The Amy Helpenstell Foundation Fund, a fund of the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend, carries out the legacy of Amy Helpenstell. A committee of Amy’s friends, family, and community members award grants to causes that Amy cared deeply about, and make the Quad Cities the great place it is today.

Our committee of volunteers are guided by three priorities when awarding grants:

1. The organization meets identified community needs in one of our five focus areas: arts and culture, community development, education, health, and youth development. Grantees may do this in a way that is unique, or that makes grants advantageous because they have fewer opportunities for funding.

2. The organization creates an excellent return on investment by effectively achieving its goal in direct relation to the dollars used. This may mean that the organization leverages other funds alongside a grant from The Amy Helpenstell Foundation Fund, that funds are used to the best advantage with respect to the number of people served, or that the organization demonstrates success through outcomes determined by the organization itself.

3. The grant contributes strongly to the organization’s overall success. Grants should be an important part of the organization’s resources—that the program may not exist without funds, or succeed because of the scale of the organization’s overall budget or restricted sources of funding.

“One of my greatest joys is working alongside our committee and the Community Foundation to live out Amy’s legacy, and in doing so, make our community a better place.”

–Karen Evers, Chair

2016 ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Franz “Bud” Helpenstell, Past Chair
Eric Helpenstell
Bonnie Helpenstell
Denise Kimler

Karen Evers, Chair
Mark Evers
Heidi Huiskamp Collins
Stephanie Acri
Mark Schwiebert

2016 GRANTEES
> Aldridge Early Learning Center—$1,000
> Augustana College—$10,000
> Bethany for Children & Families—$10,000
> Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Mississippi Valley—$15,000
> Black Hawk College Adult Education Program—$15,000
> Black Hawk College Foundation—$4,500
> Boys and Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Valley—$15,000
> Child Abuse Council—$12,000
> Children’s Therapy Center of the Quad Cities—$15,000
> Christian Care—$15,000
> Churches United of the QC—$15,000
> Family Resources—$10,000
> Genesius Guild Theatre Foundation—$4,000
> Gilda’s Club Quad Cities—$8,000
> Habitat for Humanity Quad Cities—$7,500
> Hand In Hand—$6,000
> Henry County Youth Services Bureau—$10,000
> Humility of Mary Housing—$18,000
> Humility of Mary Shelter—$15,000
> Martin Luther King Jr. Center: Youth Programs—$20,000
> Martin Luther King Jr. Center: Metropolitan Youth Program—$15,000
> Nahant Marsh Education Center—$10,000
> New Kingdom Trailriders—$5,000
> Project Renewal—$14,000
> Quad City Arts—$7,500
> Quad City Botanical Center—$8,000
> QC Close2Close—$1,500
> Quad City Symphony Orchestra—$7,500
> Rebuilding Together Quad Cities—$20,000
> River Bend Foodbank—$15,000
> Robert Young Center: Amy’s Gift—$47,000
> Rock Island County Extension & 4-H Education Foundation—$2,500
> School Health LINK—$15,000
> Spring Forward Learning Center—$12,000
> St. Joseph the Worker House—$10,000
> Supplemental Emergency Assistance Program—$10,000
> The Center for Youth and Family Solutions—$5,000
> Thomas Merton House: Café on Vine—$10,000
> Transitions Mental Health Services—$5,000
> Two Rivers YMCA—$10,000
> Vera French Foundation: Rick’s House of Hope—$10,000
> WVIK Quad Cities NPR—$10,000
> Youth Service Bureau of Rock Island County—$15,000
> YWCA of the QC: Preschool & Child Care—$15,000
> YWCA of the QC: The Place2B—$15,000

Learn more online at www.amyhelpenstell.org
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ANNUAL REPORT 2016
The Amy Helpenstell Foundation Fund
a fund of The Community Foundation of the Great River Bend

$581,450
TOTAL DOLLARS
AWARDED IN 2016

$6,000,000
AWARDED SINCE 2005

5 AREAS OF FOCUS
Arts & Culture
Community Development
Education
Health
Youth Development

2016 Grantee Habitat for Humanity Quad Cities empowers homeowners to shape a better tomorrow for themselves and their families, this year’s grant supports the home building program.

2016 Grantee Child Abuse Council provides children and families with resources essential to heal after violence or trauma, as well as access to skilled professionals to help prevent recurrent abuse or neglect.

2016 Grantee QC Closet2Closet’s care packaging project provides trendy, age-appropriate clothing, shoes, accessories, and hygiene items to preteens and teens in foster care or who are homeless. Up to 700 kids are provided clothing annually.

2016 Grantee Black Hawk College Adult Education Program provides high-quality English language instruction to the refugee and immigrant community in the Quad Cities.

2016 Grantee Genesius Guild Theatre Foundation will hire interns to work with theater students, teaching “soft skills” critical to later career success.