Adams Community Foundation
Annual Foundation Report

Adams County, Iowa

Providing Financial Resources for Community Betterment

Fall 2026

Anticipation: the feeling of excitement about the future

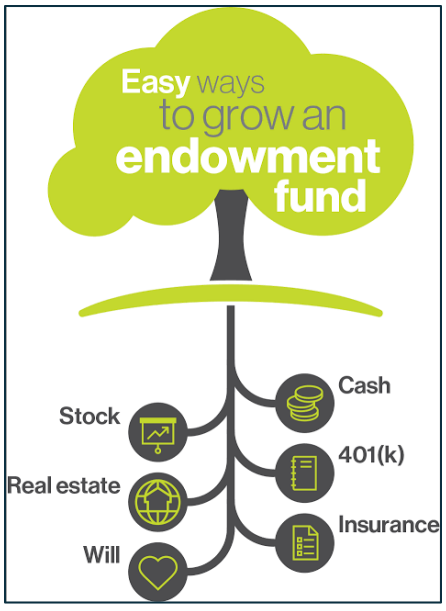
When the Adams Community Foundation was originally founded in 1985, the community leaders, who were the founders, wanted to create a fund that would provide resources for community betterment. Now, 40 years later, I believe their vision has greatly surpassed what they initially thought possible. Who could have foreseen the creation of the Endow Iowa program which leveraged a portion of gaming revenues for counties without gaming facilities to infuse funds into both granting dollars and endowment fund dollars for our community. Who would have thought it possible to inject over 2 million dollars back into our community to support our local non-profits and governmental entities?

That leads to the question of what does the foundation look like 40 years later? I am happy to report that the Adams Community Foundation is alive and well and moving forward with new opportunities. It is likely that the Foundation will have its first executive director sometime during the next year. This will allow the Foundation to focus more on endowment building and will provide local expertise and assistance to those who are interested in giving to the Foundation as well as developing funds to support causes that people care about when they are considering leaving a legacy to their community. The board is also taking advantage of programs offered by the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, of which we are an affiliate, to learn more, advocate more and offer more to those who support and need the Foundation in one way or another.

How can you help the Adams Community Foundation move into the future? The Adams Community Foundation relies not only on the Endow Iowa program for support but also on your financial gifts to increase our resources and allow the Foundation to make more and larger gifts each year. The needs are always more than the capacity to grant funds to worthy projects happening in our county. Would your donation help a much-needed project to completion? Would your donation support a non-profit to become self-sufficient? How will your gift impact the local community for the better? I ask that you take a moment of reflection and foresight much as our community leaders did in 1985 to provide for the Adams Community Foundation now and into the future.

Again, on behalf of the Adams Community Foundation, with deepest gratitude, thank you for your support,

Nancy Turner, Chair



Endowment Funds

The Adams Community Foundation also holds endowment funds for families and individuals who have created endowments themselves either for named projects or for use within the county. Building endowment funds is so important as they provide monetary resources for the future of our county. We encourage you to think about creating a fund to support those causes that are near and dear to you when planning for the future. The Adams Community Foundation can assist those who are interested in leaving a legacy supporting organizations that they care about and want to support in the future. If you would like more information about setting up an endowment fund, contact us and we would be happy to assist you in achieving your goals.

Each year at this time we ask you to support the Foundation financially. Your gift to the Foundation helps to support community organizations and local entities. Additionally, your gift may qualify for Endow Iowa tax credits. By accessing the QR code below you can make a gift to our funds directly at the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines. Gifts may also be made by sending a check in the enclosed envelope. Gifts of other types such as stock, agricultural gifts, charitable gift annuities, and IRA charitable rollovers are also a way to give. For more information about these types of gifts, please contact us.

Your Gift Helps to:

Bolster Arts & Culture

Provide Community Betterment

Support Education

Improve Health

Strengthen Children, Youth & Families

Build Community Connections

Reasons Why People Work with Community Foundations

*We are a local organization with deep roots in the community.

*We offer access to a professional staff with broad expertise regarding community issues and needs.

*We provide highly personalized service tailored to everyone's charitable and financial interests.

*We help people invest in the causes they care about most.

*We accept a wide variety of assets and can facilitate even the most complex forms of giving.

*We partner with professional advisors to create highly effective approaches to charitable giving.

*We multiply the impact of gift dollars by pooling them with other grants and gifts.

*We build endowment funds that benefit the community forever and help create personal legacies.

*We are a community leader, convening agencies and coordinating resources to create positive change.

Grants Awarded in 2026

The community foundation has provided key grant funding for local projects. We've been honored to invest in these projects and organizations in communities throughout Adams County over the course of the past year.

City of Corning	*Comprehensive Neighborhood Project*	*$15,000.00*
Adams County Conservation	*Renovation of beach area*	*$25,000.00*
Kid Care Committee	*Family Fun Day at Fair*	*$1,500.00*
Corning Opera House	*Awning/HVAC*	*$24,500.00*
Adams County Fair & Racing Assoc	*Bleachers*	*$22,698.00*
Corning Public Library	*Push button opener for door*	*$3,500.00*
Corning Volunteer Fire Department	*PPE*	*$21,300.00*
City of Nodaway	*repair of Community Center*	*$16,500.00*
Corning Center for the Fine Arts	*HVAC*	*$14,390.00*
Food Bank of Iowa	*Fighting hunger*	*$5,000.00*
Total		***$149,388.00***

New Grant Applications are available on the website with deadlines for 2027 of January 4th and June 4th. Choose between the application for grants under $5000 or the grants over $5000, whichever fits your project the best.

ADAMS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BOARD	
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Fred Shearer	Vice-chair
Scott Akin	Treasurer
Lisa Wilkinson	Secretary
Leland Shipley	Member
Julia Paul	Member
Stephen Gruba	Member
Brenda Dunn	Member
Kenya Haffner	Member

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An affiliate of the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines

Adams Community Foundation Endowment Fund