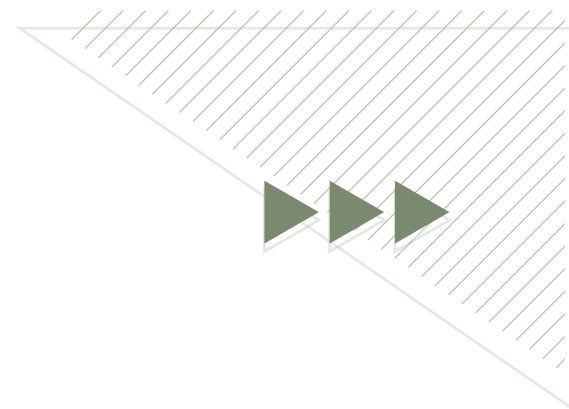
02

The purchase of Al-Jon Manufacturing by C&C Machining, a company located in Centerville, Iowa. The former Al-Jon purchase, a \$3.4 million project, includes 16 acres at the airport campus, 200,000 square feet of production space, manufacturing rights and the Scraps Products Division.

We look forward to many more game-changing announcements like these over the coming years and thank our partners for their simultaneous efforts to attract and retain good paying jobs to our area.

--





Making Math Make Sense

Seventh graders at Evans Middle School are not asking their math teacher, “Why do we have to learn this?” The class is using real life activities to learn pre-algebra.

Several teachers in the Ottumwa Community School District have incorporated the latest technology and modern furniture to create classrooms that are more project-based and student-centered. Funding from the Legacy Foundation helped these teachers create 21st Century classrooms.

One example is Nancy Van Wyk’s pre-algebra class at Evans. Her “flipped” classroom reverses the typical lecture and homework elements. She creates short video lessons that students view at home, while in-class time is devoted to exercises, projects, and discussions. By doing this, Van Wyk carved out time to allow students to learn pre-algebra concepts through a

real project—starting their own business. “After cross-walking the math standards, most can be applied to the concepts of starting a business,” she said.

She has 14 business start-ups this year, from video games to food-related endeavors. One business is ALLT Ice. ALLT Ice is the brainchild of students Addison Ranson. Lorna Bauer, Libby Moses, and Teagan Holman. They considered several options prior to opening an ice cream business. “We like food,” said Libby. But their project has a twist. The ice cream is themed around the three meals of the day. Breakfast includes a waffle with cinnamon ice cream, lunch mimics a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, and dinner features slider looking ice cream.

They have used their math skills to determine prices, taxes, cost per batch, and mark-up. The activities are “still math related,” said Libby. “Mrs. Van Wyk did a really good job of tying it together with what we learn and tying it to our business.”

Teagan says she likes “taking math and putting it in the real world,” and Addison says, “it’s the funniest math class I’ve ever had...we are learning life skills.”

Students wonder about some pre-algebra concepts they are required to learn, like percent of change. “What would I use this for?” asked Libby. “Then Mrs. Van Wyk gave us a worksheet connecting the concept to our business, and it made sense.”

“It all sort of clicks now,” said Lorna.

They combined the letters of their first names to create their business name. They have researched logo designs and have come up with something they like. The class seems like a lot of fun but they all agreed that it’s also a lot of math.

“I never liked math before but now it is my favorite subject,” said Addison.

Libby admitted she was not the best at math. “The good thing is I understand it,” she said.

This way of teaching is new. Teagan says that at Evans, “we’re the first ones to do this.”

The class has been a “huge eye opener,” Addison and Teagan agreed.
--



21st Century Classroom

Cardinal Community Schools was also the recipient of a \$470,000 grant to build a 21st Century Classroom. The classroom includes collaborative lounge and seating, interactive Mondopad displays, LCD TVs, cameras, 3D printers, and handheld technology to support an interactive learning environment.

ALLT Ice Business Owners:
Addison Ransom, Teagan Holman, and Libby Moses
(not pictured: Lorna Bauer)





Rotary Garden

We were pleased to be a partner in the Rotary Garden - a lovely addition to the Riverfront area.

04
Convening



Employer Conversations

Did you know that over the past 2 years the Legacy Foundation has been convening a group of local employers (including their presidents, CEOs, directors and HR directors) to discuss barriers or challenges inhibiting their expansion or success? These meetings included participants from the manufacturing, banking, insurance, IT, healthcare, bioprocessing, utility, education, fabrication, construction and retail sectors and range in size from small to large.

You may be surprised to learn that the number one priority identified by this group was to “Improve parent engagement strategies.” Tied for second were “Collective community effort to improve image and culture” and “Provide opportunities to integrate/embrace newcomers and recruits.” The information gleaned from this important group has been critical in developing the Welcome & Connect Services program and has provided valuable input to the comprehensive city branding strategy and C³ initiative. We’d like to extend our thanks to all of the participants in our Employer Conversations for their honest and thoughtful feedback.

--



The Power of Collective Impact

What is Collective Impact? Collective Impact is a framework for ongoing collaboration across sectors to solve a complex social problem. Collective Impact is based on the premise that no single organization or program can solve a complex problem on its own. Rather, if organizations in a community come together around a common agenda for change, agree to work together intentionally as a system, and measure success in the same way, we can actually make meaningful change.

The Legacy Foundation is proud to be a part of two important Collective Impact initiatives:

01

C³ (Cradle – College – Career)

C³ is a collaboration of education, business, government, labor, and non-profit sectors working together to increase the number of Ottumwa students and citizens alike who are ready for, have access to, and persist in reaching



their goals to obtain a college degree or credential (from an accredited college, university, community college, career/technical program or beauty school).

C³ Action Teams include: College Process, Family Engagement, Grade Level Reading, Summer Melt and Workforce Readiness. For more information on getting involved with C³, visit www.cradlecollegecareer.org.



02

Growing Wapello Together

Growing Wapello Together is a group of Wapello County residents working together to achieve food security and improve food access in our community.

For more information on getting involved with GWT, visit the Growing Wapello Together Facebook page.

--



Riverfront Renaissance

One of the most exciting projects undertaken in the past few years has been developing the Riverfront Renaissance Master Plan. The plan is a community-based vision for the future of Ottumwa's most important natural resource—the Des Moines River. The plan considers land adjacent to the three-mile length of the river as it flows through the city limits, and it addresses issues such as recreation, mobility, economic development and conservation. The Riverfront Renaissance plan seeks to build on Ottumwa's rich history, strengths, and unique characteristics to create a blueprint for the revitalization of the community.

