



GreenState
FOUNDATION

2025 Impact Report

Growing Better, Together

Grow your money skills, lift your community.

The GreenState Foundation is where financial wellness meets purpose. Over the past year, we have educated more than 4,300 members with money-smart topics and have lifted our communities by granting funds into financial education, housing, and children's health. Guided by our commitment to members and community needs, we invested over \$470,500 into the community.

This report highlights a selection of impactful grants that were awarded in 2025. Additionally, I want to thank the GreenState Foundation Board of Directors for their time, commitment and expertise.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Tara Wachendorf".

Tara Wachendorf • President • GreenState Foundation





Children & Family Urban Movement

- The Haven

The GreenState Foundation supported Children & Family Urban Movement (CFUM)'s Afterschool Program, which provides students with academic support, enrichment activities, and access to technology in a non-traditional learning environment. Students benefit from experiences like field trips to the science center and partnerships with organizations such as Blank Park Zoo, along with hands-on use of tools like 3D printers, Surface Pros, Cricut machines, and virtual reality.

With our support, the program is offered at no cost to participating families, and has expanded to a second location. CFUM now serves over 100 students at Moulton Elementary and 50 students at Madison Elementary in Des Moines, with plans to grow an additional 85 students by the end of the school year.



Dental Connections

- Dental Care for Underserved Populations

The Smile Squad, operated by Dental Connections, delivers onsite dental care through two mobile units serving 61 schools across eight Central Iowa districts, reaching more than 4,600 students. In 2025, the program expanded to nine additional rural schools, increasing access in underserved communities. It also provides dental screenings for students in grades 2–8.

By bringing care directly to schools, the Smile Squad removes barriers such as cost and transportation, ensuring children receive timely, quality dental services. This is essential, as oral health directly impacts a child's ability to grow, learn, and thrive. Through expanded access, education, and advocacy, Dental Connections works to reduce disparities and promote dental care as a vital part of overall childhood well-being.



Building a community of smiles.



Freeport Health Network - Pediatric Rehabilitation Remodel

The pediatric therapy team at Freeport Memorial Hospital provides speech and occupational therapy services for children from birth to age 18 at its main hospital campus. This interdisciplinary team delivers personalized, high-quality care tailored to each child's unique needs, using engaging, play-based therapeutic approaches to achieve individualized goals.

The remodel will modernize the facility, add and expand storage for toys and larger pediatric therapy equipment, and add two private treatment rooms with viewing capabilities for parents and guardians. These improvements will enhance care, improve safety and accessibility, and promote family engagement without disruption to care during treatment.





Elyssa's Mission - General Operations

Elyssa's Mission is a nonprofit founded in 2006 that focuses on preventing teen suicide by providing school-based education and connecting at-risk youth with mental health resources.

Elyssa's Mission fully funds and implements evidence-based suicide prevention programs in elementary, middle, and high schools, offering hands-on support in planning, training, implementation, and data analysis. Today, the organization partners with more than 340 schools across 20 counties and 144 suburbs in Illinois, expanding access to critical mental health support for students.



Families Helping Families

- Transportation Support

Families Helping Families of Illinois provides housing, mentoring, and essential resources to families experiencing homelessness. The holistic program supports up to 12 families at a time, focusing on financial literacy, job training, money management, and education—critical pathways to long-term stability and self-sufficiency. Yet, one of the most significant and often overlooked barriers is transportation.

A recent participant—a young mother who fled domestic violence with her infant—entered the program determined to rebuild her life and dreams of one day owning a small home for her son. However, her only vehicle, crucial in an area with little public transit, was deemed beyond repair.

Without reliable transportation, she faced major obstacles to employment, childcare, medical care for her infant with asthma, and basic daily needs—even after securing housing.

Her story is not unique. About 75% of families in the program arrive with unreliable or non-functional vehicles, and donated cars are increasingly scarce. Without dependable transportation, even the most motivated families struggle to fully benefit from the support Families Helping Families provides.



