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NEWS RELEASE

October 12, 2018 – For Immediate Release

Hunter Named Dubuque’s Multicultural Family Center Director

DUBUQUE, Iowa – City of Dubuque Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware has named Jacqueline Hunter as the City of Dubuque’s new Multicultural Family Center director. She will begin in October 29.

“Jacqueline has extensive experience working in community settings with persons of many cultures,” said Ware. Her role as program coordinator for the City of Kissimmee, Florida, Parks and Recreation Department at the Chambers Park Community Center afforded her many opportunities to partner with community non-profits and organizations to meet the need of the Center and the children.”

“Seeing a community need related to first-generation, under-sourced, underrepresented young people struggling to navigate all aspects of the college process, she founded a non-profit to help them on their journey” said Ware. Hunter also has a background in the military and has been a high school teacher. Ware said all these skills will help Hunter to hit the ground running.

As the Multicultural Family Center director, Hunter will work with the Multicultural Family Center board of directors to continue to further their mission of empowering all families of Dubuque to reach their potential and building unity through diversity, equity, and inclusion. Hunter, as the lead of the staff of the Multicultural Family Center, will continue to build upon the programming of the center and expansion of partnerships that have made the center so successful.

“I want the Multicultural Family Center and the programs we provide to be like food is for the soul; warm, welcoming, and familiar. A place rooted in our individual culture and traditions but

designed to be shared for the benefit of all who embrace this beautiful city we call home,” said Hunter.

Hunter comes to Dubuque after most recently serving the University of Wisconsin-Platteville where she was the pre-college coordinator/advisor in the university’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Her role included implementation of summer academic programming for middle and high school students and cross collaboration with five student service areas to serve students with intersecting identities.

Hunter enjoys the outdoors and is the sole leader in Iowa for a national organization that celebrates and inspires African American connections and leadership in nature. She holds a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Florida. Her graduate work was at Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, where she earned a master’s degree in education.

Hunter replaces Farris Muhammad who was hired by the City of Peoria, Illinois, as their chief diversity and inclusion officer.

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Jacqueline Hunter