HEARTLAND FAMILY SERVICE
Good works.

Media Release

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Iowa West Foundation Grants $275,000 to Iowa Family Works

August 6, 2013 --- The Iowa West Foundation has awarded its third grant to the Iowa Family Works program of Heartland Family Service. On Thursday, August 8, 2013, representatives from the Iowa West Foundation will join the staff and families of Iowa Family Works to recognize the Foundation's generous grant. The event will begin at 2:30 p.m. at Heartland Family Service on the Iowa Family Works campus at 1722 Avenue C in Council Bluffs.

Family Works is a residential substance abuse treatment program for pregnant women and mothers with children. The Foundation's $275,000 grant will support services of the program in Iowa. Heartland Family Service has an additional Family Works program in Nebraska, as well.

Previously, Iowa West made a $13,000 grant to help fund a 12-passenger van for families at Iowa Family Works, and a $284,000 grant in 2011 for Family Works' programing. The van is essential so family members may attend healthcare appointments, connect with community resources, and participate in local family events and activities. The grant funds will be used for family activities, therapeutic play for kids, diapers, program supplies and staffing and training operations.

"This donation is important because in addition to treatment, it allows the mothers to receive parenting skills training and family therapy to help Mom create a safe and more protective, loving environment with her children," said Shannon Mahnke, Iowa Family Works director. "These skills increase the success of the family by supporting healthy relationships and lifestyle change. It helps the mothers focus on the care and well-being of their children as well as their ability to maintain sobriety."

About Family Works
Family Works is an innovative, long-term residential substance abuse treatment program for women with children, one of only two such facilities in the Southwest Iowa/Omaha region—both programs of Heartland Family Service. This unique arrangement keeps families intact while giving mothers the intensive, professional support they need to get clean and stay sober. The mother/child focus is effective because children of substance-using parents are at increased risk for maltreatment, and also because the stress from child rearing can often contribute to relapse. Our dual-diagnosis program provides individual, group and family counseling. Therapeutic and educational interventions develop parenting skills, strengthen the mother-child bond, and improve social and family functioning. In addition, other skills groups encompass nutrition, healthcare, financial advice and assistance finding employment and other social services. Learn more about Family Works.

About Iowa West Foundation:

The mission of the Iowa West Foundation is to improve lives and strengthen communities for current and future generations. This is done by providing leadership, creating partnerships, leveraging resources and serving as a catalyst in identifying and meeting community needs. The Iowa West Foundation is funded by investment income and through the Iowa West Racing Association (IWRA), which receives contracted fees paid by local casino operators — Ameristar and Harrah's. The Foundation began its grant program in 1996, which awards funds for various community projects of governmental entities or nonprofit organizations. The Iowa West Foundation has awarded more than $300 million in grants to charities and communities throughout southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska, enhancing the lives of thousands of area citizens. More information about Iowa West Foundation is available at www.iowawestfoundation.org

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