Heart Ministry Center

- Fresh Start Program

Fresh Start is a nine-month, individualized program in Omaha for unemployed adults facing significant barriers to employment. It connects participants to livable-wage jobs while providing job training, life skills, and workplace readiness support. According to Heart Ministry Center, many participants have experienced incarceration (78%) and are in recovery from addiction (96%).

Throughout the program, each participant engages in different workplace roles in the Center's food distribution program. In addition, each participant is engaged in programming to help them grow personally and professionally. This programming includes individual therapy sessions, group therapy sessions, financial education (budgeting and credit repair), renter's education, workplace etiquette, conflict resolution training, resume building, mock interviews, computer literacy, and goal setting with a facilitator.



Iowa Center for Economic Success

- Small Business Support

The Iowa Center is a nonprofit small business development organization that empowers Iowans to launch, manage, grow, and finance their businesses. Small business ownership creates opportunities to generate income, invest in communities, and build generational wealth—but it can be complex, and many aspiring entrepreneurs lack access to the education, capital, and professional networks needed to succeed.

The Iowa Center addresses these challenges through three core service areas: Business Coaching, Credit + Lending, and Tax Services. Clients have access to classes, one-on-one coaching, small business loans, and tax preparation and planning—most offered at low to no cost with support from the GreenState Foundation.

One of the Center's signature offerings is the "Always Ready" class series, which equips small business owners with the knowledge and tools to build and sustain strong businesses. Participants learn how to develop business plans, understand financial statements, identify and engage customers, and navigate legal requirements. The series also covers personal credit and the process of securing a small business loan.



The Iowa Center

theiowacenter.org



Lift Women's Foundation

- Business Coaching

With our support, women entrepreneurs in the Quad City region are provided a one-on-one coach as well as opportunities for group education.

This grant enables participants to receive personalized assessments, tailored coaching, and cohort-based training. Programs focus on key skills for business success, fostering both individual growth and collaborative learning to help entrepreneurs advance and sustain their ventures.





One Cedar Valley

- SHIPHT Career Tech Ed & Entrepreneurship Academy

ONE Cedar Valley was created to bring together employers, educators, service providers, and community leaders around a simple but powerful idea. When systems work together, people thrive. By removing barriers to employment and connecting residents to training, resources, and supportive services, ONE Cedar Valley helps individuals move from instability to possibility and from possibility to lasting economic mobility. The SHIPHT program grew from the same belief, starting with young people. What began as a creative youth program evolved into a proven pathway where teens explore careers, build confidence, and see themselves as innovators, leaders, and future professionals. Through hands-on learning, storytelling, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy, SHIPHT equips young people with the tools to understand money, build healthy financial habits, and make informed decisions about their futures. This work turns talent into direction and ambition into action.





Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates - Financial Empowerment for Iowa

Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG) is a statewide nonprofit organization that partners with Iowa schools to deliver in-class career development programming. This includes leadership training, soft skill development, work-based learning, and civic responsibility—equipping students with the tools they need to succeed both in school and in life. iJAG partners with schools and businesses by helping students get from the classroom to a career, improving daily attendance, increasing graduation rates, teaching employability skills, leadership skills, financial literacy, civic and community service, and much more. Statewide, iJAG will serve close to 11,000 students in over 70 communities in 2025-2026.

Building a better future.



House Into Homes

- Comforts of Home Delivery Program

House into Homes provides gently used beds, furniture, and household items to families and individuals in Johnson County who are transitioning out of homelessness, domestic violence, and other crisis situations. House Into Homes mission is to help people experience the comfort of home in a way that honors their journey and engages them with unconditional positive regard. With our support, 30 bed frames and platforms were purchased, allowing their clients some peace and comfort.







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You can join today! As a Friend of our Foundation, you can benefit by seeing the impactful work we do, donating to our mission, and gaining free access to our incredible financial literacy tools and resources.

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