

# Keep our community running

*Kristi Knous, from the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, is passionate about her job and the opportunities she has. Hear what she and her team are doing to make Des Moines a better place.*

My favorite way to pass the time on summer mornings is to go for a run, and my favorite place to do that is in Des Moines. I love to run around Gray's Lake, take the Meredith Trail and run past Principal Park.

The other day I passed the Kiwanis Miracle League Field. The Miracle League allows children who have disabilities to play baseball on a safe, rubberized field, which was funded by the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines. Children with disabilities in Iowa had very little opportunity to play organized sports before Miracle League, and it is wonderful for them to have the opportunity to play baseball for the first time.

The Community Foundation nominated the Des Moines Kiwanis for the Organization of Character Award in 2008 for starting the Miracle League and they won the award for their superb work. The Miracle League project brought other nonprofit organizations and donors together. The aligned resources made the project take shape more quickly and it was fun to see how working together made a huge impact. We really are better together!

The Community Foundation provides funding to improve the quality of life in Greater Des Moines. Being a good example of character and working to better our community are important to the Community Foundation. Community organizations like the Des Moines Kiwanis exemplify what the Community Foundation loves to see—hard work and commitment to help make our community even better.

I encourage you to make our community better by donating your time, treasure and talent to our community's nonprofit organizations. Join us in building a better community by keeping these important organizations running!