

MEDIA RELEASE - For Immediate Release

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Hardin County Endowment Foundation Announces 2011 Grant Guidelines

The Hardin County Community Endowment Foundation (HCCEF) is pleased to offer local social-profit organizations the opportunity to apply for grant funding. Grants are awarded each year to programs that address community needs and enhance the quality of life for Hardin County citizens. “This year over \$92,000 will be given out in grants,” says Kristi Harris, HCCEF Grant Chair.

Social-profit agencies, 107b units of government, or other qualifying charitable organizations operating for the benefit of Hardin County may apply. Grant dollars awarded should be expended within 9 months of the award date, unless a written request for an extension has been approved by the HCCEF board. Grant extensions are considered on a case by case basis.

The deadline for HCCEF’s annual community grants cycle is Friday, February 4th. Grant recipients will be announced in early April.

Since HCCEF was established in 2005, over \$372,400 has been given to 127 projects, impacting and elevating the quality of life for Hardin County citizens. Grant awards are given to projects in seven focus areas: Arts & Culture; Economic Development/ Entrepreneurship; Health & Human Resources; Community Betterment; Recreation & Environment; Education; and Youth Development.

Guidelines used by HCCEF include:

- The maximum grant is \$10,000, not to exceed 50% of total project cost.
- Projects funded need to address significant community issues, present innovative, creative and practical proposals which build on community strengths; develop the leadership potential of the community; involve local people in the planning and implementation of the program, and impact a significant number of county residents.

Copies of the 2011 grant application are available at the Hardin County Extension Office in Iowa Falls as well as at each city hall in Hardin County. Grant applications will also be available on the following websites: www.donateiowa.org/hardin or www.extension.iastate.edu/hardin/.

All social-profit organizations interested in submitting a grant application to HCCEF are encouraged to attend one of two grant workshops which will be held Tuesday, January 4th, at the Hardin County Extension Office in Iowa Falls at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday, January 6, at the Eldora Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Participants will have the opportunities to visit individually with an HCCEF board member about their organization’s specific grant proposal.

For further information on HCCEF and the 2011 grant opportunities, contact Kristi Harris, Grant Chair at 641-648-3475 (e-mail at kjmharris@msn.com) or Carol Gilbert, HCCEF Chair at 515-855-4170 (e-mail at carolg@peconet.net).

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