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**United Way Announces New Grant Award Recipients**

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DUBUQUE, Iowa –

United Way of Dubuque Area Tri-States (UWDATS) is proud to announce the allocation of $900,000 in grant awards to 34 local, nonprofit programs serving the tri-states and includes 6 newly funded partners. These grant awards are a result of United Way’s fully competitive community investment grant process wherein interested nonprofit programs had the opportunity to apply to receive funding that helps reduce or prevent poverty within United Way’s 10-county, tri-state coverage area. Last year this funding stream helped impact over 55,000 local lives.

A team of 24 community volunteers from various backgrounds and professional sectors came together to vet these organizations by reviewing and scoring program applications and ultimately made funding recommendations to the United Way Board of Directors. Forty applications were submitted with total requests to United Way totaling just over $1.5 million. Funded programs will be supported by United Way for a two-year funding cycle, beginning June 1, 2022.

“On behalf of our Board of Directors and our dedicated volunteers who worked so hard to make these difficult decisions, I’m very proud to share United Way’s community investment allocations that support quality programming in the areas of health, education and financial stability across our communities,” says Danielle Peterson, UWDATS’ President and CEO. “Programs selected were chosen with great care and decisions were made based on a variety of factors, including programs’ ability to impact and support poverty efforts and their capacity to demonstrate strong, collaborative outcomes.”

Newly funded United Way programs are being provided by the following organizations: Iowa Jobs for America’s Graduates (IJAG), Presentation Lantern Center, Convivium Urban Farmstead, the Community Foundation of Jackson County, DuRide and Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging.

Other United Way funded initiatives include: the 2-1-1 Information and Referral line which is a 24/7, multilingual line for community members to locate area resources; the VolunteerDBQ online portal that connects volunteers to meaningful volunteer experiences; and the Sprout Into Reading program which supports local literacy efforts.

United Way also currently has an open grant process available through May 6, 2022, for Dubuque County food-providing agencies and they will announce $141,809 of FEMA funding awards later in May. For more information, visit the website at dbqunitedway.org.

*United Way of Dubuque Area Tri-States connects people and resources to advance the health, education and income of those in need in our community. United Way promises to bring community partners together to reduce and prevent poverty on a scale no one can accomplish alone. For more information about United Way of Dubuque Area Tri-States, visit DBQUnitedWay.org.*

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