During the visioning process, a multi-faceted approach was taken to engage a broad spectrum of citizens in sharing their ideas, concerns, hopes, and aspirations for the riverfront. This process is grounded in the principles of inclusion and participation, with a public process extended over several months. The work of the design team was guided by a citizen task force and was highlighted by a multi-day public charrette in July of 2014. The work produced by the citizenry during the charrette formed the basis for the development of the master plan document. Work is currently in the implementation phase and is ongoing. For more information on Riverfront Renaissance, please visit www.ottumwariverfront.com.

--





05

Providing Sound Information

Why Downtown Matters

There is a saying that “Great cities have great downtowns.”

Recall some of your favorite cities to visit, and you will probably see a common theme among them of a vibrant and thriving downtown. It is a lesson we have learned from the numerous cities we have toured and the hundreds of community leaders who have hosted our site visits. After all, downtown is the “heart” of a town. It’s the public realm, as some like to call it, and most importantly, it belongs to all of us.

Efficient land use, economic viability, preservation of history, architecturally relevant building stock, and a civic celebration space are all important.

But frankly, a neglected and forgotten downtown sends a message to those visiting our community that we don’t care or that we can’t follow through. This includes those who are shopping our community for economic development opportunities or even considering us as a new home.

So, when we put a stake in the ground, we put it downtown, and that’s why many of our revitalization projects are connected to our downtown core.

Thank you to all of our partners who share our philosophy. It is this collaboration and partnership that make *Revitalization a Reality*.

--



A Positive Change in Direction

One of the first projects we undertook during the downtown revitalization project -or the “Reclaim Main Street” initiative - was to convert the previously one-way streets back to two-way. This effort was questioned by some. After all, our community was used to the traffic pattern, so why change it? And surely the change would be disruptive and costly, right?

The reality is that when the city incorporated two one-way pairs downtown it was at a time when our downtown was a bustling center of activity and the goal was to move cars through as quickly as possible. And, in truth, one-way streets are very efficient. In fact, they are so “efficient” at moving traffic that the streets often feel empty. One-way streets also encourage higher operating speeds and for those that live or work downtown drag races were often a daily occurrence.



A very important element to successful downtowns is a considerable amount of pedestrian traffic. For those pedestrians to feel safe, it is imperative that the traffic be calmed. Additionally, other benefits include increased visibility of storefronts for businesses and the ability to close off blocks for festivals and events without complicated detours.

While it may be true that residents were familiar with the one-way traffic pattern, it certainly wasn't very friendly to visitors. Take for example, the intersection of Jefferson and Main. If you were a visitor travelling west and approaching the intersection of Jefferson and Main where oncoming one-way traffic was met, you were previously sent a very clear message

of "Welcome to downtown Ottumwa – don't come in!"

When one views streets as serving no purpose other than to move cars, there is not much benefit to converting one-way streets into two-way streets. But, the reality is, that streets possess the capacity to enhance the quality of urban life through the calming of traffic, increased pedestrian safety and comfort, more convenient travel and increased visibility of downtown merchants. Through this lens, there is a significant benefit to street conversion. And, even better, the conversion in downtown Ottumwa was an affordable project that was executed with little to no confusion or disruption to the public.

--

Debunking the Quiet Zone Myth

One of the most controversial projects we have undertaken to date has been the effort to implement a Quiet Zone, which includes 7 crossings in and around downtown. A Quiet Zone, as described by the Federal Railroad Administration is "a segment of a rail line within one or a number of consecutive public highway-rail (roadway) grade crossings at which locomotive horns are not routinely sounded."

But why worry about the train whistles? After all, they have been around for decades. What has changed, however, is the volume of the train whistles, which has increased significantly over time. In fact, the current sound level for a train horn ranges from 96-110 decibels. To put this in perspective, when the US government released memos regarding the torture of

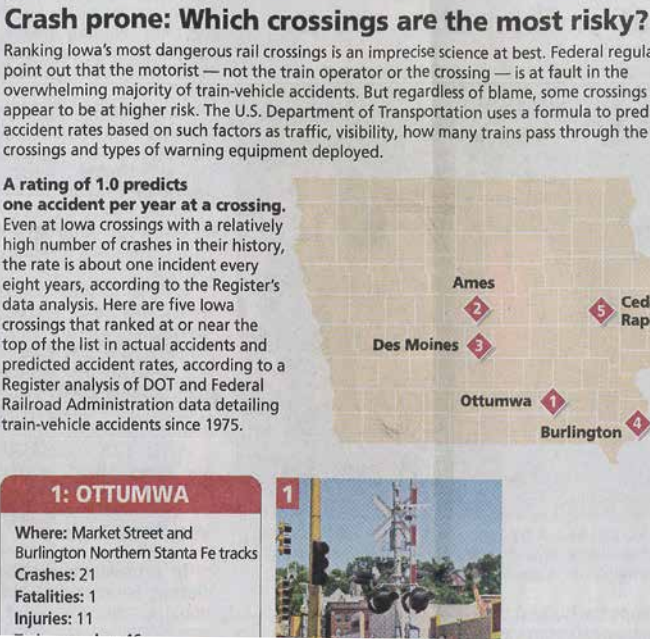


prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, they included specific instructions that any “white noise/ loud sounds” were not to exceed 79 decibels.

Probably the biggest misperception about Quiet Zones is that once they are in place the train whistles can’t sound. This is simply not true. If there is an emergency or a dangerous situation, the train whistles can and will be sounded within the Quiet Zone or anywhere else on the track line. They just won’t be routinely sounded with the 2 long, 1 short, 1 long blast (started 15 seconds out and repeated until the lead automotive occupies the crossing) that they have in the past.

Each downtown crossing sees 43 BNSF trains each day. Multiply that by at least 4 blasts and 7 crossings, and we hear a total of 1,204 train blasts each day. This constant noise doesn’t incentivize businesses’ relocation downtown or community members to rent downtown housing.

Taking the steps necessary to implement a Quiet Zone requires that crossings be altered in a way that makes them SAFER, and this is a big deal to us. It wasn’t that long ago that the Des Moines Register cited



In Des Moines Register article Ottumwa had the most dangerous rail crossing.

Ottumwa’s Market Street crossing as the most dangerous in the state.

Regardless of whether or not the FRA approves the Ottumwa application to implement a Quiet Zone, because of this effort, many of our crossings (including Market Street) will be significantly safer for all of our residents and visitors to use.

