December 16, 2013

CFO of the Year Selection Committee Members
Business Publications
100 4th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Deloitte CFO of the Year Selection Committee,

It is with great enthusiasm that I offer a letter of support for the nomination of Karla Jones-Weber for the recognition of Deloitte CFO of the Year.

As former president and CEO of the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines I have had the pleasure of working with Karla and experiencing her exceptional level of professionalism, talent and commitment first-hand. During her tenure, and through her leadership, the Community Foundation has successfully grown from $30 million to over $250 million in assets under management. This tremendous growth has been possible because of Karla’s ability to build a structure for accepting both common and complex gifts, tremendous oversight of all financial aspects of the organization and her ability to identify opportunities benefiting not only the Community Foundation, but the entire community.

Many nonprofit organizations lack the financial resources to invest in highly trained and certified financial reporting staffs. Under Karla’s leadership the Community Foundation has established the Nonprofit Accounting Services program. The Nonprofit Accounting Services program provides professional accounting and administrative services. This allows organizations the opportunity to concentrate on fulfilling their mission with the support of Karla and her staff as they expertly oversee an organizations accounting and administrative needs.

Karla’s investment acumen continues to benefit both the Community Foundation and its donors through her oversight of the Community Foundation’s investment portfolios. This oversight has yielded maximized returns which maximize charitable investments, and thus opportunities for giving in our community.

Karla has also established the Charitable Investment Partners Program, allowing a donor’s professional advisor to continue investing the donor’s assets when a fund is established at the Community Foundation. Offering this opportunity breaks down barriers to effective collaboration and focuses on the achievement of community goals.

Thank you for your consideration of Karla Jones-Weber as the Deloitte CFO of the Year. Karla certainly meets and exceeds all expectations of nominees for this recognition. Her intellect, insight and expertise have made her not only a leader in her field, but an asset to the community as a whole.

Sincerely,



Barry Griswell