

Letter to the Iowa General Assembly

Iowa Nonprofit Recovery Coalition

June 4, 2020

Dear Honorable Members of the Iowa General Assembly,

The COVID-19 crisis has disrupted and impacted our communities, our state, our nation and world. As nonprofits continue to provide essential community services, the sector has and will continue to experience challenges in mission-delivery and helping our communities recover. Iowa nonprofits will face a perfect storm of significantly increased service demands and expenses combined with limited opportunity to generate the resources required to serve their communities in the coming months. These unique challenges have not been fully addressed by federal or state relief. We ask you to consider the nonprofit sector as you work toward our state's recovery.

Iowa nonprofits have been essential to our communities during the COVID-19 crisis.

Nonprofits across the state have taken extraordinary actions to continue to provide community services to vulnerable populations and members of the public impacted by COVID-19. In many instances, nonprofits are serving on the front lines in health care, long-term care, mental health, community services and basic needs in communities across Iowa. Iowa organizations have also served to help members of the public with concerns or questions by providing reliable information, referrals and direct services. Arts, culture and heritage organizations have also responded with innovative and inspirational virtual programming that provides emotional sustenance and creative connection even during this time of isolation.

Nonprofits represent a substantial workforce and will continue to face challenges in the short-term.

Iowa nonprofits represent 11 percent of our state's total workforce – over 170,000 workers, many of whom have continued to serve during this crisis. Many nonprofits and their workers were unable to use federal, state and local emergency assistance programs put in place during the COVID-19 crisis and now face revenue and mission-delivery challenges.

According to research from the Iowa Economic Development Authority conducted by the University of Northern Iowa, nonprofit revenue projections anticipate a 49 percent decline in revenues over the next 90 days. Due to these resource constraints, a coordinating 35 percent reduction in employment is expected.

Prioritizing nonprofits will help speed the recovery effort.

As our state looks to recovery, nonprofits have and will continue to provide direct services to Iowans in all 99 counties of the state, as well as serving as the gateway and navigators for Iowans accessing necessary assistance. Many organizations' programs and services are targeted at stabilization of vulnerable populations impacted by COVID-19. This population now includes many "newly needy" Iowans – meaning they have always been consistently employed and now suddenly need to tap into the resources required to support their families.

Nonprofits are part of an essential strategy to stabilize the basic needs of Iowans such as access to food, health care and housing. Beyond these essential needs, the sector is primed to provide job training, education and supportive services to help speed Iowa's economic recovery.

Nonprofit challenges to recovery

Resource limitations will continue

Fundraising events and ability to offer revenue-generating programs and services will be a challenge as large gatherings will be extremely limited for the foreseeable future.

Donor and funder dollars have been reprioritized to immediate needs leaving significant gaps in ongoing and long-term funding streams.

Workforce issues will have ripple effects

With expected revenue losses, non-profits anticipate a 35 percent reduction in employment. This amounts to 59,500 workers in Iowa.

This significant workforce loss threatens the sector's ability to offer quality services and remain solvent.

Current data from Americans for the Arts shows negative financial impact on arts and cultural organizations across the state in excess of \$16.5 million with more than 1,100 individuals laid off or furloughed. Only 66% of these organizations report that they are confident their organization will survive the impact of the crisis.

Tax-exempt structure of nonprofits limits access to emergency state and federal aid

501(c)3 charitable nonprofits are typically not eligible for many aid programs.

Tax credits for small businesses do not benefit tax-exempt organizations.

Small business loans may be difficult to access for many tax-exempt organizations.

The needs of Iowans will be significant in the coming months. No single sector will be equipped to fully address the issues. The Iowa nonprofit community stands ready to partner with policymakers and businesses to create a path to a post-COVID economy for our state. As the Iowa General Assembly works to address our state's recovery, the members of this coalition request your consideration of the nonprofit sector and the role it plays in helping Iowans and our state rebuild.

