

Volunteer Iowa (Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service)
Quarterly Report:
April 1 – June 30, 2016

- **Administrative Rules**
 - Commission began process of developing and filing proposed rules for Refugee RISE AmeriCorps funding (included in HF2460). Rules will be drafted in partnership with Dept. of Human Services.
- **AmeriCorps**
 - \$9 million in federal and state AmeriCorps funding was approved that will leverage approximately \$6 million in private and local funding to support 890 AmeriCorps members:

2016-2017 Iowa AmeriCorps State Awards	Total Award	Federal Grant	Private & Local	Education Award
Iowa Legal Aid- Iowa Legal Aid AmeriCorps	\$309,293	\$149,134	\$160,159	\$66,182
Iowa State University - AmeriCorps Partnering to Protect Children	\$384,063	\$205,942	\$178,121	\$86,625
Habitat for Humanity of Iowa- Habitat for Humanity of IA AmeriCorps	\$796,122	\$328,672	\$467,450	\$166,955
Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy & Resource Center (EMBARC)- Refugee RISE AmeriCorps	\$773,510	\$399,884	\$373,626	\$193,463
City of Bloomfield- Iowa Energy Independence AmeriCorps	\$171,015	\$68,648	\$102,367	\$28,875
City of Davenport- Davenport AmeriCorps/Youth Corps	\$698,488	\$417,911	\$280,577	\$182,028
City of Dubuque- Partners in Learning AmeriCorps	\$417,296	\$210,581	\$206,715	\$94,306
Community Youth Concepts- Youth Service Momentum AmeriCorps	\$263,416	\$134,417	\$128,999	\$57,750
Graceland University- AmeriCorps Youth Launch	\$345,134	\$174,296	\$170,838	\$75,768
Iowa State University- IA AmeriCorps 4H Outreach	\$821,696	\$406,988	\$414,708	\$173,250
Public Allies, Inc.- Public Allies Iowa AmeriCorps	\$768,280	\$388,280	\$380,000	\$172,442
United Way of East Central Iowa- Youth Achievement AmeriCorps Program	\$343,998	\$197,020	\$146,978	\$86,625
United Ways of Iowa- Iowa Reading Corps	\$1,616,599	\$904,564	\$712,035	\$433,125
University of Northern Iowa- Green Iowa AmeriCorps	\$824,389	\$393,631	\$430,758	\$202,125
Conservation Corps MN & IA- Conservation Corps Iowa AmeriCorps	\$482,969	\$289,994	\$192,975	\$103,950
Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV)- ICADV AmeriCorps	\$315,400	\$135,000	\$180,400	\$57,750
Iowa Campus Compact/Iowa Western Community College- IA College AmeriCorps Program	\$314,680	\$235,336	\$79,344	\$207,900
Trustees of Grinnell College- Grinnell AmeriCorps Partnership	\$265,763	\$141,474	\$124,289	\$58,674
Department of Natural Resources- Keepers of the Land AmeriCorps	\$568,384	\$270,840	\$297,544	\$114,461
Des Moines Public Schools- DMPS AmeriCorps	\$522,567	\$319,200	\$203,367	\$138,831
Iowa Association of Regional Councils- IARC & AmeriCorps: Building Capacity	\$143,761	\$74,995	\$68,766	\$28,875
Iowa Department of Public Health- IDPH AmeriCorps Mentoring Program	\$485,200	\$5,200	\$480,000	\$37,538
University of Northern Iowa- Sustainable Schools AmeriCorps Planning	\$35,532	\$20,684	\$14,848	\$ -
Matter, Inc. - Matter AmeriCorps Planning Grant	\$47,966	\$34,978	\$12,988	\$ -
College Student Aid Commission- IA Local College Access Network AmeriCorps Planning Grant	\$75,718	\$55,000	\$20,718	\$ -

