

15H.8 RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps program

FY2026 Annual Report to the General Assembly and the Iowa Department of Health & 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 FY2026, one RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps program was awarded state funding:

Program Sponsor	Program Name	RefugeeRISE State Funding Awarded	Federal Funding Awarded	Total MSYs Awarded (similar to FTE)	Total AmeriCorps Members Awarded
Refugee & Immigrant Voices in Action (RIVA)	RIVA AmeriCorps	\$200,000	\$742,423	30	39

The program had the following performance measure results:

Program Year	Description	Performance Measure-Output	Result	Performance Measure-Outcome	Result
2025-2026 Mid-Year Results (Sept. 2025 – April 2026)	Members will be supporting clients who participate in one of the following adult education/job readiness programs: ESL, Digital Literacy, Citizenship, Financial Literacy, Job Training, or Youth Career Awareness/Life Skills. Members will provide targeted, linguistically and culturally appropriate services to beneficiaries by providing: 1) outreach to increase awareness of resources and participation in programs (monthly); 2) assessments regarding basic needs and self-sufficiency/employability skills (per beneficiary); 3) Instructional support (at least four hours during course cycles); 4) feedback on curriculum and training (quarterly); 5) wrap around and essential need services and referrals (to at least 4 beneficiaries); 6) mentorship and tutoring (to at least 6 beneficiaries)	Number of individuals served	245	Number of individuals with improved job readiness	211

2024-2025 Final Results	Members will be supporting clients who participate in one of the following adult education/job readiness programs: ESL, Digital Literacy, Citizenship, Financial Literacy, Job Training, or Youth Career Awareness/Life Skills. Members will provide targeted, linguistically and culturally appropriate services to beneficiaries by providing: 1) outreach to increase awareness of resources and participation in programs (monthly); 2) assessments regarding basic needs and self-sufficiency/employability skills (per beneficiary); 3) Instructional support (at least four hours during course cycles); 4) feedback on curriculum and training (quarterly); 5) wrap around and essential need services and referrals (to at least 4 beneficiaries); 6) mentorship and tutoring (to at least 6 beneficiaries)	Number of individuals served	847	Number of individuals with improved job readiness	723
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