Thank you,

386 Iowa Community Funders (62); Business Partners (34); Nonprofits (258) and Individual Donors & Volunteers (32)

Community Funders

Ahrens Park Foundation

Allamakee County Community Foundation

Alliant Energy Foundation

Black Hawk County Gaming Association

Bravo Greater Des Moines

Cedar Falls Community Foundation

Cedar Valley United Way

Chrysalis Foundation

City of Clive, Iowa

Claude W. and Dolly Ahrens Foundation

Clay County Community Foundation

Clayton County Foundation for the Future

Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines

Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque

Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine

Community Foundation of Johnson County

Community Foundation Louisa County

Community Foundation of Marshall County

Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa

Davis County Community Foundation

Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation

Doris & Victor Day Foundation

Enhance Hamilton County Foundation

Fort Dodge Community Foundation and United Way

Foundation for the Future of Delaware County

Genesis Youth Foundation

Grand View Christian School Foundation, Inc.

Great Outdoors Foundation

Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation

Greater Des Moines Public Art Foundation

Hardin County Community Endowment Foundation

Heistand Family Foundation

Iowa Council of Foundations

Iowa Credit Union Foundation

Iowa West Foundation

Iowa West Racing Association

Iowa Women's Foundation

Jones County Community Foundation

Marshalltown Area United Way

Mid-Iowa Health Foundation

Okoboji Foundation

Omaha Community Foundation/Community Foundations of Southwest Iowa

Otto Schoitz Foundation

Ottumwa Regional Legacy Foundation

Pottawattamie County Community Foundation

RJ McElroy Trust

South Central Iowa Community Foundation

Story County Community Foundation

Telligen Community Initiative

United Way of Central Iowa

United Way of Clinton County, Iowa

United Way of East Central Iowa

United Way of Jasper County

United Way of Johnson & Washington Counties

United Way of Mahaska County

United Way of Muscatine

United Way of North Central Iowa

United Way of Story County

United Way of the Great River Region

United Ways of Iowa

Waterloo Community Foundation

Wright County Charitable Foundation

Business Partners

Air Control, Inc.

Amplify Coaching

Businessolver

Canary Consulting Group

Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce

Custom-Pak Inc

Delta Dental of Iowa

DeWitt Chamber and Development Corp.

Dickinson & Clark CPAs, PC

EDEN+ Fundraising Consulting

Fidelity Bank & Trust

Greater Des Moines Partnership

GreenState Credit Union

Hills Bank and Trust Company

Iowa Business Council

Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce

K Brand Marketing, Inc.

Kemin Industries

Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce

Keystone Electrical Manufacturing Co.

Kitchen Sink Communications

Knapp Properties

M2K Branding & Communications

Marshalltown Central Business District

MidWestOne Financial Group, Inc.

Miron Construction

Mortenson

Renaissance Group, Inc.

Right Turn Supervision Services LLC.

Scott Advocacy and Consulting

Snyder Strategies

The Ingenuity Company

The Sherry Group

Underwood Consulting

Wealth Enhancement Group

Wilson Deege Despotovich Riemenschneider &
Rittgers, PLC

Iowa Nonprofits

Abbe Center for Community Mental Health

4Cs

ADDS

African American Museum of Iowa

Aging Services

Albion Municipal Library

American Lung Association in Illinois & Iowa

Ames Emergency Residence Project

Ames History Museum

Animal Lifeline of Iowa, Inc.

Animal Rescue League of Iowa

Ankeny Area Historical Society

Ankeny Art Center

Ankeny Community Chorus

ASAP, the After School Arts Program

Assault Care Center Extending Shelter and Support

Bailey Leadership Initiative, LLC

Ballet Des Moines

Beacon of Life

Best Buddies

Best Buddies International

Bidwell Riverside Center & Hawthorn Hill

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Iowa

Bix Beiderbecke Museum & World Archives

Blanden Art Museum

Boys Town

Bridgeview CMHC

Building Families

By Degrees Foundation

Camp Algona POW museum

Camp Fire Heart of Iowa

Camp Foster YMCA Inc.