--



Filling the Health Career Pipeline

Many are unaware of the challenge to recruit medical professionals to our community. While the need is there and aggressive recruitment strategies are in place, there are so many opportunities for those in medical fields today that the competition for health professionals among communities is fierce.

One recruitment strategy that we feel strongly about is the “Grow Our Own” strategy. By exposing students to various health career fields, creating pathways for them, and providing support, it is our hope that the investment will result in these individuals’ return to the area upon completion of their education.

One of the programs that the Legacy Foundation has funded for several years and serves as a partner in this effort is the IHCC Health Career Exploration Academy. This program, which is open to area high school students who are finishing their sophomore or junior years, provides awareness, guidance, and resources to students who have an interest in health careers by immersing them in a week-long college experience at the Indian Hills Campus. Enrollment is limited, and acceptance is competitive based on a student essay, grades, student activities, and community volunteer service.

Participants of the program learn about all types of health careers through guest speakers, hands on experiences with medical procedures and equipment, tours of health care settings, and job shadow experiences. The program also focuses on college preparation, including financial options for students, scholarship opportunities, and field trips to area Universities and medical schools.

For more information on this phenomenal student experience, visit: <http://www.indianhills.edu/news/events/healthacademy.html>.



What Health Career Exploration Academy students are saying about the program:

“Thank you so much for this amazing program. It truly has changed my view of my future profession and I am so excited.”

“It was extremely helpful and I am so glad I had this experience! Thank you for everything you let us do. I am definitely going into healthcare!”



“Thank you so much! This was an awesome opportunity and it has given me key insight on many things in the health field!”

“I promised myself that I would be the first in my family to graduate college. That is why I attended the Health Career Exploration Academy so I could have a little more guidance and understanding of the college world and what it takes to follow through with my dream of becoming a Nurse Practitioner. It is my goal to make my family proud but most important, make myself proud.”

“With all of the things I have been through I had someone dear to me to talk to. She

was amazing, she would listen, help me through things and was always there for me. This is what made me want to become a Nurse Practitioner, I want to be that person that makes them feel comfortable, makes them smile and laugh and just be there for them when they need it – like my doctor was for me.”

--



Creating Capacity

We believe that effective nonprofits are vital to the healthy development and quality of life in any community. That's why the Foundation has created several capacity initiatives including the Nonprofit Summit, a Lunch & Learn educational series, the Direct Response Good Practice Grant program and the Strategic Alliance Grant program to assist nonprofits in Wapello County by providing education, expertise and support.

What do we mean by “capacity building”?

Capacity building is more than offering technical assistance to develop a particular skill or area of management. It requires rethinking systems as well as programs and

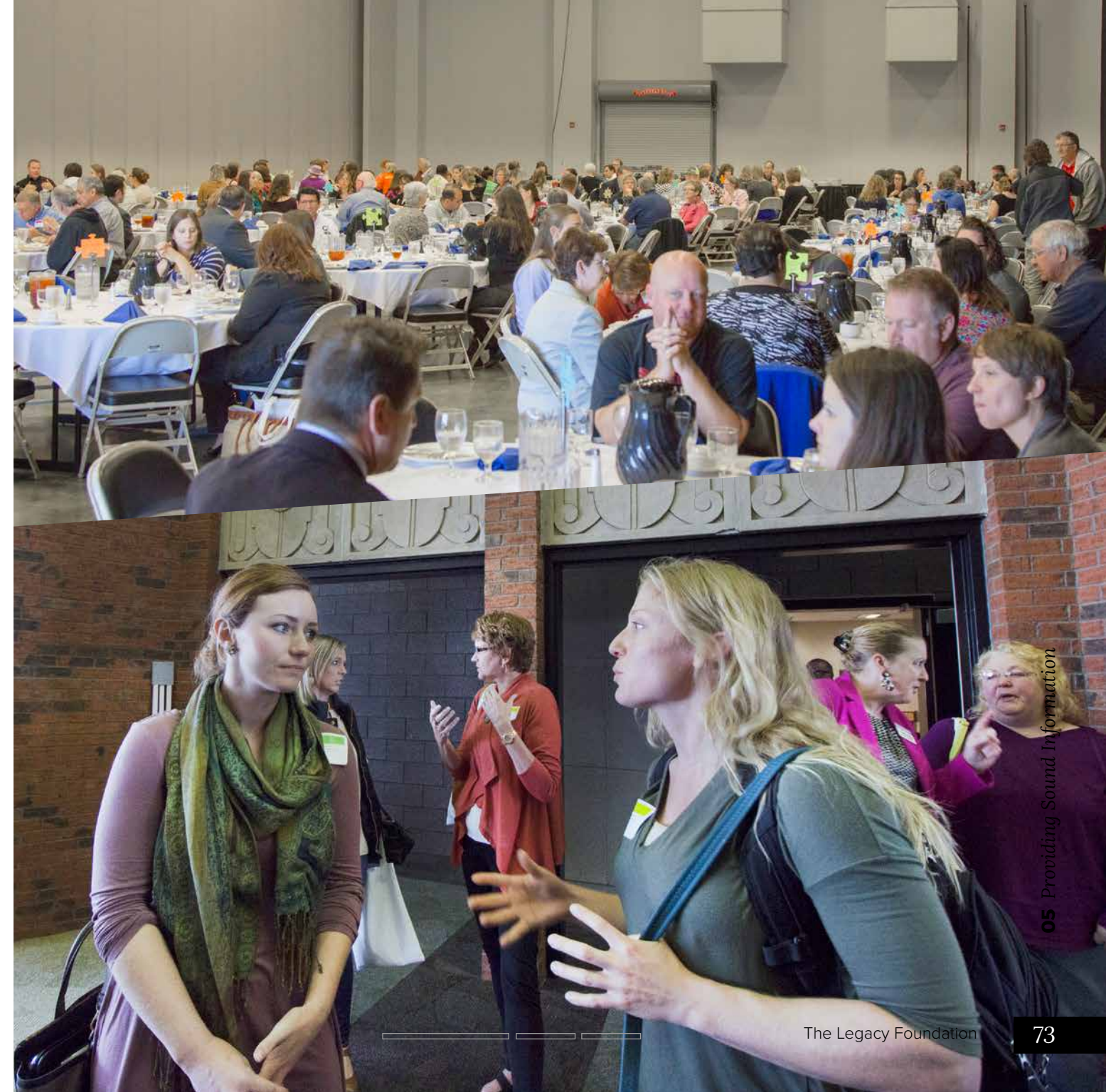
processes—strengthening the infrastructure so that organizations can better achieve their missions.

