



News Release

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Foundation Receives \$67,250 State Award; grant cycle announced

The Greene County Community Foundation has received a \$67,250 state award for countywide grantmaking and endowment building. The payment is a result of state legislation passed in 2004 and requires that 25 per cent (\$16,850) of the award be placed in the community foundation's permanent endowment. The Greene County Community Foundation has been organized since January 31, 2005 and its board is comprised of more than 30 members from throughout the county.

The legislation (House File 2302), which was part of several incentives to promote the formation and development of county foundations in Iowa, provided that one half of one percent of the gross receipts of gaming in Iowa be targeted to non-gaming counties which established countywide community foundations. There are 85 non-gaming counties in Iowa that have received these funds to encourage philanthropic activities in their counties.

2007 grant cycle

The Greene County Community Foundation is ready to begin its 2007 grant making cycle. Projects receiving grants must benefit the Greene county community and take place within the county. Grants will be made only to non-profit organizations with 501c(3) status, charitable projects, or governmental agencies. Organizations that do not meet those criteria may collaborate with another that does to apply for the grant. The maximum award per project will be \$7,500.

Fifty percent matching funds or in-kind match are necessary to be considered for awards. Although the grant application budget form references the needed match, the foundation board wants to clarify that the equal match is necessary for consideration.

Grant application packets including guidelines and checklists for the grants are available through the Greene County Extension office at 104 West Washington, Jefferson, IA, phone 515-386-2138, at local libraries or from the website www.greenecountycommunityfoundation.org .

The applications are due by 4 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 16, 2007 and are to be turned in at the extension office at the above address.

In 2006, fifteen separate grants were awarded by the Greene County Community Foundation with \$27,700 given to projects in six Greene county communities and \$15,300 going to projects that would benefit multiple communities or were county-focused projects.

“The grants were for projects benefiting quality of life issues through libraries and community center improvements; daycare centers, youth activities, mentoring and parenting programs; recreation and tourism and the elderly,” said GCCF president Jacque Andrew. “All are important issues to the future of the county. We hope to address even more needs in future rounds of grantmaking.”

Those who would like to make a tax-deductible gift to the foundation may contact the Extension office.