

15H.8 RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps program

FY2019 Annual Report to the General Assembly and the Department of Human Services

The purpose of the RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps program is to provide RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps members with training and support to increase community integration and engagement for diverse refugee communities. Awarded on a competitive basis, RefugeeRISE grants will give support to AmeriCorps programs in Iowa utilizing AmeriCorps funds awarded by the commission, other funds received in the community programs account established pursuant to Iowa Code section 15H.5, or both.

In FY2019, one RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps program was awarded state funding:

Program Sponsor	Program Name	RefugeeRISE State Funding Awarded	Total MSYs Awarded (similar to FTE)
EMBARC	RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps	\$200,000	33.5

The program has reported the following midyear results for the 2018-2019 program year (which will end on 10/31/2019).

Description	Performance Measure- Output	Results	Performance Measure- Outcome	Results
Members will provide direct job training and other skill development services to economically disadvantaged individuals in rural and urban Iowa. Members will also recruit volunteers in the communities where they are serving to assist in providing those services. The goal of 400 individuals (unduplicated count) will be provided services during the grant year. Each beneficiary will participate for a minimum of four hours to be counted. Individuals served will count as economically disadvantaged by receiving or being eligible for TANF, Food Stamps (SNAP), Medicaid, SCHIP, or section 8 or have a poor credit score or are at least 60 days behind on one or more personal/family accounts. Many of the refugees resettled to the U.S. have spent years in rudimentary refugee camps with limited access to education and health	Number of economically disadvantaged individuals receiving job training or other skill development services (minimum of 4 hours per person)	189	Number of individuals served who report improved knowledge as a result of training	166

care, have no understanding of how the health care system in the US works, and speak little to no English.				
Ten AmeriCorps members will work with refugees in the communities they are serving to provide information on wellness, patient rights and responsibilities, levels of care, nutrition, health care insurance, access and benefits. Members will provide transportation to those individuals who are without. AmeriCorps members will also recruit volunteers to assist with this performance measure. Each beneficiary will participate for a minimum four hours in order to be counted in this measure.	Number of clients receiving information on health insurance, access and benefits (minimum of 4 hours per person)	24	Number of individuals served who report an increased understanding of health care topics provided	24

The program had the following final accomplishments for the 2017-2018 AmeriCorps program year:

Description	Performance Measure- Output	Results	Performance Measure- Outcome	Results
Twenty-nine RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps members will provide direct job training and other skill development services to economically disadvantaged individuals in rural and urban Iowa. Members will also recruit volunteers in the communities where they are serving to assist in providing those services.	Number of economically disadvantaged individuals receiving job training or other skill development services (minimum of 4 hours per person)	474	Number of individuals served who report improved knowledge as a result of training	359
Ten AmeriCorps members will work with refugees in the communities they are serving to provide information on wellness, patient rights and responsibilities, levels of care, nutrition, health care insurance, access and benefits. Members will provide transportation to those individuals who are without. AmeriCorps members will also recruit volunteers to assist with this performance measure.	Number of clients receiving information on health insurance, access and benefits (minimum of 4 hours per person)	95	Number of individuals served who report an increased understanding of health care topics provided	95