If an organization is equipped to function smoothly at the operational level, its profile in the community will increase, and the organization will retain great staff, develop and implement better programs, engage more stakeholders, and be more likely to acquire funding from diverse sources in the future.

Visit our website for more information:

<http://www.orlf.org/>

--



06

Celebrating Success



Homegrown Healthcare

For Dr. Nathan Nicholson, when it came time to choose a job, Ottumwa was a clear choice. Ottumwa was Nate's hometown and a great community in which to grow up. Nate and his wife Amy, a pharmacist, have two beautiful children and are expecting a third soon. They want the same opportunities and experiences for their children that they both had growing up in Iowa. This bodes well for Ottumwa as Dr. Nicholson will be joining Dr. Scott this summer at Ottumwa Orthopedics.

We are proud that Dr. Nicholson was one of the talented recipients of our LCL Health Career Scholarship Program. In fact, Nate received the scholarship four times from 2006-2009. This program is part of a "grow our own" strategy to invest in students in local communities with the hopes that one day they will return to Southeast Iowa to practice.



Nate also cites the friendship and mentoring of hometown orthopaedic surgeon, Dr. Donald Berg, as instrumental in assisting with his career path. Nate spent many hours shadowing Dr. Berg at his practice. Nate always had a personal interest in orthopaedics, due in part to the sports injuries he sustained while participating in baseball, football and wrestling. In fact, he won a Greco-Roman state wrestling title and previously held a powerlifting world squat record for his age group and weight. After high school, Nate continued wrestling at the University of Iowa, until a back injury forced him to stop.

Dr. Nicholson's resume is quite impressive. He attended the University of Iowa for his undergraduate studies, medical school and residency training. Nate earned a



249
Total Scholarships

\$324,000
Total Awarded Dollars

bachelor's degree in Integrative Physiology in 2008 and earned his medical degree from Carver College of Medicine in Iowa City in 2012, graduating as a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honors Medical Society. He will complete his residency in Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Iowa in June of 2017.

He feels that the skills and knowledge he gained training at a Top 5 orthopaedic residency program will allow him to provide excellent and diverse orthopaedic care here in Southeast Iowa.

When asked what he felt was the hardest part of medical training and to offer some words of wisdom, Dr. Nicholson replied, "I felt that the hardest part was actually getting into medical school. You are competing against several hundreds, if not thousands,

of students from across your own college, state and country for one of the few spots at a medical school. My words of wisdom are to work hard, have fun, do your best every day, and continue to learn from every experience. If interested in something, get involved and find mentors that can push and guide you along the way."

We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Nicholson and his family back to the community. Now, if we can just get his brother Kyle, (fellow LCL scholarship recipient and dental student at U of I College of Dentistry) to come back...

--

The President's Fund allows the Foundation to sponsor great community events like Heroes for the Heartland, Polar Plunge, Babe Ruth World Series, and last year's phenomenal RAGBRAI concert with Rick Springfield.



Produce, Potential, and Possibilities

The Legacy Foundation is proud to have been one of the lead donors in the Tenco Hydroponic Greenhouse project. In 2016, Tenco opened a 10,000 square foot hydroponic greenhouse in Ottumwa. This state-of-the-art facility is a provider of fresh produce to lowans, offers employment opportunities to those with disabilities, and is a learning center for horticultural education.

Making a Difference in the Lives of Employees

After a total hip replacement in June of 2015, Mark Johnson came to Tenco for help in finding a job—he had been out of work for over 2 years. He became such an asset that he was soon promoted to staff. Not only has working at Tenco allowed Mark to be himself and feel accepted, but he also believes that he's been able to prove himself and improve his life

because of Tenco's help. Although Mark has worked in most of the areas, he thrived on the production floor. Mark worked hard and accepted a full-time staff position just a few months ago. Now Mark spends his time working between the Fairfield and Ottumwa Greenhouses. He prunes, performs maintenance, and steps up wherever else he's needed. He has built his skills and confidence through the opportunities given to him by Tenco.

Mark feels very fortunate to have a job he loves while being able to help others. He enjoys watching clients grow and fall in love with the greenhouse. He has seen a number of his friends and coworkers gain skills at the greenhouse then move on and get jobs in the community. It makes him smile to see success in others that he has seen in himself.

Mark isn't stopping here. He is working to return to college with hopes of attending Indian Hills Community College to study horticulture or botany. It seems that the greenhouse has grown on him as much as he has helped it grow.

--



Fun Facts

01

A tomato plant can have as many as 20 tomatoes during the season during optimal growing conditions.

02

At this time Tenco tomatoes can be found at local Hy-Vee stores, Market on Main, as well as Tenco's Ottumwa and Fairfield offices. Tenco's produce is used in restaurants such as On the Green in Oskaloosa, Bridgeview Center, and Grassroots Café and Gallery in Humeston.

03

The tomato life cycle is 11 months in our greenhouse. At that time, the plants are removed and the greenhouse cleaned thoroughly. The plants are then restarted and the cycle starts over.

04

Tomatoes need 18 hours of light. In the summer, this is done mostly with natural sunlight. Unfortunately in the winter, the sun is less. Lights are used 4 hours before the sun is up and 4 hours after it goes down.

05

All aspects of the tomato are controlled by the greenhouse. Nutrient, light, humidity, heat, sun and all variables are able to be manipulated to produce the best product. Once they reach maturity, the tomatoes are picked, washed, sorted then packaged for market.

06

Bees are used in the greenhouse to pollinate the plants.

Collaboration in Action

Thank You to our Partners who made this Million Dollar Facade Project a Reality



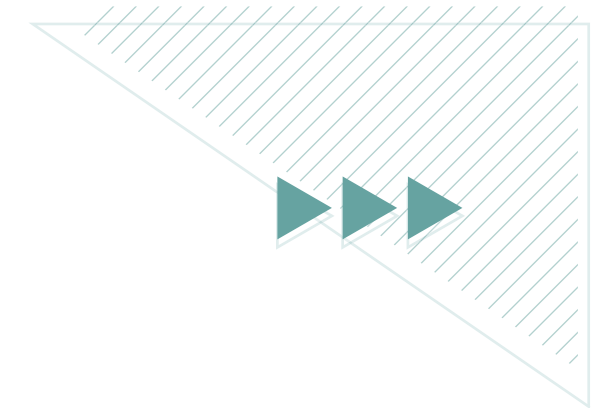
CDBG
Community Development Block Grant

and the 300 Block Property Owners

IOWA
economic development

Master Façade Project

The Downtown Master Façade project completed in the 300 Block of E. Main was transformative to downtown. Thank you to all of our partners in this project, which included a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant from Iowa Economic Development Authority.



