

Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service (ICVS / Volunteer Iowa)
Quarterly Report:
July 1 – Sept. 30, 2015

- **ICVS Commissioner appointments:**
 - The following individuals were appointed by Governor Branstad to three-year terms that began on July 1:
 - Jordan DeGree, Dubuque (re-appointment, second term)
 - Dr. Ashley Farmer-Hanson (re-appointment, second term)
 - Khayree Fitten, Mt. Pleasant
 - Dr. Cynthia Hanson, Sioux City
 - Dr. Nathan Klein, Cedar Rapids
 - Tiffany Tauscheck, Des Moines
 - Shan Sievert was selected by Ryan Wise as the Iowa Department of Education's representative on the commission.

- **AmeriCorps**
 - Webinar was held Sept. 2 to highlight the results of the Seeing Impact Project (SIP) AmeriCorps program evaluation process made possible through federal funding.
 - Request for Applications (RFA) for AmeriCorps State program year 2016-2017 was released.

- **Call to Service / What's Your 50?:**
 - Several Iowans were recognized this quarter for completing a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer service during the past 12 months: What's Your 50? blog posts recognized these Iowa individuals and groups (available at <http://www.volunteeriowa.org/About-Us/Blog/Term/19/What-s-Your-50>):
 - SHIIP (Senior Health Insurance Information Program) volunteers, Cedar Rapids
 - Rebecca Nelson, Audubon
 - James Clevenger, Johnston
 - Jack Potter, Waverly
 - Van Meter, Inc., Cedar Rapids

- **9/11 Day of Service:** ICVS, in partnership with the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown and others, hosted an event on Sept. 12 featuring Mark Lindquist. A former AmeriCorps member and a former Sergeant in the United States Air Force, Mark is a nationally recognized motivational speaker, world-touring entertainer and author of the book, "Passion! 8 Steps to Find Yours." Nearly 60 individuals participated.

- **Iowa Mentoring Partnership (IMP):**
 - Coaches Mentoring Challenge launched on Aug. 1 and runs through Nov. 30. This challenge is a friendly competition among coaches and between states with a shared goal to connect more caring adults and young people through quality mentoring relationships. For the past seven years, college coaches at an increasing number of institutions have challenged their fans to join the team and become mentors. In 2015, the Big Ten Conference became part of this team effort – providing a national platform for raising awareness. More than 8,700 individuals across the country have signed up during the early months of the 2015 challenge. Final results will be released during the first week in December.

- **Service Enterprise**
 - Application for cohort participants was released. ICVS and local participating hubs will support organizations through a multi-month engagement, providing innovative training and consulting support to move through a change management process that will result in more effectively leveraging the time and talents of volunteers and lead to greater impact. Nonprofits that effectively leverage the skills and talents of volunteers into their core operations are known as “service enterprises.”

- **Miscellaneous:**
 - Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service met Aug. 18 (strategic planning session); the Executive Committee met via conference call on July 30 and Sept. 15.
 - In September, two of the service community’s highest awards were given to Iowa recipients:
 - Governor Branstad was awarded the 2015 State and Local Service Leadership Award by America’s Service Commissions for his work putting National and Community Service on the front burner with the “Governor’s National Service Council”.
 - The Corporation for National and Community Service, with special guest former Iowa Senator Tom Harkin, debuted the inaugural class of the “Tom Harkin Excellence in AmeriCorps Awards” winners and honored the Dubuque National Service Partnership as one of the first winners of this prestigious award (the only award recognizing excellence in AmeriCorps programming). Loras College President Jim Collins was on hand to accept the award.