

Des Moines Business Record
The Depot at Fourth
100 Fourth Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

May 11, 2018

RE: Nomination of Ellen Nelson, Funding Solutions, Business Record's Women of Influence 2018

Dear Selection Committee:

Two years ago, I received my first exposure to Ellen Nelson of Funding Solutions as we embarked on a year-long partnership to raise funds in support of the Jester Park Nature Center. Ellen knows everyone, has exceptional competence as a fundraising strategist and an unrelenting can-do attitude – essential for a funding entrepreneur. An outside consulting report indicated that the best we could hope for was a \$2M target for this fundraising if we did everything right.

Thanks to Ellen, we did better than right – she has taken us past our goal and continues to work on our behalf. And this, while facing personal medical challenges. She is the consummate professional: exceptional in her skills, dedicated to community, and provides unparalleled service to her clients. At the same time, she exemplifies high integrity in her approach and ceaseless energy in nurturing the skills of others as both fundraisers and entrepreneurs.

And while I provide one example, she has been at this work with again – ongoing success – for years. Project after project throughout the metro over the years has been implemented because of Ellen's commitment to this community and the success of her leadership and the reach of her influence.

I highly recommend the Business Record honor Ellen Nelson of Funding Solutions as one of the Business Record's 2018 Women of Influence. She is quite deserving.

Sincerely,



Patricia Boddy, P.E.

