

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

www.ijag.org



iJAG



That Kid. No Matter What!



Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG) partners with Iowa schools and local employers to increase graduation rates, improve workforce skills, and help young people successfully transition to life after high school.

we are growing...

Helping more Iowa Young People Graduate from High School and Find Meaningful Jobs

iJAG has 122 Iowa programs and 7 Quad Cities programs in 55 communities.

We will launch 50 more programs in 2023.



Laurie Phelan
President/CEO, iJAG

"Every step on this iJAG journey has been an awesome adventure. From our humble beginnings with my parents and siblings as volunteers/trainers with 6 locations (180 students), to engaging key private businesses to help iJAG grow by matching state level investment, and now moving into our 2nd year of a growth plan that will have iJAG in 300+ locations statewide reaching over 15,000 young people annually is outstanding!

I feel thankful that I had the courage to say "yes" to this opportunity without having a clue of what iJAG could become. I am extremely blessed to have such amazing individuals drawn into this work of changing lives. We have an outstanding team of iJAG Specialists, Managers, Administrators, and Board Members who put in far more effort than hours daily. They really believe they are iJAG and without them thousands of young people who are struggling will not find their way, and they are so right, just ask our young people and alumni.

We say that iJAG is about changing young lives. While I'm not so young anymore, I can honestly say that my life will never be the same. This has been the best job ever!"

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IOWA

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Algona | Keokuk |
| Atlantic | Le Mars |
| Boone | Marshalltown |
| Cedar Rapids | Mason City |
| Clarinda | Mt. Pleasant |
| Clarke | Mt. Vernon |
| Clarksville | Muscatine |
| Clinton | Nevada |
| Council Bluffs | Newton |
| Creston | Ottumwa |
| Davenport | Perry |
| Des Moines | Prairie |
| Dubuque | Red Oak |
| Eagle Grove | Saydel |
| Eldon | Sidney |
| Eldridge | Sioux City |
| Forest City | Storm Lake |
| Fort Dodge | North Tama |
| Fremont - Mills | Tama |
| Glenwood | Tiffin |
| Green Mountain
and Garwin | Urbandale |
| Harlan | Waterloo |
| Humboldt | Waukee |
| Iowa City | West Des Moines |
| Iowa Falls | West Liberty |
| Jefferson | Winterset |
| Johnston | Woodbine |

6,000+

young leaders

98%

Graduation Rate

Employment Rate 76%

80%

Positive Outcome

(full-time employment, military enlistment and/or enrollment in postsecondary education)

50%

Students of Color

QUAD CITIES

Moline | Rock Island

2022-2023 iJAG Programs



Green: New Sites; Blue: Existing Sites

122 Iowa, 7 UAG Quad Cities; 55 Communities; 40 Counties; 6,000+ students

10/1/2022





Kira Canada iJAG Leader Spotlight



Kira Canada is a senior iJAG student at Waukee High School. Kira was anxious that when she got into high school she would not know how to discover her future path. While desperately searching for opportunities, Kira joined iJAG.

While at first, iJAG seemed like just a class to help with college, Kira quickly learned that iJAG was a family and a support system. Through some of her toughest times, while her parents divorced and her nephew passed, Kira heavily relied on iJAG, both other students and the staff, for support. Little did she know how much of a difference iJAG would make and where she would rise to her senior year. Kira is now the first-ever president-elect of the JAG National Career Association and the president of her chapter at Waukee High School. She has been able to discover what she wants to do after high school and is now able to give back to the JAG Community.



Why are you proud to be have been iJAG's largest private investor since 2005?

I am proud that John Deere has been iJAG's largest private donor for nearly two decades because every dollar has positively impacted our youth, schools, community, and businesses across Iowa. Our students are our future talent and our future leaders.

What benefits do you see from your investment with iJAG?

The benefits I see in our investments in iJAG are measurably improved graduation rates and post-secondary success for youth aged 7th – 12th grade across some of our highest needs schools in Iowa.

Why do you think it is important for other companies to invest in iJAG's success?

I think it's important for companies to invest in the youth who need us the most. If we are not their village, then who is? By investing in these young men and women, we are investing in building strong communities and strong businesses.

What's one message that you would deliver to an employer thinking about getting involved with iJAG?

iJAG has 22 years of its impact on thousands of youth facing enormous barriers like poverty, homelessness, and abuse. iJAG has empowered them to graduate, further their education, and join the workforce. These youth have earned a 98% graduation rate, which is an incredibly powerful accomplishment. We also know that our investments are coupled with contributions from other private partners, state funding, and local schools, which makes iJAG an even better investment.

Q & A with



JOHN DEERE

What does equity in education mean to you?

