

January 10, 2019

Dear Selection Committee,

I am writing to support the nomination of Mark Brown for the Des Moines Forty under Forty award. Mark is truly a leader in our community and I have firsthand knowledge of the positive impact he has generated for Iowans that are less fortunate.

In addition to being a very successful businessman at Central Bank, Mark is a wonderful board member at lowa Homeless Youth Centers (IHYC), the agency that I lead here in Des Moines (www.iowahomelessyouth.org). Our vision at IHYC is to break the cycle of poverty for homeless or at-risk lowa youth. Time and again, Mark will listen to a problem or crisis our agency is facing and he will patiently help work to solve it with his community connections and business leadership skills. One example of Mark's problem solving skills was his connecting IHYC to a marketing team that is helping us document and record the construction and implementation of our Rooftop Garden program at IHYC. Without Mark's leadership we would not have been able to tell the story how we help youth in this workforce training program via a rooftop garden at our Youth Opportunity Center located at 612 Locust St. In addition, Mark has contributed a significant amount of funds to our agency in support of our programs and services.

Mark works tirelessly to develop innovative ways, and the resources necessary, to help lowa Homeless Youth Centers address the barriers homeless or at-risk youth face here in our community.

Mark is a very worthy candidate to receive the Des Moines Forty under Forty award this year. He is a valuable member of our community and helps make us stronger. If the selection committee has any follow up questions, feel free to contact me.

Regards,

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## **Our Mission**

The mission of Iowa Homeless Youth Centers is to eliminate homelessness among children, youth and young families in Central Iowa. Iowa Homeless Youth Centers is a community based organization of YSS, located in Ames, IA.



Esteemed Committee Members -

As a client, referral partner, and friend, I would appreciate your consideration of Mark Brown for this year's 40 under 40 class. Mark exhibits the model behavior in which Central Iowa strives to uncover in future and current leaders of organizations making substantive positive impacts in the community. Mark not only exhibits elite professionalism, responsiveness and banking aptitude on a day to day basis, but has made a significant investment in his philanthropic efforts with weekly volunteer and board level participation with the Boys & Girls Club and Iowa Homeless Youth Center. Mark is an exceptionally motivated individual and our community will enjoy the benefits of his leadership for years to come.

On Mark's behalf, I appreciate your consideration for this special honor.

Sincerely,

Eric M. Lohmeier President, NCP, Inc.