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NEWS RELEASE

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Community Partnership Makes a Difference

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Working closely with the Dubuque Community School District, AmeriCorps Partners in Learning is making an impact on K-3rd grade students. During the 2017-2018 school year, 97 percent or 462 students, who completed the AmeriCorps tutoring program improved in their reading assessment by 10 points or more from fall 2017 to spring 2018 FAST assessments.

During the school year, Dubuque Community School District staff trained 38 AmeriCorps members in effective reading interventions and strategies. Using these interventions, these members collaborated closely with elementary school classroom teachers and instructional coaches to provide one-on-one or small-group tutoring sessions to struggling readers.

“This is the fourth school year that AmeriCorps has partnered with the Dubuque Community School District to help students improve their reading proficiency,” said AmeriCorps Program Director Heather Satterly. “We have seen a steady increase in students finding success since 2014-2015, where we saw 67 percent of students improving, followed by 89 percent of students improving in 2015-2016 and 2016-2017.”

In addition to tutoring students, AmeriCorps members also play a significant mentoring role in each child’s life. AmeriCorps members are caring, safe adults who give students individual attention and notices students’ successes. These positive, encouraging relationships are fundamental for students.

Interested in making our community better? Join today! We’re now recruiting for the 2018-2019 school year. Members must be 18 years of age or older and have a high school diploma. Members earn a living allowance and an education award. Members who are 55 or older when they begin their service may transfer their education award to a child, grandchild, or foster child.

For more information or to learn about joining AmeriCorps, please contact Heather Satterly, AmeriCorps Program Director, at 563.584.8644 or heather.satterly@clarke.edu. Online applications can be found at www.CityofDubuque.org/employment.

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About AmeriCorps Partners in Learning

AmeriCorps Partners in Learning is sponsored by the City of Dubuque and is a grant recipient of Volunteer Iowa and the Corporation for National and Community Service. AmeriCorps Partners in Learning has been serving youth in the Dubuque community since 2000. The program has over 700 alumni and has provided over 440,000 hours of service to the Dubuque community. To learn more, visit CityofDubuque.org/AmeriCorps.