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**United Way** of Central Iowa



January 6, 2016

Business Record 40 Under 40 100 4<sup>th</sup> Street Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Selection Committee,

It is with pleasure that I recommend Ed Wallace for the 40 Under 40 award. Ed is a leader in workforce development in our state and has a strong passion to make lowa's business climate strong for lowa's employers and workers.

Ed was a strong leader for Iowa's employers in his role as President of the Iowa Taxpayers Association where he represented and advocated for businesses. In this role he worked tirelessly to maintain Iowa's strong Unemployment Insurance fund and created the Future of Iowa Foundation.

In his current role as Deputy Director of Iowa Workforce Development Ed leads a staff of over 900 employees and works to drive efficiencies at this crucial state department. During his 5 years in the role of Deputy Director of Iowa Workforce Development Ed has continued his passion for a strong business climate and has developed statewide public/private partnerships with over 14,000 Iowa employers. Ed has also partnered with Iowa's non-profit community, actively participating on the Central Iowa Works funding collaboration to assist with training workers for in demand jobs.

Ed Wallace would be an outstanding member of the 40 Under 40 class of 2016.

Elisabeth Buch.

Elisabeth Buck

Chief Community Impact Officer