Research shows consistent long-term gaps in education for marginalized youth due to multi-faceted barriers. It will take special support and a concentrated effort to overcome them. Each person is unique, and each situation is unique. As a result, education programs that champion equity by tailoring their approach to each individual to remove complex barriers are necessary.



Laura Eberlin

**Global Corporate Social Responsibility Lead
Community Engagement & Enrichment**

What mentoring experience can you share with us? What have you gained from this experience?

The most rewarding experience for me is when a student struggling with self-confidence tries something out of their comfort zone, like a job interview or a big presentation. I am overwhelmed with pride when I see them nail it, because I knew all along they could do it. Witnessing a student recognize, maybe for the first time, what they are capable of is transformational. That is why I love mentoring, and that is why my colleagues do too.

How have you seen the iJAG program benefit the young people we serve together?

I have seen youth touched by tragedy who have lost their way. I have seen iJAG Specialists reach out to them, get them into their classroom, and help them turn a 1.6 GPA into a 3.2 GPA. I have seen iJAG Specialists invite their class into their homes for Thanksgiving knowing some students did not have a family or a table filled with food. I have seen iJAG Specialists create an emotional safety net by providing advice and support that a mother or father might give. I have seen iJAG Specialists invite businesses, employers, and military into their classrooms to provide youth with valuable social capital. I have seen iJAG Specialists teach youth how to change a flat tire, sew a button on a shirt, manage a budget, or optimize a family's food supply. iJAG is giving these youth an army of support by creating community – all we have to do is open the door.

RELATIONSHIPS
being in the
classroom

RELEVANCE
bringing work
to life

RIGOR
investing in a
career

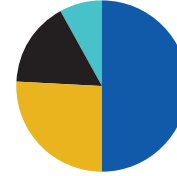
- Employer Partnered Projects
- Industry Exploration
- Mock Interviews

- Mentoring & Networking
- Work Site Tours
- Job Shadows

- Apprenticeships & Internships
- Industry Credentials
- On-The-Job Training



\$1,800 cost per student



- State Funding
- Local Schools
- Special Grants/Contracts
- Private

iJAG programs are financially supported by a combination of public and private support, including annual funding from the Iowa Legislature, school districts, and iJAG's private partners. Two of our programs are fully funded by The Department of Vocational Rehabilitational Services. We appreciate our dedicated partners!

OUR SUPPORTERS

Aegon Transamerica
 Accumold
 Altofer/Cedar Rapids Community Foundation
 Alliant Energy
 Amcor Cares
 American Family Insurance
 Anonymous Donors
 Arconic
 Astra Zeneca
 AT&T
 Availa Foundation
 Bank of America
 Bechtel Trust
 Black Hawk County Gaming Association
 Black Hills Energy
 Burlington Capital
 Casey's General Store
 Cass County Community Foundation
 Cedar Valley United Way
 Collins Aerospace
 Community First Credit Union
 Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines

Community Foundation of Johnson County
 Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa
 Dr. Scholl Foundation
 Fareway
 Fort Dodge Community Foundation
 Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation
 Greater Dubuque Community Foundation
 Greater Madison County Community Foundation
 Green State Credit Union
 Guernsey Charitable Foundation
 Hills Bank
 Hubbell-Waterman Foundation
 Iowa Women's Foundation
 Iowa Workforce Development Employer Innovation Fund
 JAG National (Lobbyist Grant)
 Jasper Community Foundation

John Deere Foundation
 Kankakee Community Foundation
 Kreg Tool
 Lee County Impact
 Lil Drugstore Products
 Manatt's
 MBI Works
 McCarthy Dressman
 McGrath Auto
 Microsoft
 MidAmerican Energy
 Moline Foundation
 Muscatine Community Foundation
 Mutual of Omaha
 Omaha Community Foundation
 Otto Schoitz Foundation
 Principal Foundation
 Price Electric
 Quad Cities Community Foundation
 Regional Development Authority
 Renewable Energy Group
 R.J. McElroy Trust

Schoen Charitable Trust
 STEM Best (West Des Moines Valley)
 Target; MLK Fund
 TC Energy
 Tyson Foods
 Union Pacific
 United Auto Workers
 United Fire Group
 United Way of Central Iowa
 United Way of the Dubuque Tri-States Area
 United Way of Muscatine County
 United Way of North Central Iowa
 United Way of the Midlands
 United Way of the Quad Cities
 United Way of Wapello County
 Wapello County Foundation
 Wellmark Foundation
 WestRock (via JAG National)
 World Class Industries
 Van Meter
 Van Wall Equipment

Thank you!

Thank you Governor Reynolds and the Iowa Legislature for investing with businesses and schools in iJAG!

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GET TO KNOW US
www.ijag.org

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