



Volunteer Iowa (Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service)

Quarterly Report:

April 1 – June 30, 2021

- **AmeriCorps:**

Volunteer Iowa has awarded federal and state AmeriCorps funding that will leverage private and local funding for a total of \$12.2 million in support of over 700 AmeriCorps State members. These AmeriCorps members will be eligible to earn over \$2.6 million worth of Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards for the AmeriCorps members funded by these grants. After completing a full term of service, AmeriCorps members receive an award of approximately \$6,300 that they can use to pay for college or to pay off student loans.

With these awards, Iowa will now have over 1,500 AmeriCorps members serving, and over 7,400 National Service positions. AmeriCorps State grants provide funding to local organizations to support AmeriCorps members meeting critical community needs in the areas of education, disaster services, health, environmental stewardship, and economic opportunity.

In addition to the program grants listed below, Volunteer Iowa also approved the award of planning grant funding to four organizations to plan for future AmeriCorps operations. Several programs were also approved to request additional federal funding for the upcoming program year as it becomes available through the rollout of the American Rescue Plan Act, which will provide an additional \$1 billion for AmeriCorps over the next several years. This investment will be used to expand national service programs into new communities and increase the opportunity for all Americans to serve their country.

Volunteer Iowa announced the following AmeriCorps State grants:

Grantee Organization	Program Name	Total Grant Award
Bur Oak Land Trust	Bur Oak Land Trust AmeriCorps	\$335,397

City of Davenport	City of Davenport AmeriCorps & Youth Corps Program	\$997,604
City of Dubuque	AmeriCorps Partners in Learning	\$428,161
City of Dubuque	City of Dubuque Creating Opportunities AmeriCorps Program	\$194,950
College Possible	College Possible Iowa AmeriCorps	\$52,000
Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa	Conservation Corps Iowa AmeriCorps	\$278,622
Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center (EMBARC)	RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps	\$1,138,514
Graceland University AmeriCorps Youth Launch	AmeriCorps Youth Launch	\$414,634
Habitat for Humanity of Iowa, Inc.	Habitat for Humanity of Iowa AmeriCorps	\$773,794
Iowa Children's Museum	Summer Ladder AmeriCorps Program	\$40,417
Iowa College Student Aid Commission	Course to College - College Access AmeriCorps	\$354,908
Iowa Legal Aid	Iowa Legal Aid AmeriCorps	\$351,101
Iowa State University	AmeriCorps Partnering to Protect Children	\$324,309
Iowa State University	Iowa AmeriCorps 4-H Outreach Program	\$1,467,503

Iowa Western Community College	Campus Compact AmeriCorps Program	\$985,976
Mercy ACO, LLC dba MercyOne Population Health Services Organization (PHSO)	AmeriCorps Community Health Worker Program	\$160,000
United Ways of Iowa	Iowa Reading Corps AmeriCorps Program	\$1,485,841
University of Northern Iowa	Green Iowa AmeriCorps	\$2,279,499
Zach Johnson Foundation	Kids on Course AmeriCorps	\$405,293

- **Commission Business**

- Outgoing Commissioners: Volunteer Iowa held its commission meeting virtually on Tuesday, May 19. During the meeting, the commission bid farewell to two commissioners whose terms have expired. Cyndi Hanson and Mayra Lopez made tremendous contributions to the commission during their terms of service, and they will be greatly missed. Leah Rodenberg stepped down as chair of the commission but will continue to serve out her final term, ending June 2022. Cherian Koshy was elected as chair of the commission and Angela Jiskoot was elected vice chair. They both begin their leadership positions on July 1, 2021.

- **Iowa Mentoring Partnership (IMP):**

- Training was provided to two cohorts of youth and their workplace supervisors to engage in a mentoring relationship enhancing their job experience.
- Two programs completed their National Quality Mentoring Assessment and were granted certification.
- Two new programs were developed for launch in the fall.
- **Future Ready Iowa Mentoring:** The first biannual newsletter for Future Ready Iowa Virtual Career Mentoring was released to mentors, partners, and stakeholders in May. In June, Connect, Focus, Grow (CFG) training was delivered to mentors and partners engaged in the mentoring program throughout the state. The number of virtual mentors enrolled increased to 64. The number of students enrolled with career virtual mentoring increased to 98 from 15 different colleges. In total, 3,114 students at 17 different colleges have been reached through either text or virtual mentoring by 64 Career Mentors and 8 AmeriCorps College Success Coaches via the Future Ready Iowa Volunteer Mentor Program for FY21.