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

- *De-certified:*
 - TeamMates Waterloo (absorbed by BBBS of NE Iowa)
 - TeamMates Storm Lake (dropping TeamMates affiliation and will reapply)
- *Full certification:*
 - TeamMates of Des Moines
 - Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Iowa (four new programs in Buchanan County)
- *Recertification (required every two years):*
 - Allamakee Mentoring Program
 - BBBS of Central Iowa
 - BBBS of Muscatine County
 - BBBS of Northeast Iowa — Black Hawk
 - BBBS of Northeast Iowa-Bremer
 - BBBS of Siouxland
 - Building Bridges Through Mentoring
 - Clinton Community Schools (Study Connection)
 - Dubuque Community School District
 - Dubuque YMCA Reach and Rise
 - Everybody Wins! Iowa
 - Great River Area Youth Mentoring
 - Independence Community Schools
 - Johnston Youth Mentoring Program - Johnston Community Schools
 - Links to LNX2
 - Mentor Iowa
 - Mentoring with HEART
 - MY Club
 - North Fayette Valley Mentoring
 - One on One Mentoring - Garner
 - Orchard Place
 - RSVP of North Central Iowa
 - St. Mark Youth Enrichment
 - Star Mentoring - Brighten the Life of a Child
 - TeamMates of Council Bluffs
 - TeamMates of Missouri Valley
 - The Job Foundation
 - Tiger Mentoring Program
 - Youth & Shelter Services — GRIP Mentoring

- **Iowa Reading Corps:**

- Certification process was approved. Process was developed based on the criteria contained in the law authorizing the Iowa Reading Corps (Iowa Code 15H.7).
- The following programs were approved for full certification:
 - Dubuque Partners in Learning AmeriCorps
 - Youth Achievement AmeriCorps Program in Cedar Rapids
 - Des Moines Public Schools' AmeriCorps project

- **Recognition**

- **AmeriCorps Member of the Month:**

- April – Angela Allred, an AmeriCorps State member serving with AmeriCorps Partners in Learning at Lincoln Elementary School, a Title 1 school in Dubuque
 - May – Brad James – Green Iowa AmeriCorps member serving in Cedar Falls
 - June – Sallie Myers, Alli Zuel, and Katie Kestel – AmeriCorps VISTA members serving in the Des Moines area with The Outreach Program as a part of the Outreach Hunger-Free Iowa Initiative (HFII)

- **Give Back Iowa Challenge:** Forty employers, representing over 26,000 employees, logged more than 19,000 volunteer hours during the second annual statewide challenge which ran April 1-May 31. Winners were selected in three categories based on the highest average number of volunteer hours per employee. Challenge winners receive a visit from the Governor or Lt. Governor and a certificate of recognition:

- Small: Worldly Goods, Ames (Honorable Mention: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Iowa, Waterloo)
 - Medium: First Citizens Bank, Mason City (Honorable Mention: West Music Company, Coralville)
 - Large: Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, Riverside (Honorable Mention: Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield)

- **Governor's Volunteer Awards:** more than 600 awards were presented by Governor Branstad and Lt. Governor Reynolds during regional ceremonies held in Ottumwa, Pleasant Hill, Storm Lake, Cedar Rapids, Cedar Falls, and Council Bluffs. A complete list of award recipients is [online](#).

- **National Volunteer Week Celebration** was held at the Capitol on April 13, 2016. Governor Branstad presented the following awards:

- Excellence in Mentoring Awards
 - Jennifer Husmann, Center Junction, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cedar Rapids and East Central Iowa
 - Amber Linderbaum, Elgin, Valley Mentoring, North Fayette Valley Community Coalition
 - Joe Moralez, Bettendorf, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Mississippi Valley
 - Dave Vandeventer, Cedar Falls, TeamMates of Waterloo
 - Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame
 - Rosemary Beach, Cedar Falls
 - Gloria Ford, Anamosa
 - Diane Kutzko, Cedar Rapids
 - Des Moines University, Des Moines
 - Tom Hendricks, Muscatine (also received the People's Choice Award – during March, the general public submitted more than 7,000 votes through social media to determine which inductee would receive this extra recognition for their contributions.)

