

Carl A Nelson Charitable Foundation 2013 Newsletter

By: Christine Robertson, VP of Finance

The Purpose of the Foundation

The Carl A. Nelson Charitable Foundation was established in 2004 to fund charitable endeavors. Since its inception, the Foundation has helped employees in times of severe financial distress due to illnesses, funded college scholarships for dependents of company employees, and has contributed to many civic projects within the primary geographic area that is served by Carl A. Nelson & Company.

The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors, currently comprised of Tim Seibert, Tim Ballard, Christine Robertson, Chris Smith, and Len Johnson. The Foundation is a tax-exempt entity and all requests for assistance must be approved by the Board.

The Board often receives questions asking about the type of situations that the Foundation can support. Due to the tax-exempt status, the Foundation can only provide relief to individuals with an extreme financial need due to illness or natural disaster. The Foundation can also provide support to assist certain other organizations in their charitable purpose.

Requesting Assistance

Requests for financial support for an individual employee must be submitted by the employee who is requesting the assistance. The employee must complete an application and provide documentation to support the financial need.

If you know of someone who has a need due to illness or natural disaster, encourage them to contact one of the Board members to request an application. Individual requests for assistance are reviewed by the Board as soon as they are submitted.

If you know of a civic project that might be worthy of our support, please provide suggestions to the Board in writing at any time during the year. The Board meets on an annual basis in September and generally reviews these requests and suggestions that have been collected throughout the year at that time.

Funding the Foundation

Contributions to the Foundation come from employees, retirees, and Carl A. Nelson & Company. All contributions are designated into one of three funds: scholarship fund, relief fund for employee assistance, and the general fund for discretionary giving. Since inception, the Foundation has received almost \$184,500 in contributions. That includes \$141,000 from Carl A. Nelson & Company, and \$43,500 from current and former employees.

All employees are encouraged to make a weekly payroll contribution to the Foundation. You can contribute as little as \$1.00 per week. When aggregated with other employees'

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contributions, all of the dollars add up quickly. The contributions allow the Foundation to carry out its function. Since the Foundation is a tax-exempt entity, all contributions are tax-deductible. A statement of your tax-deductible contributions will be provided to you after the end of the year.

A contribution form is attached to the newsletter for your convenience if you would like to start making a contribution to the Foundation, or if you would like to increase your current contribution. You may contact Renita Jarrett or Christine Robertson if you have any questions.

Contributing to Education

The Foundation also funds two scholarships for dependents of employees, the Louis H. Kuepper Memorial Scholarship and the Timothy S. Ballard Scholarship. The Board of Directors of the Foundation increased both scholarships to \$2,000 starting with the 2013-2014 school year!

The scholarships are awarded in the spring of each year to a son or daughter of a current full-time Carl A. Nelson & Company employee who is continuing their education beyond high school. Though prior recipients of the scholarships are not eligible, please keep in mind that your son or daughter may apply for the scholarships multiples times. If your student has applied for one of the scholarships in the past but was not awarded a scholarship, encourage them to apply again! Contact the office in February for an application form and the necessary requirements.

Whenever possible the scholarships are presented during the award ceremony at the recipient's high school. This year Tim Seibert was able to present one of the scholarships in person. The current year recipients are:



Dillyn Mumme (son of Corey Mumme) is the recipient of the Timothy S. Ballard Scholarship. Dillyn's goal is to obtain a degree in Aerospace Engineering. He is currently attending Iowa State University. (Tim Seibert noted that he must have selected the college based on academic ranking and not party school ranking.)

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Brandi Stewart (daughter of David Stewart) is the recipient of the Louis H. Kuepper Memorial Scholarship. Brandi's goal is to obtain a degree in nursing. She is currently attending Iowa Wesleyan College.



Past recipients include: Kaleb Moser- son of Kevin Moser, Kelly Dorothy- daughter of Colin Dorothy, Ashleigh Harris - daughter of Mike Harris, Ryan Utter – son of Greg Utter, Megan Culp – daughter of Dan Culp, Ben Jaeger – son of Don Jaeger, Alicia Dixon – daughter of Brian Dixon, Whitney Pannell – daughter of Scott Gengenbach, and Brianna Burns – daughter of Bill Miskovic.

In addition to these two scholarships, the Board of Directors has elected to provide a Merit Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to the SCC Construction Trades program. This will be called the Carl A. Nelson Scholarship and it will be for students starting their second year of the program. We are currently working with SCC to get this scholarship in place.

Giving Back to the Community

Distributions from the Foundation over the years to other organizations and civic projects have totaled approximately \$73,100. These distributions include:

- \$36,800 to the Burlington Area United Way
- \$7,800 to Junior Achievement
- \$5,000 to the Salvation Army's Capital Campaign
- \$2,500 to the Ft. Madison Library project and the Food Bank of Southern IA
- \$2,000 to Hope Haven and Young House Family Services
- \$1,700 to the Boy Scouts of America's Mississippi Valley Council
- \$1,500 to the Keokuk YMCA
- \$1,300 to Great River Hospice
- \$1,200 to the Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois

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The Foundation has contributed to many other organizations over the years as well.

This year contributions are being made to the following organizations: The Burlington Area United Way, Young House Family Services, Junior Achievement, Hope Haven, Boy Scouts of America's Mississippi Valley Council, Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, Great River Hospice, Salvation Army Food Bank, Big Brothers Big Sisters in Muscatine, YMCA- Camp McBride, and the Fort Madison Lincoln Elementary Playground Project.

Supporting our Employees

Providing this support for employees in times of need was the motivation for the formation of the Foundation. The Foundation has also provided over \$37,000 to current and former employees who have fallen on hard times due to an illness. The foundation uses these funds for the payment of health insurance premiums and other expenses deemed appropriate by the Board.

Thank You!

On behalf of the community organizations and your fellow employees, the Foundation's Board of Directors would like to thank the 43 employees who have contributed to the Foundation over the past year!

Your contributions make a difference!