

Iowa Shares

Connecting People Who Care Strengthening Communities

July 2019

Happy Summer!!

Best wishes to all of our supporters for an enjoyable late summer and for, hopefully, a cooler fall!! Please browse our news below to learn about our new member, Extend the Dream Foundation, and our new campaign workplace, Channel Fusion.

Your partnership with Iowa Shares helps its member organizations improve lives throughout Iowa. Iowans take care of animals, learn how to improve our water and air, provide children with more books to read, and advocate for equal and human rights around the world. Fall campaign season is rapidly approaching, and we

hope you will again pledge your support and help strengthen our efforts in 2020.

A quick note: The City of Iowa City's annual Rummage in the Ramp sale is happening NOW and will continue through August 2nd. The City shares the proceeds from the sale with the many non-profit organizations that work the event, including Iowa Shares! Please consider either donating items in your home that are no longer needed and/or browsing and shopping at the sale. More information on the sale can be found at https://www.icgov.org/rummageintheramp.

Warm regards, Gail Ardery, Board President

Extend the Dream/Uptown Bill's: Our Heart-of-Gold New Member

Iowa Shares is delighted to announce that a new non-profit joined our network this year. Founded in 1997, Extend the Dream Foundation (EDF) redefined its target two years later to serve persons with disabilities and the aging. EDF's best known project is Uptown Bill's Coffeehouse and Neighborhood Art Center.

The work and services of Uptown Bill's take inspiration from the life and example of Bill Sackter, an intellectually challenged man who spent nearly half a century in an institution and the last eight years of his life as the proprietor of Wild Bill's Coffee Shop in North Hall at the University of Iowa. Two movies and a documentary have been made about Bill's life. Uptown Bill's is the crosstown cousin of Wild Bill's Coffee Shop.

In the spirit of Bill Sackter, Uptown Bill's, which started in 2001, offers a community gathering place

where people of all abilities are welcome. Over the years, EDF has supported a variety of business for individuals with disabilities: an antique store, a furniture refinishing business, a record store, a vintage shop, a bakery and much more. We've also helped individuals start online businesses.

Uptown Bill's current location at 730 S. Dubuque Street includes a used bookstore, a coffee house, a performance venue with concerts every Saturday and Open Mic on Thursdays. It also hosts a variety of support and community meetings every week.

Stop by any time for a cup of coffee, a sandwich or a milkshake, all served from the old Pearson's Drug Store counter. And please consider supporting the Extend the Dream Foundation and Uptown Bill's through Iowa Shares.

Channel Fusion is a New Workplace Partner

Iowa Shares' 2018 fundraising campaign received donations from 18 workplaces across the state, most of which are public institutions. We are very pleased to announce that Channel Fusion, a private channel marketing company in Hiawatha, recently agreed to raise funds for Iowa Shares at their business. Channel Fusion is a small company, with 79 employees at their Hiawatha location and 15 additional employees at their India location. The company serves Fortune 500 companies, administrating their co-op marketing, rebate and spiff programs, and providing customer service to their dealer networks. They pride themselves in being family oriented, relaxed, affirming and positive, and their employees are caring and generous.

Channel Fusion recently developed a Culture Club committee to plan events, special programs, donation

drives and volunteering opportunities for the Channel Fusion community. The idea for connecting with Iowa Shares took root through the Culture Club. An important consideration for the Channel Fusion team is that Iowa Shares member non-profit organizations serve Iowa communities.

The members of Iowa Shares are very grateful to Channel Fusion CEO Pankaj Monga, to HR Director Jeff Masters, to Dave Gustafson for presenting the idea to the leadership team, and, most importantly, to all the employees who donated to Iowa Shares. Should any of our donors be aware of other private business who might be interested in an Iowa Shares' workplace partner, please contact Holly Hart at holly@uiowashares.org or 319-338-1446.

Iowa Shares is a statewide coalition of social change, environmental, and cultural non-profit agencies, raising funds through workplace giving since 1993. To learn more about how your support of Iowa Shares will make a difference in your community, visit our website at http://www.iowashares.org.

Supporting our communities through workplace giving

Full List of 2019 Member Organizations

Full Members (Receive funds designated to the specific organization and a portion of funds not designated for a specific organization)

Amnesty International of Iowa

www.aiusa.org

Working to secure the principles of human rights espoused in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights through education and advocacy via local groups in Ames, Cedar Rapids, and Des Moines.

Environmental Advocates

www.environmental-advocates.org

Educating the public about local environmental issues and the positions of elected officials, participating in river clean-up events, helping underwrite startup environmental organizations and local environmental projects. We believe a sustainable environment is necessary for future generations.

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Help Iowa Shares

Full List of 2019 Member Organizations

Equality Iowa

www.equalityiowa.org

A statewide, grassroots, nonpartisan organization working to secure equality for all Iowans, Iowa's LGBTQ communities and their allies, emphasizing the needs of the un- and under-served. Helping provide a voice & visibility for Iowa's LGBTQ communities.

