

May 20, 2016

Connie Wimer
Chairman
Business Publications Corporation
100 4th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Connie,

I am writing to endorse the nomination of **Cathy Lacy** for the 2016 Women of Influence Award. Her exemplary achievements as one of our community's leading philanthropists and advocates make her worthy of this highest honor for central Iowa's women leaders.

Cathy is a founding member of the United Way of Central Iowa Women's Leadership Connection (WLC), comprising our community's most generous and committed women, dedicated to improving the quality of early care and learning for our community's young children. She also is a founding member of the WLC Women of Tocqueville Society, recognizing United Way's most generous philanthropists. Cathy hosts annual events to recruit and engage new members in this important work. She also is one of WLC's strongest advocates for children's issues at the state capitol.

Cathy Lacy has been instrumental in the growth of WLC. Thanks to her efforts, today WLC has over 600 members, and central Iowa is a national model for aligning women's philanthropy toward our most important community priority—young children.

In 2015, she was honored with the 2015 Tocqueville Society Award, United Way's highest honor, given annually to an individual or couple who exemplify inspirational and sustained leadership and service to the central Iowa community through United Way.

In addition to her service for United Way, Lacy has served on the Drake University Board of Trustees, as Board Chair of Education at St. Augustin Catholic School and on the boards of Dowling Catholic School, Holy Family Inner City Youth Foundation and the Blank Park Zoo Foundation. She volunteers as co-chair of the Young Women's Resource Center's annual fundraising event and also assisted the organization with establishing a literacy initiative for their child care program.



In 2014 Cathy and her husband, Steve, were named outstanding individual philanthropists by the Central Iowa Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Cathy Lacy embodies what it means to be a Woman of Influence: professional success, making a lasting impact on our community, leadership and service through nonprofit and civic organizations, and modeling the highest ethical standards. I strongly endorse Cathy Lacy as a 2016 Woman of Influence.

Sincerely,

Mary B. Sellers
President
United Way of Central Iowa
2014 Woman of Influence Honoree