



Live. Give. Better Together.

Jan. 3, 2018

Des Moines Business Record  
100 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Forty Under 40 Selection Committee,

I am very pleased to nominate my Community Foundation colleague, Joe Sorenson, for the prestigious Forty Under 40 recognition. I have worked with Joe for five years in his roles at the Community Foundation. Through his commitment, excellence and professional drive, Joe has quickly worked up the ranks at the Community Foundation, most recently being promoted to vice president of affiliate relations.

Through his work, Joe provides strategic vision and leadership to a network of 31 county-wide community foundations affiliated with the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines. Joe has built strong relationships with community leaders around the state and has mentored, guided and led them as they work to promote charitable giving in their communities. Through the affiliate network, Joe facilitated more than \$22 million in charitable giving in 2017 alone, and \$5 million in community grants annually. Joe's leadership has supported asset growth of 80% the last three years.

Joe's success caught the attention of the nationally focused Council on Foundations, who invited Joe to serve as a Community Foundation Fundamentals Course Instructor, teaching those new to the field about community foundation work. This is a very distinguished position for someone who has worked in the field for only five years. In addition, Joe has completed his Chartered Advisor of Philanthropy designation, which positions him as a leader in the field of charitable giving.

Personally, Joe is committed to strengthening our community through his volunteer involvement. Joe is just the kind of young leader we want to celebrate through the Forty Under 40 award. He is strategic, driven, collaborative and a wonderful role model to those coming up behind him on our staff team. He is a passionate community volunteer, generously offering his talents to organizations such as:

- Leadership Iowa University – serves as Recruitment Committee Chair on the Board of Directors
- Young Nonprofit Professionals Network – serves as Chair of the Board of Directors
- Junior Achievement – serves as a volunteer
- YMCA of Greater Des Moines – serves as a volunteer

Joe is an extremely well respected member of our staff team. He has planted seeds throughout our state that will produce bountiful charitable giving for generations to come. Joe is also a committed husband to his wife, Molly and sweet baby girl, Lola. I am very fortunate to have Joe as a member of the Community Foundation team and as a member of our community, and it is my very distinct honor to nominate him for this distinguished award. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristi Knous  
President

#### Board of Directors

Kristi Knous  
President

Steve Lacy  
Chair

Richard L. Deming, M.D.  
Vice Chair

Cara K. Heiden  
Secretary & Treasurer

Frederick V. Buie  
Suzie Glazer Burt  
Joyce Chapman  
Franklin Codel  
Jim Cownie  
Johnny Danos  
Nora Everett  
Kathy Fehrman  
Allison Fleming  
Michael G. Gartner

J. Barry Griswell  
George Hiller  
H. Lynn Horak  
Dan Houston  
Joseph Jones  
Kyle J. Krause  
Loree Miles  
Gerry Neugent  
Sheldon Ohringer  
Jill Oman

Rosemary Parson  
Suku Radia  
Lynette Rasmussen  
Sunnie Richer  
Janis Ruan  
Mark Rupprecht  
Connie Wimer

1915 Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309  
ph. 515.883.2626  
fx. 515.309.0704

[www.desmoinesfoundation.org](http://www.desmoinesfoundation.org)



Confirmed in Compliance with  
National Standards