Extend the Dream Foundation

https://uptownbills.org

EDF, working to raise awareness and inclusion of persons of all abilities, sponsors Uptown Bill's Coffee House & Neighborhood Arts Center, Bookstore, Media Project and Saturday Night Concert Series, and offers meeting space for community organizations.

Iowa City Public Library Friends Foundation

www.icpl.org/friends-foundation

Increasing opportunities for everyone through the Iowa City Public Library. Donate to the ICPL Friends Foundation to connect people of all ages with information, engage them with the world of ideas and each other, and enrich lives by supporting learning, promoting literacy, and encouraging creativity.

Iowa Physicians for Social Responsibility

www.psriowa.org

To protect life and health from the gravest threats to survival, PSR Io-

wa works to eliminate nuclear weapons, slow and reverse climate change, and prevent toxic degradation of the environment.

Iowa Renewable Energy Association

www.irenew.org

Dedicated to educating Iowans about sustainable, renewable energy technologies and partnering with members and other non-profits to support and encourage renewable energy development.

Iowa United Nations Association

www.iowauna.org

For 66 years, providing statewide educational programming on world issues such as global health, human rights and the environment, and raising support for UN humanitarian campaigns such as UNICEF and Nothing but Nets.

Legion Arts

www.legionarts.org

Presenting new art, music and theatre from around the globe; fostering community development through cultural engagement; and supporting the professional development of Iowa artists. Based at historic CSPS Hall in Cedar Rapids.

Linn County United Nations Association

www.unaiowa.or/chapters/linn/

Working to achieve effective U.S. involvement in a strengthened United Nations, we raise awareness

through advocacy, public programs, study groups, U.N. Day celebrations, and collaboration with community groups.

Quad Cities Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees

http://www.qcair.org/

Supports people arriving from outside the country to integrate them into the Quad Cities community by advocating for them and collaborating with appropriate service providers. This includes elevating the public image of them by encouraging appreciation of their contributions to our society and sometimes providing direct services.

The Quire

www.thequire.org

A chorus for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons promoting a positive image of these communities through excellence in choral music. Membership is open to anyone who is gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and to anyone who is respectful and affirming of these communities.

Urban Ambassadors

www.urbanambassadors.org

UA's mission is to inspire and empower community members to be sustainable in their homes, workplaces, and community. Through monthly educational meetings, popup events, and monthly newsletters, UA connects people and organizations promoting sustainability to increase the sustainability of life in our communities.

Associate 2019 Member Organizations

<u>Associate Members</u> (Receive only funds designated for the specific organization)

American Civil Liberties Union of Iowa (ACLU of Iowa)

https://www.aclu-ia.org/

The ACLU of Iowa fights to advance civil liberties for all. A state affiliate of the national American Civil Liberties Union, we pride ourselves in upholding everyone's civil liberties, no matter who they are or what they believe. We work to assure the rights of all Iowans—from atheists to devout Christians, from labor unions to businesspeople and more—to make sure the constitutional rights of all are preserved.

Animal Lifeline of Iowa

www.animal-lifeline.com

Central Iowa's only special needs, no-kill animal shelter, we rescue and rehabilitate cats and dogs that are injured, handicapped, have a serious medical condition, abused, pregnant and nursing moms, or orphans that require bottle feeding, and then adopt them into loving forever homes.

Cedar Valley Habitat for Humanity (CVHFH)

www.cvhabitat.org

An ecumenical Christian housing ministry dedicated to building and rehabilitating simple, decent, and affordable homes in partnership with families in need in Linn and Benton counties. Seeking to put God's love into action, CVHFH brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.

Center for Worker Justice of Eastern Iowa (CWJ)

www.cwjiowa.org

CWJ unites low-wage workers across race, ethnicity and immigration status to pursue social and economic justice through education, leadership development, and issuebased organizing. Current projects include protecting immigrant rights, expanding access to affordable housing, defending minimum wage increases, and combating wage theft.

Girls on the Run of Eastern Iowa

www.girlsontheruniowa.org

At GOTR, we inspire girls to recognize their inner strength and celebrate what makes them one of a kind. Using the power of running, 3rd-8th grade girls develop essential skills to help them navigate their worlds and establish a lifetime appreciation for health and fitness.

Iowa Humane Alliance

http://iowahumanealliance.org

Dedicated to solving animal overpopulation and eliminating euthanasia of healthy animals by providing high-quality, affordable spay and neuter services. Other programs include Love For Pets outreach, Spay/Neuter Transport, and Trap/Neuter/Return Resource Assistance Program. Supports other animal welfare organizations by recognizing their goals, maximizing their strengths, and utilizing vital resources.

Johnson County Humane Society

www.johnsoncountyhumane.org

JCHS helps keep companion animals out of shelters by providing assistance for spay/neuter and other medical needs, distributing pet food to those in need, helping with trapneuter-return of community cats, and offering advice and referrals. JCHS promotes the humane treatment of all animals.

Trees Forever

www.treesforever.org

Determined to make a difference in our neighborhoods and communities, we plant and care for trees, shrubs, native grasses and the environment. Our work empowers people, builds community, fosters stewardship and promotes the value and importance of our natural areas for future generations.