

June 10, 2013

Des Moines Business Record
c/o Jason Swanson
100 4th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Women of Influence Selection Committee:

We write today to nominate Patty Cownie as a 2013 Women of Influence award recipient. With all Patty has done for the Greater Des Moines community throughout her life, we were surprised to learn she has never received this honor. We strongly believe she is very deserving this year.

Just this week, the new Patty Cownie Center broke ground in West Des Moines. This facility will provide a permanent home for Meals from the Heartland and a year-round packaging center where volunteers can help feed the hungry. The 15,000 square foot hunger-relief headquarters named after Patty will soon be realized because of her hard work partnering with other individuals and businesses to raise nearly \$2 million for the project.

Patty's commitment to improve the Greater Des Moines community is significant and our region is better off because of her hard work.

Patty has devoted a tremendous amount of her lifetime to helping others in our community, and her accomplishments are too many to include in one letter. However, we wish to highlight a few to further demonstrate why she is so deserving of the 2013 Women of Influence honor. Patty has either served or is serving on a variety of important boards and commissions. She's served on the Mercy Hospital Foundation Board of Directors, Bishop Drumm, Polk County Health Services, Orchard Place Foundation, Saint Augustin Foundation, Des Moines Arts Festival, and Des Moines Civic Center, among others.

Patty has received numerous awards and honors including but not limited to, the Honorary Chair Variety Club of Iowa Telethon in 1996, First Civitas Award, Dowling High School in 2004, Iowa Star Award in 2005, United Way Alexis Tocqueville Society Honoree, 2006, Honoree, Drake University Golden Bulldog Award in 2009, and 2013 Bravo Award Winner.

Thank you for your consideration of Patty's nomination. We are confident that the selection committee will believe, as strongly as we do, that Patty Cownie very much deserves to receive the honor of 2013 Woman of Influence.

Sincerely,



Jay Byers
CEO
Greater Des Moines Partnership



Eugene Meyer
President
Greater Des Moines Partnership

