

December 20, 2016

To the review Committee for 40 Under 40:

I am honored to introduce you to an individual who literally is the difference to a child between starving and getting a warm meal.

In 2013, the Southeast Polk School District faced a budget crisis and many cuts were made across the district. One of the cuts was the discontinuation of Central Place. It is at a time like this, when leaders are made – and Maggie Crabb stood up for those who are most in need. Almost overnight, she established the [Altoona Kids Café](#) which is for students 18 and under in Eastern Polk County. It provides 6 weeks of healthy meals, STEM programming, health and arts during the summer. To achieve this she had to find partners, donors, volunteers, a location and food. [Maggie](#) leads the communications efforts, strategy, public relations, fundraising, donor relations, operations and legal elements of this organization. She does it all, which is no easy task. Even though this program runs through the summer, it takes nearly a year to plan, prepare and brace the organization to fulfill the need of nearly 200 students each summer. But her work does not stop there.

Knowing and understanding the importance of a strong education system – while also recognizing the budget constraints – Maggie is one of the original founders of the Southeast Polk Education Foundation. She is known for being a leading force behind their fundraising efforts and launching the Black and Gold Gala. Since it's inception in 2014, she has helped raise \$131,000! She has helped forge strong bonds between the teachers and the SEP Education Foundation Board and the Donors – which creates for an extremely impactful environment for the district. Both the SEP Foundation and the Altoona Kids Café were created from scratch – and anyone who has been involved with a start-up or a brand new organization, understands the heavy lift that is required.

When she is not being the executive director of the Altoona Kid's Café or doing any number of items involving the SEP Foundation, she is volunteering. She is on a member of the Mobilize Hunger Team at Lutheran Church of the Cross, is heavily involved with Clay Elementary PTA (where her two children attend school), and is a board member for Caring Hands Outreach. Beyond a doubt Maggie works relentlessly to serve her community, those in need and make a positive impact on other's lives.

But what I love most about Maggie is how she will impact you personally. You meet her once and you never forget her. She has a beautiful soul and is giving in ways that are so genuine it motivates you to do more. Her heart breaks for those who are in need and you feel it when you talk to her. She does this because it is her passion.

Our entire metro community should know Maggie and recognize the leadership that she has brought forth and will continue to bring for years to come. She is in the business of being the change that *she* wishes to see in the world – and she is leading in it.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mayor Sara Kurovski – Pleasant Hill

40 under 40 Alumni and 2015 Emerging Woman of Influence