Candeo

Capitol Park Early Learning Center

Capstone Behavioral Healthcare

Carlisle Area Historical Society

Catherine McAuley Center

Catholic Charities, Des Moines

Cedar Falls Historical Society

Central Iowa Works

Centro Latino of Iowa

Charles E. Lakin Human Services Campus

Charlie Brown Preschool & Child Care

Child Abuse Prevention Services, Inc.

Child and Family Policy Center

Children & Families of Iowa

Children and Family Urban Movement

ChildServe

Civic Music Association of Des Moines

Clayton County Conservation Board- Osborne Partner's for Education Endowment, Motor Mill Foundation

Clinton Community School District

Clive Community Services

Clive Historical Society

Community Action of Southeast Iowa

Community Support Advocates

Community Youth Concepts

Concerned DeWitt Citizens, Ltd., Referral Center
Crisis Intervention Service
Crittenton Center
Crossroads of Iowa
CultureALL Inc.
Denmark Ball Association
Dental Connections, Inc.
Dental Lifeline Network
Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC)
Des Moines Art Center
Des Moines Arts Festival®
Des Moines Choral Society
Des Moines Community Playhouse
Des Moines Gay Men's Chorus
Des Moines Metro Opera
Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center
Des Moines Performing Arts
Des Moines Public Library Foundation
Des Moines University
Des Moines Vocal Arts Ensemble
Dickinson County Trails Board
DMARC - Des Moines Area Religious Council
Domestic Violence Intervention Program
Dress for Success Des Moines
Dubuque Museum of Art
Eastern Iowa Lutheran Bible Camp Association, Inc.
Easterseals Society of Iowa
Eat Greater Des Moines

EMBARC
Emergency Residence Project
Employee & Family Resources
Everybody Wins! Iowa
EveryStep
EyesOpenIowa
Family Museum
FAMILY, Inc.
Felix Alder Children's Discovery Center
Foundation 2 Crisis Services
Foundation for the Boone Area Humane Society
Friendship Ark, Inc.
Garner Community Christian Child Care
Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois
Goodwill of the Heartland
Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden
Greater Des Moines Music Coalition
Grinnell College Museum of Art
Grout Museum District
Guiding Star Marshalltown
Guthrie County Historical Village and Museum
Guttenberg Heritage Society
Habitat for Humanity, Greater Des Moines
Healthy Birth Day, Inc./ Count the Kicks
Heart of Iowa Big Brothers Big Sisters
Heartland Museum
Home Forward Iowa
HOPE Agency
Horizons, A Family Service Alliance
Hospitality House of Cedar Valley

House of Compassion
Howard County Historical Society
Hoyt Sherman Place
Humane Society of North Iowa
IACCT
Immigrant Entrepreneurs Summit
IMPACT Community Action Partnership
Information Referral & Assistance
Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps
Iowa & Minnesota Campus Compact
Iowa ACEs 360
Iowa Alliance of YMCAs
Iowa Architectural Foundation (IAF)
Iowa Asian Alliance
Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children
Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging
Iowa CareGivers
Iowa Chronic Care Consortium
Iowa City Free Medical Clinic
Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Iowa Community Action Association
Iowa County Historical Society
Iowa Family Child Care Association
Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
Iowa Hall of Pride
Iowa Healthiest State Initiative
Iowa Hunger Coalition
Iowa International Center
Iowa KidSight
Iowa Legal Aid
Iowa Mental Health Planning Council
Iowa Museum Association
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
Iowa Public Radio
Iowa Rivers Revival
Iowa Stage Theatre Company
Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity
Jackson County Economic Alliance
Johnston Partnership for a Healthy Community
Jones County Conservation Department
Jones County Family Council
Junction For Opportunities
Junior Achievement of Central Iowa
Kalona Historical Society
Keokuk-Hamilton Dam Museum
Kids First Law Center
Kossuth County C.A.R.E. Team
Latino Resources Inc.
League of Women Voters Metro Des Moines
Legal Aid Society of Story County
Link Associates
Living History Farms
Interfaith Alliance of Iowa
Lotus Community Project, Inc.
Lutheran Services in Iowa
Madison County Historical Society
Mahaska County Historical Society
Mainframe Studios
Mainstream Living Inc.

