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NEWS RELEASE

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AmeriCorps Grant Awarded to City of Dubuque Partners in Learning

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) has announced that the City of Dubuque Partners in Learning has received a \$210,581 AmeriCorps grant.

The grant will support 48 AmeriCorps members who will provide in-school, before school, and after-school academic mentoring and summer learning opportunities to improve math and reading proficiency in Dubuque.

“Citizen service is an essential part of the solutions to many of the challenges facing our community and others across the country,” said Dubuque Mayor Roy D. Buol. “These AmeriCorps members will meet pressing local needs and strengthen our city as they develop civic and leadership skills that can last a lifetime. I congratulate the City of Dubuque’s Partners in Learning program for receiving this grant and thank all those who have answered the call to service by joining AmeriCorps.”

In addition to grant dollars, CNCS is setting aside funding to pay for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards for individuals who will serve in positions funded by these grants. After completing a full term of service, AmeriCorps members receive an education award of \$5,550 that they can use to pay for college or to pay off student loans.

The current year’s AmeriCorps grant cycle was highly competitive, due to the strong and growing demand by organizations seeking AmeriCorps resources. Demand is also strong from individuals wanting to serve. CNCS received a record-breaking 582,000 AmeriCorps applications in 2011, a dramatic increase from the 360,000 seen in 2009.

The grants advance the priorities of the bipartisan 2009 Serve America Act and focus AmeriCorps resources on six key service areas: disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, healthy futures, and veterans and military families.

AmeriCorps is a national service program that engages Americans of all ages and backgrounds in service to meet critical needs. Its members serve through thousands of nonprofit and faith-based organizations in rural and urban communities throughout the nation. Among other activities, AmeriCorps members tutor and mentor youth, expand health services, build affordable housing, run after-school programs, help veterans access employment and other services, respond to disasters, and recruit and train other volunteers.

AmeriCorps, which is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, engages 80,000 people each year in intensive, results-driven service through more than 14,000 organizations across the country. Since 1994, more than 775,000 Americans have provided more than 1 billion hours of service to their communities and country through AmeriCorps. Among other accomplishments, AmeriCorps members last year mobilized 3.4 million community volunteers, and tutored, mentored or served more than 3.5 million disadvantaged youth.

To apply or to learn more about available opportunities with AmeriCorp, visit www.AmeriCorps.gov or contact Deb Bell, AmeriCorps Director, at 563-584-8644 or deb.bell@clarke.edu.

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