# Cedar County Democrats

# 2026 Platform

Approved by the
Cedar County Democratic Convention

Tipton, Iowa
2026

## Statement of Values and Principles

Cedar County Democrats support and defend democracy for all people. We believe the role of government is to assure the “unalienable rights of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness” as described in both the U.S. and Iowa Constitutions.

To ensure those rights, we support affordable childcare and robust public education, access to affordable health care, adequate and affordable housing, and nutrition among other basic human needs with equal access and inclusion for all.

# Platform Resolutions

## Resolution 1: Pro-Family Policies

***Whereas**: Investments in quality childcare and education yield long-term benefits to our economy and society, keeping us competitive in the world and making our rural communities an attractive place to live.*

**Therefore, we support:**

1. Subsidized childcare for working families.
2. Universal, free public Pre-K through 2-yr Community College.
3. Public school funding is adequate to retain and attract high quality teachers, support staff, and expand the arts.
4. Maintaining necessary infrastructure.
5. Zero-interest loans for in-state public college students.
6. Local control of public Pre-K through 12 education that meets or exceeds state standards.
7. No public funds for private schools.

## Resolution 2: A Clean, Safe Natural Environment

***Whereas**: Changes in our environment directly affect the basic human right to life, the homes we live in, and our economic and military security.*

**Therefore, we support:**

1. Reduced dependence on fossil fuels.
2. Promotion of renewable energy.
3. Tax incentives to reduce pollution of our water, air, and land.
4. Replanting of trees and replenishment of the wetlands.
5. Comprehensive enforcement of all laws pertaining to environmental pollution, and implementation of legislation eliminating the use of forever chemicals and enforcement of significant penalties for violations.

## Resolution 3: Accessible, Affordable Health Care

***Whereas**: Affordable health care and pharmaceuticals are basic human rights to maintain a healthy society and productive workforce, and as Iowa's rural areas have insufficient access to these along with other health care services.*

**Therefore, we support:**

1. Restoring access to healthcare and women's reproductive freedom.
2. Caps on out-of-pocket costs for all health care and life sustaining medications.

3. Access to Affordable Care Act for all.
4. Tax incentives for businesses that encourage and support certified wellness programs.
5. Public support for child and adult mental health services, addiction services, dental health treatment and medical care.
6. Universal healthcare for all Iowans.
7. Recruit, support, and retain well trained health care professionals to ensure adequate staffing of care teams in inpatient and outpatient shortage areas across the state.

## Resolution 4: Improved Human Services

***Whereas**: Affordable housing, health services, and childcare are necessary to maintain vibrant rural communities and retain local businesses.*

**Therefore, we support:**

1. Increased supply of quality affordable rental and owner-occupied housing in our rural communities.
2. Increased funding for Public Health Departments.
3. Increased financial support for childcare with living wages paid to childcare workers while ensuring the quality and accountability of providers.

## Resolution 5: Vibrant Government and Democracy

***Whereas**: Ensuring public safety, securing voting rights, and eliminating corruption are essential to holding the government accountable.*

**Therefore, we support:**

1. The adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment.
2. Adequate, equitable and necessary funding for all essential public services, while holding public servants accountable for their actions.
3. Open, free and abundant access to voting and elections for all U.S. citizens.
4. Full disclosure of all campaign contributions.
5. Overturning Citizens United.
6. Conviction of a felony would disqualify anyone from holding public office.
7. Strict regulation of Artificial Intelligence and Social Media.

## Resolution 6: Responsible Family-Scale Agriculture

***Whereas**: The survival of our rural culture, our small towns and businesses depend on the economic success of our local farmers.*

**Therefore, we support:**

1. The break-up of corporate ag monopolies.
2. Incentivizing diversified crop production, including perennials along rivers.
3. Incentivizing farmers to protect soil and water and reduce the use of fossil fuels and synthetic chemicals.
4. Local farms that support local businesses, keeping resources in our community.
5. Banning foreign ownership of farmland.

## Resolution 7: Fair Labor and Immigration

***Whereas**: Wages for many Americans fall short of providing a decent standard of living, let alone moving them out of poverty.*

**Therefore, we support:**

1. Expedited and human processing of immigrants to assure an adequate legal labor force.
2. A living wage and automatic annual increases for all workers.
3. Good wages and benefits as the result of workers' rights to organize and collectively bargain for health, safety, and fair wages without fear of intimidation or termination.
4. Safe workplaces ensured by a well-funded, well-trained federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

## Resolution 8: Respect for Veterans and Military

***Whereas**: Our veterans and active military sacrifice their lives to protect and defend our democracy, our security, and our lives.*

**Therefore, we support:**

1. Improved mental health care for veterans.
2. Follow-up services upon discharge to assure veterans receive the health care, education, job training and other benefits they earned.
3. Respect for active military and veterans by all Americans.

## Resolution 9: Humane International Affairs

***Whereas**: Violations of basic human rights and crimes against humanity continue unabated.*

**Therefore, we support:**

1. Cancellation of all weapons sales to countries that violate human rights, and we oppose aggression against independent democracies.
2. Prosecution of all war crimes.
3. U.S. leadership in building a stronger NATO.
4. Continued support of Ukraine.

5. A United Nations initiative to impose a two state solution on the Israelis and Palestinians and securing of both.

## Resolution 10: Civil Rights and Equal Protection

***Whereas:*** *Democracy requires equal protection under the law and freedom from discrimination for every person.*

**Therefore, we support:**

1. Full legal protections for LGBTQ+ Iowans in employment, housing, education, and public accommodations.
2. Protection against racial, religious, age, gender and disability-based discriminations.
3. Equal opportunity policies in public institutions.
4. Protection of intellectual freedom in schools and libraries, free from political censorship and book bans.

## Resolution 11: Rural Infrastructure and Economic Development

***Whereas:*** *Strong infrastructure and modern connectivity are essential for vibrant rural communities and economic opportunity.*

**Therefore, we support:**

1. Universal access to affordable high speed rural broadband.
2. Investment in roads, bridges, and water systems in Cedar County and across Iowa.
3. Promoting awareness of lead service lines and supporting their removal to ensure safe, clean drinking water for all communities.
4. Support for locally owned small businesses and downtown revitalization initiatives.

# Closing Statement

We believe Cedar County thrives when every family has opportunity, every worker is valued, every child is educated, every vote counts, and every person is treated with dignity and respect. We commit ourselves to policies that strengthen rural communities, expand opportunities, and defend democracy for future generations.