

FY 2024 Year in Review



As Chair of CEONet, I am pleased to offer this report to my colleagues in the field. While there are several membership organizations available to community foundations, I have found CEONet to be the sole resource that focuses on the unique needs of community foundation leaders.

As detailed in this report, we are developing the member services that our colleagues desire. We continued to improve the quality and depth of the Annual Retreat, our signature in-person event. The Retreat was held at the San Diego Foundation, an ideal space for candid conversation and sharing of ideas. We provided educational webinars on a range of topics that were of interest to the field. To complement our research project, Succession Planning, we posted sample documents for members to use in their own planning. To provide our members with key resources, our new website contains a members-only resource page. We established an inaugural peer cohort program. This work and progress will continue in FY2025, especially around networking.

We are rebuilding the network of Community Foundation leaders and I think it is imperative that we continue to support it with our membership. I have found the camaraderie among other community foundation leaders to be both exhilarating and regenerative. I needed it and I have made more connections than I could have imagined through my membership. No matter the issue, I can find a peer with a resource through CEONet; and that is worth its weight in gold.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and our Executive Director Diane Miller, thank you. We are grateful you've joined this network of peers, leading in communities across the United States and Canada. And we are committed to bringing you quality programming and meaningful connection.

Sincerely,

President, Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines
Board Chair, CEONet

Strategic Priorities



Act/Lead

Bringing community foundation leaders together, providing the tools and training they need to leverage their influence and unique role to be a bridging force in their communities.



Connect/Share/Learn

Provides opportunities for community foundation (CF) Leaders to connect with and support one another; share best practices, experiences, and resources; and learn together from issue/content experts.



Provide Infrastructure

Establishes what CEONet needs to operate effectively and become sustainable.

Leadership

Kristi Knous
CEONet Board
Chair President

Molly Kunkel
CEONet Board
Vice Chair

Melissa DeLaet
CEONet Board
Secretary/Treasurer

Stephen Adams
Board Member

**Audrey Abbott
Patterson**
Board Member

**Jennifer O'Flannery
Anderson**
Board Member

Dan Templin
Board Member

Simeon Banister
Board Member

Keith Burwell
Board Member

Maeghan Jones
Board Member

Steve Joul
CEONet Advisor

Diane Miller
Executive Director

“CEONet keeps me connected with my colleagues, provides resources, thought leadership and learning specific to our field, and quite frankly, CEONet gatherings are not only meaningful, they are fun!”

- Nancy Van Milligen, President & CEO
Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque



Year Highlights



116 Members

28% increase over the prior year



Members Represent 39 U.S. States + Canada



Annual Retreat in San Diego

Attendance increased 28% for a standalone event



7 Educational Webinars & Roundtables

>350 attendees, a 30% increase over the prior year



Peer Cohort Program

Inaugural program with 7 participants meeting over a year with a facilitator



New Website

Improved functionality and members only page



Communications

Open rates for members is 67%, field-wide is 37%