



The Community Foundation offers agency funds as an opportunity for nonprofits to grow sustainable support. Agency funds serve as endowments for nonprofit organizations with the Community Foundation providing responsible and professional fund administration and investment.

Advantages of Establishing an Agency Fund:



SIMPLE: Enables board members and volunteers to focus on the organization's mission and endowment building while the Community Foundation focuses on the administration and investment of the endowment.



MAXIMIZE: Donors' gifts to your organization's fund may have access to the Endow Iowa Tax Credit, a 25% state tax credit available exclusively for gifts to qualified endowments held at Iowa community foundations.



TRUST: Provide donors confidence their gifts will be invested to provide long-term support for your continued success, thanks to the Community Foundation's professionally invested portfolios.



SUPPORT: Your endowment has the added visibility of being part of the Community Foundation's family of funds. Additionally, you have access to our team of charitable giving experts to help your donors support your endowment through a variety of gifts including: cash, appreciated securities and real estate. We serve as an expert resource for your organization and your donors.

Financial Facts:

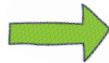


- An agency fund can be established in any amount and with a variety of asset types.
- You can grow your charitable giving assets as your fund is combined with other Community Foundation funds into professionally managed portfolios allowing greater diversification of investments and access to sophisticated investment vehicles.

Support



Gifts to your agency endowment at the Community Foundation provide sustainable support for your organization's mission.



Grow



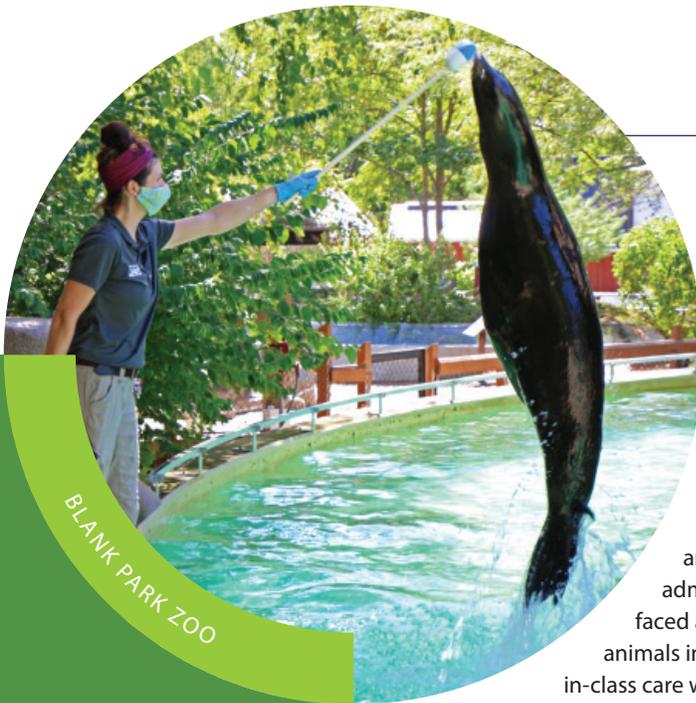
The assets of your fund grow through a professionally managed and invested Community Foundation investment portfolio of your choice.



Act



Distributions from your fund provide sustainable support for the mission of your organization.



BLANK PARK ZOO

“Though we didn’t want to have to use it, our endowment provided a sense of relief and allowed our team to come together and brainstorm ways to serve the public.”

— AMANDA NUZUM
VP/CDO, Blank Park Zoo

As public health concerns halted normal operations at Blank Park Zoo (BPZ), the innovation of the staff never faltered. “Fear of losing their jobs set in quickly with our staff,” shares Anne Shimerdla, BPZ CEO. “Our top priority was connecting with our team and sharing they had a job; it just might look a little different.”

BPZ leadership had the confidence to make that decision because of incredible community and member support as well as their endowment, administered by the Community Foundation. “We faced a 50% budget reduction but furloughing the animals in our care was not an option. To continue best-in-class care we needed to remain fully staffed. Though we didn’t want to have to use it, our endowment provided a sense of relief and allowed our team to come together and brainstorm ways to serve the public.”

“We received an Adaptation Grant from the Community Foundation to purchase the necessary technology to move our programming online,” says Amanda Nuzum, BPZ VP/CDO. “From there our entire team pivoted.”

“We offered online education to assist families navigating learning from home, we placed a webcam on our coral media channels and much more.” Additionally, the BPZ Board decided to finish the ZooPlex event center, a project supported through a Community Foundation Leadership Grant. “The Community Foundation understood our long-term vision for the ZooPlex, now the Holmes Foster Events Center, as a space that offers alternative revenue sources. This has positioned us well as we move through recovery and on to resilience.”

Given the leadership of the Zoo’s staff and board, and member and community donations, the organization didn’t have to take additional dollars from its endowment. Instead, they began Preservation Partners, an endowment campaign offering the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy to BPZ. “Our endowment is meant to ensure the long-term future of the Zoo,” adds Anne. “We are proud that we have been able to preserve it knowing future generations will continue to be introduced to the natural wonders of our world.”

For more information about establishing a fund at the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, contact us at (515) 883-2626 or info@desmoinesfoundation.org.



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