

2017

Making an IMPACT



The Ascentra Credit Union Foundation

continues its multi-year commitments to Junior Achievement of the Heartland, River Bend Foodbank, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Mississippi Valley. In addition, the foundation provided a \$5,000 grant for the Midwest Writing Center's David R. Collins Children's Literature Festival and \$3,000 to The Center, and 36 other organizations through the annual Leadership Grants.

In 2017 a total of \$73,411 in was awarded. Since 2014, the foundation has awarded \$245,474 in grants to organizations that work to economically and socially develop our region.



MISSION

Established in 2015, the mission of the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation is to improve the quality of life for the membership of Ascentra Credit Union and further the philanthropic outreach in the communities we serve. Our focus will be on funding work to enhance youth development, expand credit education opportunities, foster community development, support cultural activities, and invest in ways to enhance the financial viability of the underserved.

VISION

It is the vision of the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation to honor the memory of former President and CEO Paul Lensmeyer and to meet the charitable and educational objectives of the Board of Directors of Ascentra Credit Union.

The Ascentra Credit Union Foundation provided a grant of \$11,745 for the purchase of 75 Chromebooks that were used during the Spring Forward's Summer Enrichment Camps for children entering kindergarten through 7th grade at Frances Willard, Rock Island Academy, Earl Hansen, Longfellow, Center for Math and Science, and Thomas Jefferson Elementary Schools in Rock Island.

The Chromebooks were also used at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center (MLKCC) to support literacy instruction at their camp. More than 450 students were enrolled in camps and another 300 participated in Stepping Up for Summer Learning, a celebration of National Summer Learning Day.



“It is an honor for us to help provide Spring Forward with this technology and see how Spring Forward is using them as tools to help learners beyond the summer camps. **”**

- Jennifer Naeve
Ascentra Chief
Marketing Officer

The foundation donated \$3,000 to The Center in Davenport, Iowa. This grant was used to assist adult refugees and immigrants who want to become citizens, and help young people who wish to obtain their high school diploma through Scott Community College.





Roughly 900 students from grades 3 to 6 were treated to presentations from best-selling authors at the 2017 David R. Collins Children's Literature Festival. The foundation provided a \$5,000 grant, which helped make this day of engaging conversations with authors free for all in attendance. This is the second year the foundation has provided a grant to the festival, committing a total of \$10,000 to this annual event.



“**This** is such a wonderful festival that aligns itself nicely with our foundation's mission, but most importantly it encourages our future leaders to be creative.”

- Dale Owen
Ascentra President and CEO

LEADERSHIP GRANTS

This is the third year the volunteer board of directors and senior leadership team have given out a total of \$17,000 in Leadership Grants to 36 different charities and organizations. Each volunteer director and senior manager was given \$1,000 to support causes that are meaningful to them. Since then, the Leadership Grants have continued to make a positive impact and have awarded a total of \$51,000.



Total contributions given to date:
\$245,474



PAUL LENSMEYER GOLF OUTING

The foundation's flagship annual fundraising event, the Paul Lensmeyer Golf Outing, exceeded its fundraising goal to date, raising a whopping \$20,823.15!



Not only did we exceed our fundraising efforts, but we had a record number of golfers. Thanks to the Lensmeyer family, Ascentra staff, friends of Paul, community-minded sponsors, and dozens of participants, a generous \$53,516.62 has been raised to benefit the foundation over the past three years.