Marcus Historical Society
Marshall County Arts & Culture Alliance
Marshalltown Public Library
MATURA Action Corporation
MICAH House
Montgomery Co. Child Development Association
Montgomery County History Center
Mosaic
Muscatine Art Center
NAMI Greater Des Moines
NAMI Iowa
National Association of Social Workers, Iowa Chapter
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Speech & Debate Association
Neighborhood Centers of Johnson County
New Horizons Adult Day Center
North Lee County Historical Society
North Liberty Community Pantry
Oakridge Neighborhood
Okoboji Foundation & Pearson Lakes Art Center
Old Fort Players, Inc.
Olin Tri Church food pantry
On With Life
One Vision
Opportunity on Deck
Orchard Place
Please Pass the Love
Polk County Housing Trust Fund

Prelude Behavioral Services
Premier Payee Inc.
Prevent Blindness Iowa
Prevent Child Abuse Iowa
Primary Health Care
Project Fresh Start
Project Iowa
Promsie Partners
Proteus, Inc.
Raising Readers in Story County
Rebuilding Together Greater Des Moines
Red Oak Child Development Center
Riverside Voyage Home and History Museum
Roosevelt High School Association and Alumni Foundation
Rural Employment Alternatives, Inc.
Salisbury House
Science Center of Iowa
Seasons Center for Behavioral Health
Skyline Center, Inc.
St. Mark Youth Enrichment
St. Patrick Church
Table to Table Food Distribution Network
TeamMates Mentoring Program
The 712 Initiative
The Arc of East Central Iowa
The Arc of Southeast Iowa
The Directors Council
The FreeStore
The Housing Fellowship

The Iowa Children's Museum
TLC The Learning Center
Together For Youth Coalition
TRAIL of Johnson County
Trees Forever
Tri-County Child and Family Development
U S Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
Des Moines Field Office
Urbandale Community Theatre
Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum
Vision To Learn
Visiting Nurse Association of Johnson County
Waterloo Center for the Arts
Watrous Heights Neighborhood Association
Waukee Betterment Foundation
West Bend Historical Society
West Central Community Action
Wilder Memorial Museum
Willkie House Inc.
Wilson Performing Arts Center
Women Lead Change
World Food Prize Foundation
YMCA of Greater Des Moines
YMCA Supportive Housing Campus
Young Nonprofit Professionals Network
(YNPN) of Des Moines
Young Women's Resource Center
Youth Emergency Services & Shelter (YESS)
YPN---Young Parents Network
YSS
YWCA Clinton

Individual Donors & Volunteers

Althea Holcomb
Amanda Willimack
Ambassador Mary Kramer
Angie Fagervik-Chia
Ashley Johnson
Brett Hetland
Cari McPartland
Carrie Barr
Doreen Petersen
Emily Sadewasser
Gabriel Aguirre
George Hanusa
Helen Goldstein
James Ponto
Janelle Carter
Janet Griswold
Janet Simpson
Jennifer Hahn
Jennifer Robinson MD MPH
Jessica Jimmerson
Joanne Hardinger
Kent Zimmerman
Lynda Ostedgaard
Lynn Graves
Mary Westbrook
Matt Degner
Patricia Civitate
Patty Manuel
Rachel Manuel Bruns

Tara Minetos

Terri Anderson

Thomas A. Jeschke