CAREER MENTORING

- 1398 Activities
- 749 Messages Exchanged

- 269 Virtual Meetings
- 285 Tasks Completed

COLLEGE SUCCESS COACH PROGRAM

- College Success Coach Distribution
 - 6 Current Participating Campuses (including virtual coach at Iowa College Aid)
 - 6 Campus Positions filled: DMACC (3 campuses), SWCC, IHCC, Kirkwood
 - 8 current members serving as coaches
 - 2,159 term 3 or term 4 students with on-campus coaches, spring term 20-21
 - Virtual College Coach Program (texting):
 - 3,114 students receiving messages (including non-Last Dollar Scholar college students)
 - 49,468 total messages sent
 - 5,593 messages received from students
 - 32.3-69.4% engagement rate range
- **Recognition**
 - ***Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame and Excellence in Mentoring Awards:*** The Volunteer Iowa Award Ceremony was postponed in 2020 and was rescheduled for September 7, 2021. The 2021 ceremony will recognize 5 Hall of Fame inductees and 2 EMA inductees for 2020, as well as 5 inductees for 2021.
 - ***Give Back Iowa Challenge:*** The 2021 Give Back Iowa Challenge had 24 employers registered to participate in the challenge. The winners and runners up of the challenge are:
 - **Small business: United Way of East Central Iowa, Cedar Rapids**
Honorable Mention: Reiman Gardens, Ames
 - **Large business: Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, Riverside**
Honorable Mention: Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Des Moines
 - ***Governor's Volunteer Awards 2021 Virtual Ceremony:*** The 2021 GVA Virtual Ceremony was held on July 14th, featuring remarks from the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Commissioners, and regional leaders. The ceremony honored 798 groups and individuals for service in 2020 and 2021 and highlighted the 6 regions that traditionally hold their own events and presented the awardees for each region in one virtual session. Viewers also had the option of viewing and downloading videos for their specific region. All ceremony videos are publicly available on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/VolunteerIowa>. Additionally, awardees submitted over 150 photos for the ceremony slideshow, which are available on our Flickr page: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/volunteeriowa/albums/72157719552669337>.
 - **RSVP:**

Volunteer Iowa approved awards for 37 RSVP Grants in June, double the number of grants awarded last year. The 19 new grants provide a major geographic expansion of services of RSVP in Iowa, expanding the number of counties served by RSVP from 48 to 67.

Organization	Project Name	State Amount W/\$139.7k	Federal Amount
Boone County Hospital	RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program of Boone and Greene Counties	\$ 15,978	\$ 50,000.00
Boone County Hospital	RSVP 55+ Volunteer Program of Guthrie County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Carroll County Board	RSVP Carroll County (Carroll, Crawford, Calhoun)	\$ 14,705	\$ 127,500.00
Clinton County	RSVP of Clinton County	\$ 7,353	\$ 50,000.00
Connections Area Agency on Aging	Mills and Pottawattamie County RSVP	\$ 14,227	\$ 52,500.00
Decorah Public Library	Northeast Iowa RSVP (Allamakee, Howard, Winneshiek)	\$ 19,304	\$ 52,500.00
Graceland University	Southern Iowa RSVP (Clarke, Decatur, Ringgold, Union)	\$ 15,381	\$ 131,529.00
HIRTA Public Transit	HIRTA RSVP Madison	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
HIRTA Public Transit	HIRTA RSVP Marion	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Cass County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Harrison County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Iowa County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Keokuk County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Mahaska County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00

Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Monona County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Montgomery County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Poweshiek County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Shelby County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Woodbury County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Fremont County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Department on Aging	Iowa Department on Aging RSVP Louisa County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
Iowa Lakes Community College	Northwest Iowa RSVP (Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Kossuth, Palo Alto)	\$ 20,607	\$ 92,908.00
Jasper County Agricultural Extension District	Newton/Jasper RSVP	\$ 7,353	\$ 52,500.00
North Iowa Area Community College	RSVP of North Central Iowa (Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Worth, Mitchell, Hancock, Winnebago)	\$ 14,705	\$ 141,647.00
Story City Senior Citizens, Inc.	Central Iowa RSVP - Story, Marshall, Hamilton, & Webster Co.	\$ 38,305	\$ 172,498.00
The Fellowship Cup	RSVP Henry County	\$ 15,802	\$ 47,500.00
The Finley Hospital	RSVP Dubuque County	\$ 7,353	\$ 59,125.00
United Way of Wapello County	RSVP of Monroe, Jefferson and Wapello Counties	\$ 14,705	\$ 78,479.00

United Way of Central Iowa	United Way of Central Iowa RSVP (Polk, Dallas, Warren)	\$ 7,353	\$ 89,323.00
United Way of East Central Iowa	United Way 55+ Initiative (Linn, Jones)	\$ 7,353	\$ 52,500.00
United Way of East Central Iowa	UWECI - Cedar Co. 55+ Initiative	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
United Way of East Central Iowa	UWECI - Benton Co. 55+ Initiative	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
United Way of Johnson & Washington Counties	Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (Johnson, Muscatine, Des Moines and Iowa)	\$ 43,813	\$ 71,281.00
United Way of Johnson & Washington Counties	Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (Washington)	\$ 7,353	\$ 23,558.00
United Way of the Great River Region (formerly Ft. Madison Area United Way)	RSVP of Lee County/ United Way of Great River Region	\$ 7,353	\$ 50,000.00
Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley	Engaging People to Build a Stronger Community (BlackHawk, Fayette)	\$ 7,353	\$ 104,585.00
Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley	RSVP of Buchanan County	\$ 7,353	\$ 75,000.00
		\$418,698	\$ 2,849,933

- **Service Enterprise**

Blank Park Zoo in Des Moines received Service Enterprise Certification, while a number of other organizations continue to work towards certification and recertification.

- **Volunteer Generation Fund**

- A grant from Youth Service America was again received for a partnership between Volunteer Iowa, the Department for Human Rights, and the Iowa Afterschool Alliance to provide training and resources to support youth service and service learning. An AmeriCorps VISTA member has been recruited to help lead the project and will begin service in August.

- A grant from America's Service Commissions and the Mott Foundation has been received to support the growth of youth service and volunteering in Iowa.