New Home for O'Town

When Steva Nord received the news that the City had been awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to fund the Upper Story Housing project she had mixed feelings. On one hand, she was thrilled that additional apartments would be added to the downtown area—after all, this could be a fantastic boost for downtown Ottumwa revitalization efforts and more people downtown would be good for business. On the other hand, this also meant that she, and her business O'Town Marketplace, would have to vacate the space in their current building that would soon become 6 new apartments.

If a new home wasn't found for this great business soon, there was a real possibility that they could close the store completely. It was essential to



find a space that was not only suitable but more desirable than their current location. This is where Rippling Waters Property Development stepped in to help. The timeframe was tight, “We only had about a month to get the space ready which needed some work,” stated Sean Flattery, Rippling Waters President. In truth the building needed demo, drywall, electrical, carpeting, paint, ADA compliant restrooms and the tin ceiling restored. “Ultimately, we were able to renovate the Centennial Building to fit O’Town’s needs,” said Flattery.

Although stressful at times the end result was beautiful and a good fit for all. O’Town Marketplace currently has 19 vendors and is in a highly visible location right on Main Street. And business is good. “Our foot traffic has increased substantially since moving to a space with a storefront and main level,” Steva shares.

“Our sales have more than doubled in the 2 years since moving into the new location.”

– Steva Nord
O’Town Marketplace

The future continues to look bright for both the business and the building. An expansion is planned that will provide additional vendor booth space, and the building will be receiving a facelift as part of the CDBG Façade Grant project set to begin in the spring.

--

Sean Flattery

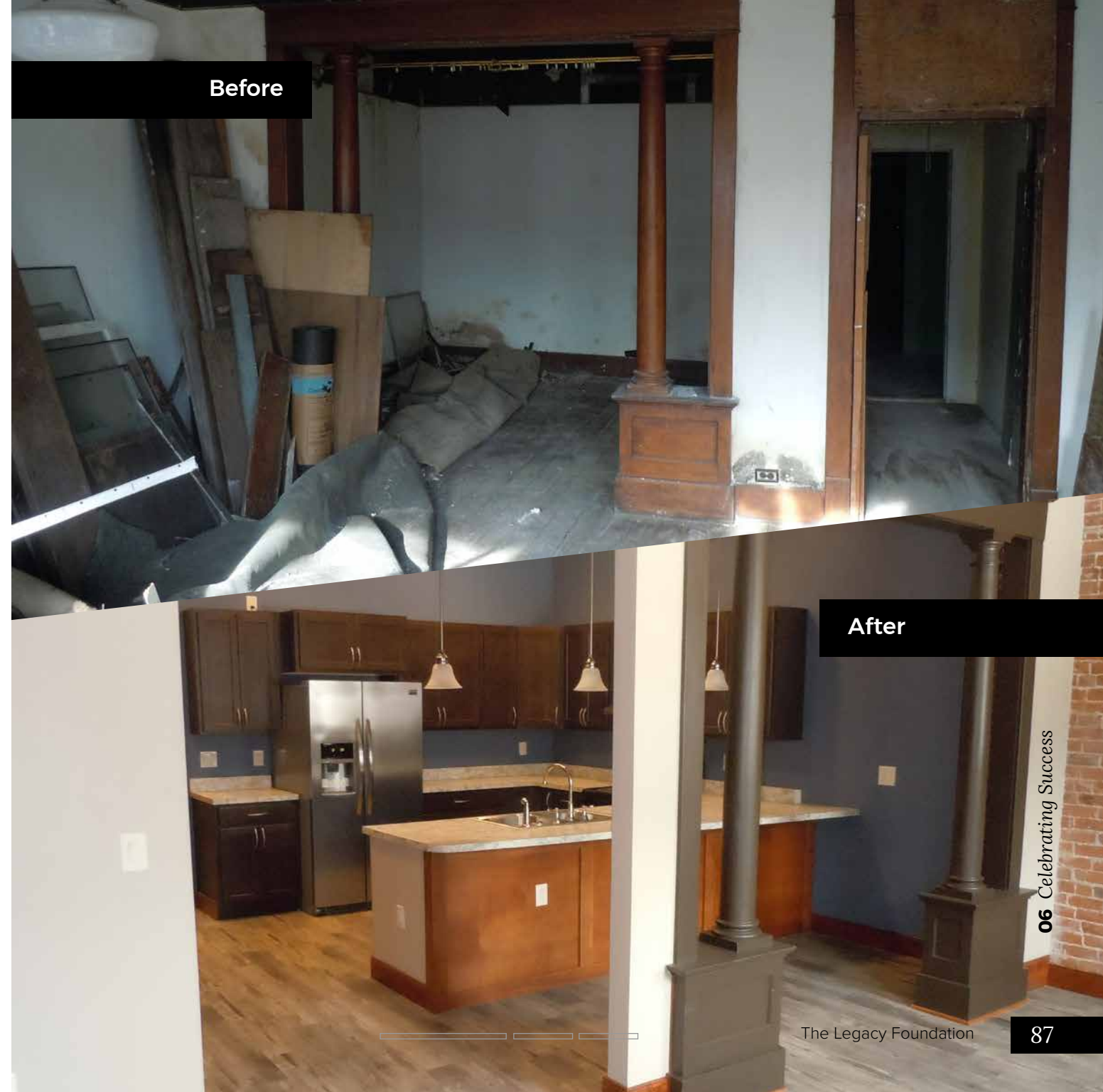
Rippling Waters Property Development President



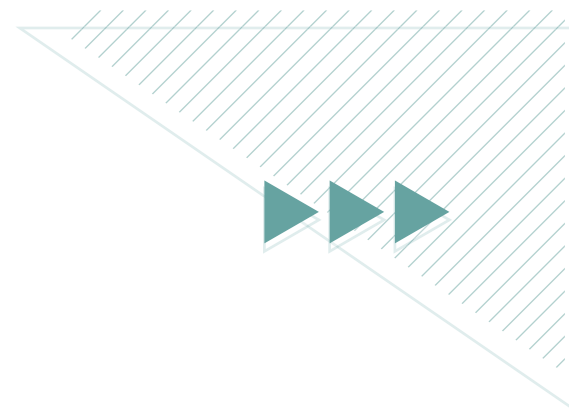


New Downtown Apartments

Rippling Waters held one of the properties that was included in Adaptive Reuse (Upper Story Housing) project. The project benefitted from a Community Development Block Grant awarded from IEDA. The grant was utilized to convert previously unused second-story spaces into beautiful apartments. Buildings included in the project also benefitted from the installation of a “green roof” that will reduce storm water runoff and decrease energy usage.