- **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 and social media posts recognized these Iowa individuals and groups (<https://www.volunteeriowa.org/about/blog-0>):

- Ozzie Ohl, Mason City, for his volunteer work for the Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank since 2011 and many other organizations/causes in the community
 - Alma Haines, Des Moines, for establishing and coordinating the Latina Mother's Support Group

- Dave Vandventer, Waterloo, has been a mentor in his community for almost eight years. During that time he has mentored six young men, often past graduation and into adulthood
 - Webspec Design, an Urbandale based team of web designers, software and web developers, project managers and digital marketing experts who have been working together as a team to support local nonprofits and charities in the area.
 - RSVP of Eastern Iowa & Western Illinois was honored during Senior Corps Week in May – this program has 221 volunteers living in Iowa who each recorded over 50 hours of service during the past year
 - Katie Orlando, Waterloo, has served over 1,137 hours in all of her roles as a Big Sister with BBBS of Northwest Iowa, a member of the Waterloo Kiwanis Club, and a member of the Cedar Falls Lions Club
 - Jacqueline Luna has been volunteering for 6 years and uses her Spanish skills to read to children for the Young Parents Network in Cedar Rapids
 - Andy Hepker has been volunteering with Hawkeye Area Community Action Program (HACAP) in Cedar Rapids, Iowa for 8 years.
- **RSVP**
 - The commission is responsible for determining a maximum funding allowance per volunteer for RSVP projects receiving state funding. It was determined that the funding limit set for Fiscal Year 2016 (\$300 per volunteer) had been set too low and should have been closer to \$350. Commission voted to raise allowance to a maximum of \$350 per volunteer and issued a retroactive waiver for Fiscal Year 2016 target to allow all RSVP programs to receive full FY17 allocation. Also, new grants in Monroe and Wapello counties, Jefferson County, Pottawattamie and Mills counties, and in South Central Iowa were awarded an automatic five-year waiver effective through Fiscal Year 2020 to provide adequate time to develop a fully functional RSVP program.
 - A state appropriation of \$279,000 for RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) Grants, will leverage over \$1.2 million in federal funds and support 5,498 RSVP Senior Corps Volunteers. Grants were approved to the following entities:
 - Boone County Hospital, Boone, \$16,049.80
 - Carroll County RSVP, Carroll, \$7,467.97
 - United Way of East Central Iowa, Cedar Rapids, (3 county), \$7,467.97
 - Mobile Meals United, Clinton, \$7,467.97
 - Connections Area Agency on Aging, Council Bluffs (2 Counties), \$14,450.68
 - West. IL Area Agency on Aging, Rock Island (Scott County), \$7,467.97
 - Decorah Public Library, Decorah (3 Counties), \$19,607.32
 - United Way of Central Iowa, Des Moines (3 Counties), \$7,467.97
 - Finley Hospital, Dubuque, \$7,467.97
 - City of Fort Madison, \$7,467.97
 - Elder Services, Inc., Iowa City (5 Counties), \$44,501.04
 - North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC), Mason City (3 Counties), \$7,467.97
 - The Fellowship Cup, Mt. Pleasant, \$16,049.80
 - ISU Extension, Jasper County, \$7,467.97
 - United Way of Wapello County (3 Counties), Ottumwa, \$14,935.94
 - Iowa Lakes Community College, Esterville (4 Counties), \$20,930.69
 - Central Iowa RSVP, Story City (5 Counties), \$38,906.21
 - Covenant Medical Center Waterloo, \$7,467.97
 - Graceland University, Lamoni, \$15,622.86

- **Service Enterprise** – The goal of this intensive program is to support nonprofits to effectively leverage the skills and talents of volunteers into their core operations. Selected to participate in the 2016 cohort:
 - Animal Rescue League of Iowa
 - Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity
 - Iowa Child Advocacy Board
 - Iowa Sister States
 - Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman
 - Science Center of Iowa
- **Training**
 - April 5, 14, and 18 – Regional Professional Development sessions were held in Cedar Falls, Sioux City, and Ottumwa. 52 staff from AmeriCorps programs, mentoring programs and volunteer centers, attended to learn more about using data, improving trainings, and the Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring™. Paul Thelen from the Iowa Nonprofit Resource Center shared his expertise in data.
- **Miscellaneous:**
 - During the leadership election in June, Jordan Vernoy (Cedar Falls) was re-elected as commission chair; Bernie Van Roekel (Spirit Lake) as vice-chair, and Leah Rodenberg (Cedar Rapids) as 2nd vice chair.
 - Commissioner terms ended for Jerry Drake, Shelly Jordan, Lucas Beenken, Tiffany Tauscheck, and Nate Klein.