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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROJECT IOWA TO LAUNCH NEW PROGRAM FOR EAST HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOLS

New program will provide work-based learning programs.

DES MOINES, Iowa — Project Iowa is celebrating 10 years of successfully connecting people to their purpose and providing career guidance to obtain meaningful and stable employment.

They are now expanding their reach by offering services to high school seniors who find themselves without the direction/guidance they need to acquire the skills and professional networks to begin their career, obtain stable employment, and contribute to their community in a meaningful way. Starting in the fall of 2022, in partnership with Des Moines Public Schools and local businesses, they will be offering East High School seniors an opportunity to participate in a program that provides skills training, a paid professional internship, ongoing mentoring, and follow up after program completion.

"A giant gap persists between our young workforce and the jobs that will need to be filled, in addition to a pernicious opportunity gap. These gaps have major consequences for students who are already in a vulnerable position due to educational inequity. We know—because the data shows—that work-based learning programs centered on professional internships improve postsecondary outcomes for high school students." Chris Noth, Program Director, HSIP

"We are continually looking for ways to increase our impact. We now have a solid foundation to expand our reach and believe that offering services to high school seniors is the next big move, as they are the future of our workforce" Julie Fugenschuh, Executive Director of Project Iowa

"We are very excited to partner with Project Iowa to provide trainings, paid professional internships and continuous skills workshops for our students. This is a valuable opportunity to help prepare students who participate to extend their learning in the workplace." Vanessa Howell, MBA, Community Partnership Coordinator and Certified Associate Diversity Coach

Project lowa is currently looking for business partners that are willing to provide a paid professional internship at their place of business. For businesses or individuals that are interested in investing in a student's future, please contact Chris Noth at chrisnoth@projectiowa.org.









Project Iowa provides transformational programs for individuals that are looking to grow personally and professionally. Their holistic training approach connects individuals to their purpose and meaningful, stable employment.

They collaborate with community partners and employers to connect them with a confident and skilled workforce. To learn more visit <u>www.projectiowa.org</u>.

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