Double Vision

Seth and Shelby Steen are twins and seniors at Cardinal Community School District, where they have attended school their whole lives. Both are participating in the Goals, Plans, Succeed (GPS) program at Cardinal High School. This is where the siblings' similarities diverge. Through the GPS program, both twins have begun planning for their future careers, but their individual pathways look very different.

Shelby would like to become an educator with hopes of returning to Cardinal someday to teach. She plans to attend Upper Iowa University and major in Education with a minor or endorsement in Science. Shelby has found she likes the size of Upper Iowa as well as its class schedule. Because neither of her parents attended college they weren't sure how to help Shelby in her college planning. "I attended a college visit to Upper Iowa with Shelby, and at the end of the tour they asked us if we had any questions," stated Shelby's mom, Kim. "I remember thinking that I didn't even know what I needed to ask!" GPS helped Shelby get ahead in her college planning this year. Not only has she filled out scholarship applications, completed her FAFSA form and taken college visits, she has already been accepted at the school of her choice.

Seth's career planning has been a little more "hands on" as he is in his second year of the Cardinal Welding Program. This program is a joint venture with Indian Hills Community College that will enable Seth to graduate in May with his welding diploma. After graduation, Seth would like to work at a local firm such as Winger Mechanical or Winbco Tank that will allow him to stay in the community.

Although the twins are taking different paths for their futures, they have both benefited from the GPS program at Cardinal. GPS is focused on providing students with the knowledge, awareness, and exposure needed to make informed choices around college and career readiness, and we couldn't be more pleased to be a part of it.

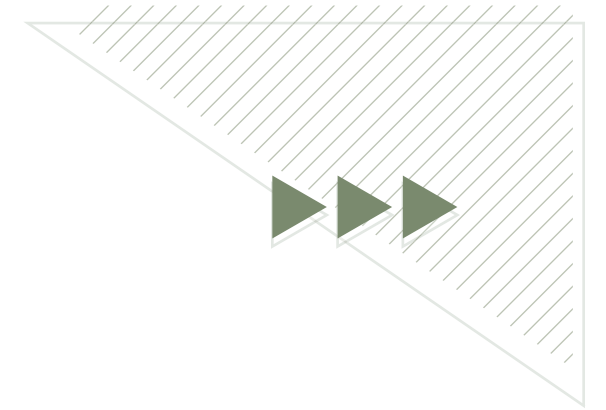
"When Cardinal approached the Legacy Foundation about helping us launch this program in our district they didn't hesitate. We share the same goals around strengthening the local talent pool for employers and improving the skills and education attainment opportunities for students."

— Joel Pedersen
Cardinal Community School District
Superintendent



07

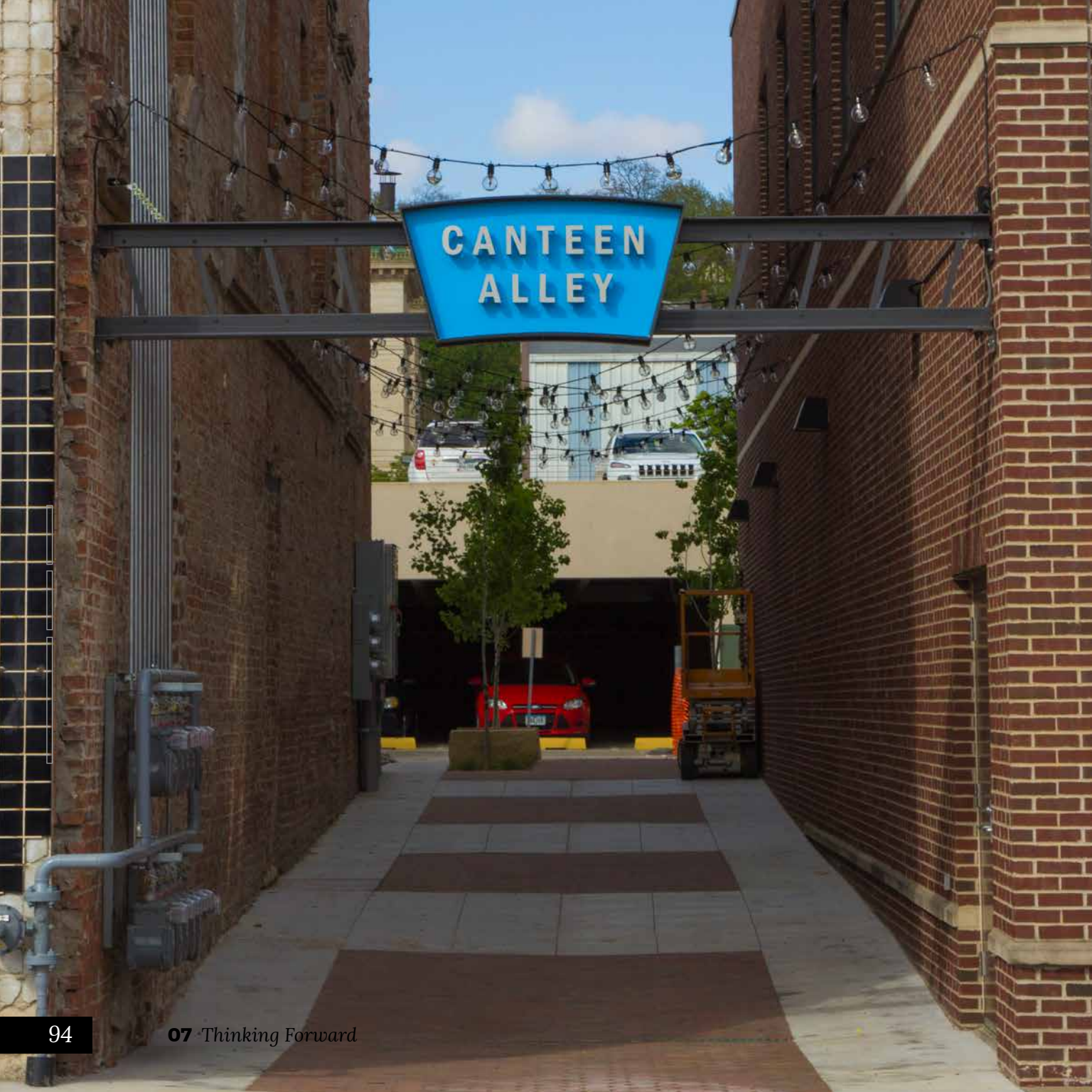
Thinking Forward



Canteen Alley

The Legacy Foundation was thrilled to receive word from the Iowa Economic Development Authority that they would be funding Phase II of the innovative Canteen Alley Project. The design includes a more pedestrian friendly layout and sustainable elements that will be both eco-friendly and creative in design. Other design elements include art installations, decorative pavers, and lighting. Construction is set to begin this summer and will be completed by the end of the year.





