



CONTACT:
Marie Ware, Leisure Services Manager
(563) 589-4263
mware@cityofdubuque.org
www.cityofdubuque.org/leisureservices

NEWS RELEASE

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Corken-Deutsch Named Dubuque's AmeriCorps Program Director

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Dubuque Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware has named Mary Bridget Corken-Deutsch the City of Dubuque's new AmeriCorps Partners in Learning program director. Corken-Deutsch will begin her employment on Monday, Aug. 18, and follows Deb Bell who served as program director for over three years.

"Mary Bridget comes with a strong understanding of AmeriCorps programs. She served a year of service as an AmeriCorps VISTA with the Leisure Services Department as a volunteer services coordinator," said Ware. "Her experience working with a variety of community organizations has prepared her well for continuing to build upon the strong partnerships established in the City's AmeriCorps program. She has a passion for all people and will bring skills to help the children we will serve improve and achieve grade level reading."

As AmeriCorps Program director for Dubuque, Corken-Deutsch will work closely with agencies including Dubuque Community Schools, the Multicultural Family Center, St. Mark Youth Enrichment, and Carnegie-Stout Public Library. She will work with recruitment, training, and retention of over 50 AmeriCorps members each year, with a focus on grade-level reading.

The City of Dubuque's Partners in Learning AmeriCorps Program has been extremely successful and is now in its fourteenth year of operation. The program's success is apparent

in the over 800 AmeriCorps members that have given service in our community since its inception. The program looks forward to impacting the lives of children and families throughout Dubuque by efforts to assist kindergarten through third grade children in being able to achieve reading at grade level. AmeriCorps members have performed vital service to this community with many of them going on to leadership in a variety of roles in Dubuque. “Mary Bridget has the skills and experience that will continue the excellence established in Dubuque’s AmeriCorps Program,” said Ware.

“I’m excited to be back working with the City of Dubuque’s AmeriCorps program and its partners,” said Corken-Deutsch. “I’m anxious to continue to build our partnerships with the Third Grade Reading initiative as well as other promising programs Dubuque offers.”

Corken-Deutsch has professional experience as a volunteer services coordinator, coach, program coordinator and, most recently, a career coach at Northeast Iowa Community College. She has also been a very active mentor and tutor at the Multicultural Family Center. Corken-Deutsch holds a bachelor’s degree in sociology and history from Loras College and a master’s degree in sociology from DePaul University.

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