The Iowa Great Places Program was created to showcase the unique and authentic qualities of communities, regions, neighborhoods, and districts in Iowa. The Program was established in 2005 Iowa Acts, chapter 150 (Grow Iowa Values Fund Act), and has provided $19.9 million in grants to 56 communities since FY 2006. Nonprofit organizations and communities can apply to the Iowa Great Places Advisory Board for approval as an Iowa Great Place. Communities that are designated as an Iowa Great Place receive the designation for three years and are eligible for technical assistance and grants for vertical infrastructure.

FY 2019 Grants Awarded

Total Amount Awarded by Place — FY 2006-2019

Since FY 2012 this Program has received annual appropriations from two sources totaling $1.5 million:

- Funding provided by the General Fund (GF) supports administration of the Program, including salaries.
- Funding from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF) supports grants made to communities. These grants are intended to support vertical infrastructure.

Click here to view an interactive map with more information on current and past Iowa Great Places grants. Click here to view the Iowa Great Places website.

Sources: Department of Cultural Affairs, I/3 Data Warehouse, LSA calculations
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