Downtown Streetscape Project

Designs are currently being finalized for a new streetscape design and implementation in the downtown area. Once planning and design are complete, partners will be recruited to assist in the multi-million dollar project.



EXISTING CONDITIONS



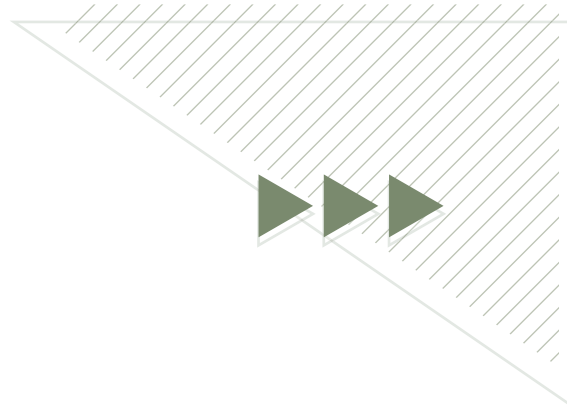
232 230 228 222 218-220 216 214 212 210

PROPOSED RENDERINGS



Master Façade Project

The second Master Façade Project will be starting construction soon in the 100 and 200 blocks of Main Street. The first façade project, which was completed in the 300 block of Main, has been truly transformative for the downtown and we look forward to an even greater impact with the next two blocks. Project renderings (provided courtesy of Klingner & Associates) provide a conceptual look at how some of these buildings could evolve.



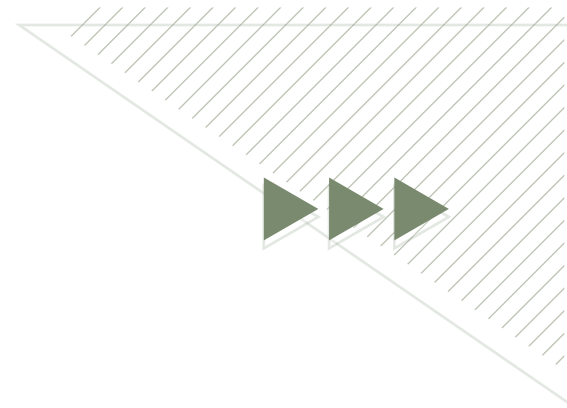
Legacy Youth Alliance

The Legacy Foundation has always been extremely supportive of programs focused on youth development and we are excited to announce a new one of our own. The **Legacy Youth Alliance** is a youth-led committee comprised of high school students that are dedicated to using education, volunteerism, and grant-making to develop leadership skills, to act as role models, and to improve the communities in Wapello County. The student members of the Legacy Youth Alliance will be responsible for developing their grant priorities, evaluating applications and awarding chosen projects. Look for more information later this year as this talented group of students from schools throughout Wapello County work to build the program.



Save the Date

for these two events



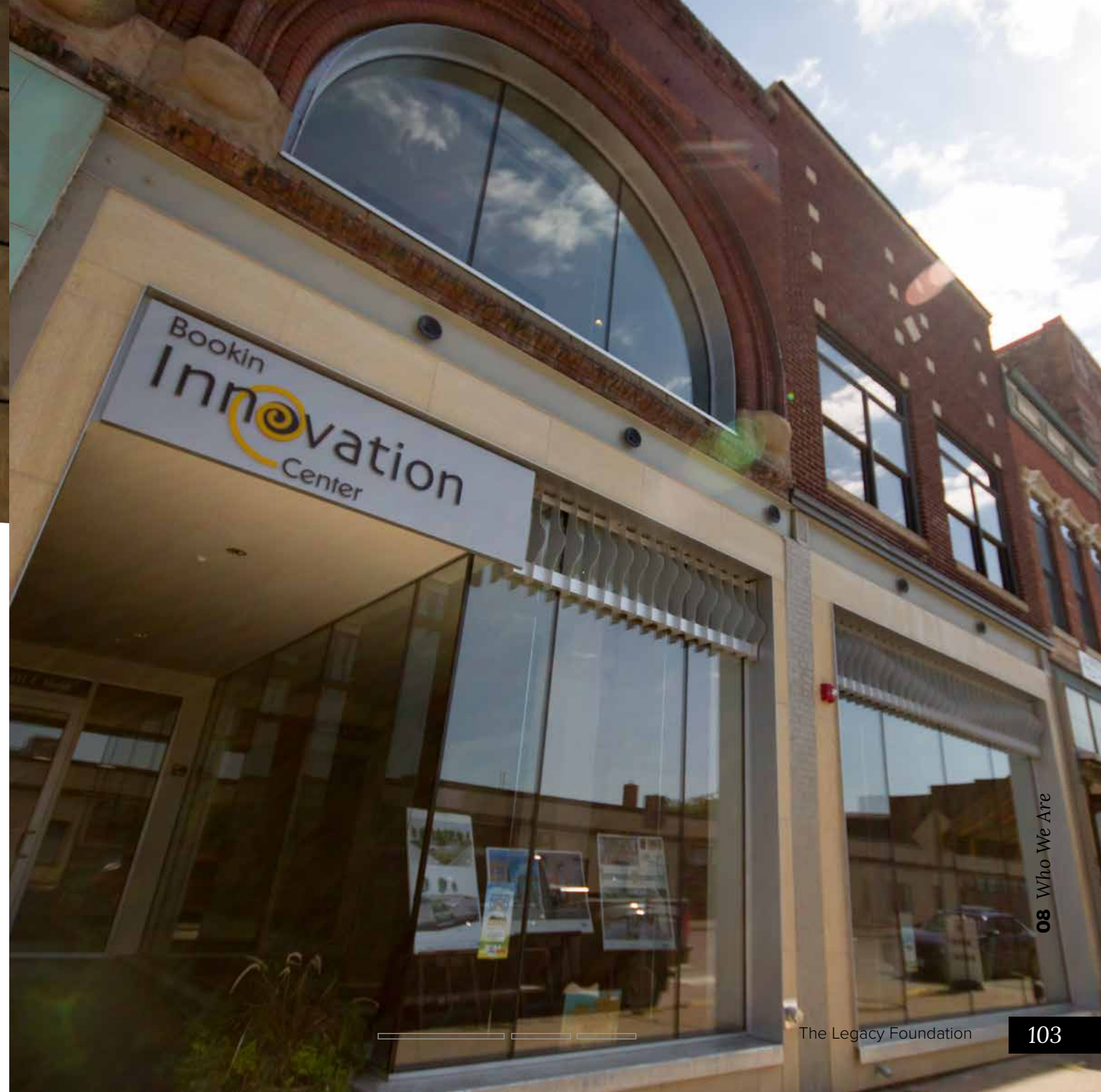
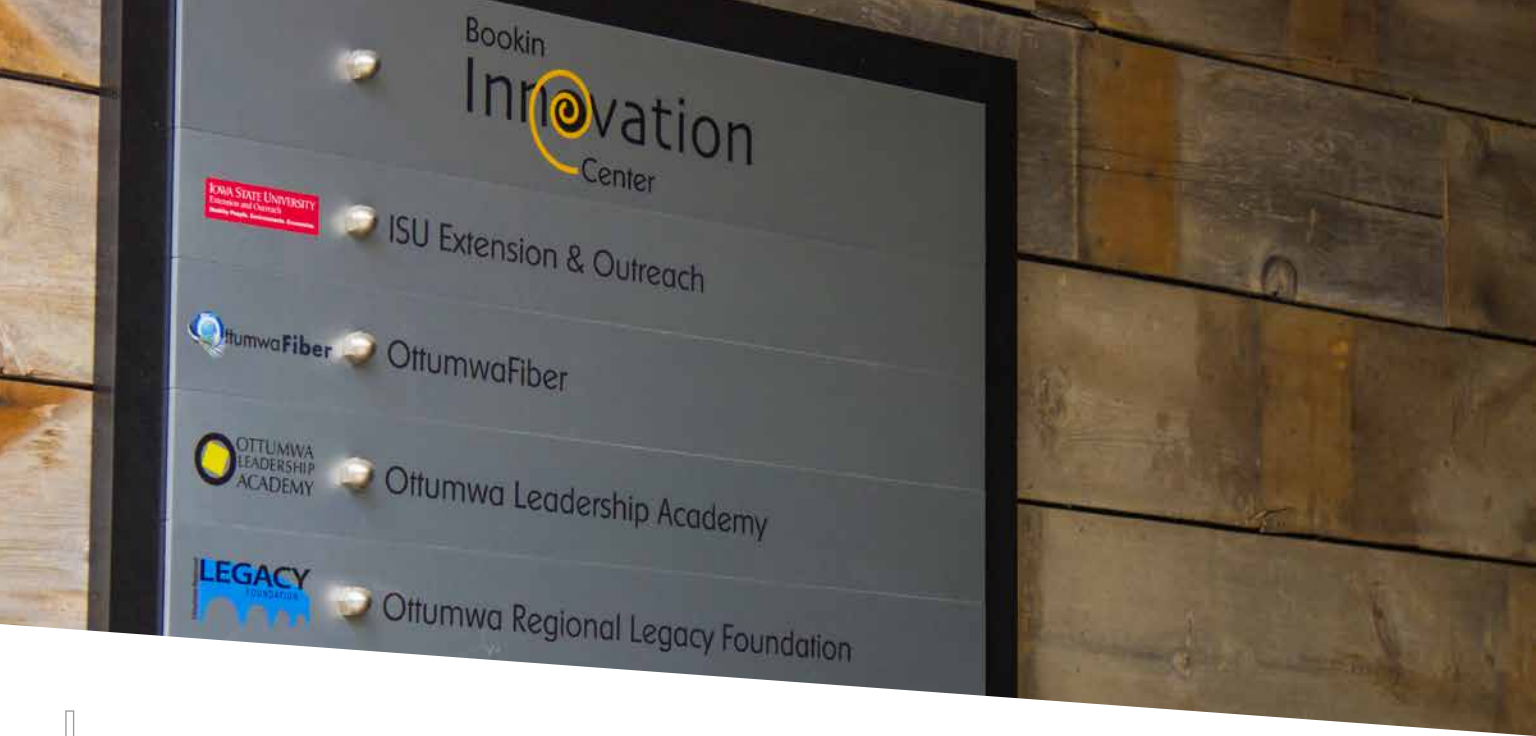
November 9, 2017

<http://leadershipnow.net>

The Leadership NOW conference will be held on Thursday, November 9, 2017 and is focused on the importance of leadership in our rural region. The conference features a wide variety of speakers addressing topics relevant to anyone interested in using the power of positive leadership to advance southern Iowa.

08

Who We Are



Where We Live

The Legacy Foundation offices are located within the Bookin Innovation Center at 111 E. Main Street. The Bookin Innovation Center (BIC) is the realization of several years of planning and encompasses two separate downtown buildings that have been combined as one. Also located in the BIC are the Ottumwa Leadership Academy, Rippling Waters Property Development, Welcome & Connect Services, OttumwaFiber, LLC and the ISU Extension & Outreach office for Himar Hernandez. Leases remain available for other nonprofits that wish to be a part of this collaborative and beautifully renovated space.



Board of Directors



Eldon Hunsicker
Chairman



Mark Franke
Treasurer



Dr. Marlene Sprouse
Secretary



Byron Leu
Past-Chairman



Mayor Tom Lazio
Board Member



Natalie Bolin
Board Member



Jeff Hendred
Board Member



Himar Hernández
Board Member



Pam Kaupins
Board Member



Brad Little
Board Member



Dr. Deb Miller
Board Member

Staff



Brad Little
President/CEO



Kelly Genners
VP of Programs & Initiatives



Lisa Morgan
Accountant



Madonna Fisher
VP of Finance



Amy Nossaman
Grants Program Manager



Krista Carter
Office Manager



LEGACY
FOUNDATION

www.orlf.org