

Partner Service Description

- **AARP Foundation Senior Employment**

AARP Foundation administers the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) in Delaware, Dubuque and Jones counties. SCSEP assists low income job seekers, age 55+, to re-enter the workforce. Our services include part-time paid training assignments based on skills and career assessment, job search assistance, tuition for short term training, supportive services and on-the-job-training.

The primary location for job training is the Host Agency, a non-profit or public agency that serves as a work training site. Participants train 18 hours per week and earn minimum wage. AARP Foundation assists participants in transitioning into unsubsidized employment by offering trial employments as an incentive for local businesses to hire our mature workers. There is no fee for AARP Foundation services.

- **Eastern Iowa Regional Housing Authority (EIRHA)**, established in 1978, operates as a division of East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA), which provides staff and administrative support to EIRHA. EIRHA was organized pursuant to Chapter 28E, Code of Iowa, and was established and created as a regional housing authority for Dubuque, Delaware, Cedar, Jackson, Jones and Clinton Counties in Iowa. The only cities EIRHA does not serve in this region are Dubuque and Clinton, as they have their own housing authorities established.

The goal of the Eastern Iowa Regional Housing Authority (EIRHA) is to provide decent, safe and affordable housing for eligible households: to provide opportunities and promote self-sufficiency; create economic independence; and provide homeownership opportunities for program participants.

EIRHA operates two main programs, Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Rental Assistance. Within those programs, there are several other programs and sources of funding which include Family Self-Sufficiency, Elderly Self-Sufficiency, Homeownership, and Housing Counseling.

- **The Iowa Department for the Blind (IDB)** is the state agency providing vocational rehabilitation and independent living services to Iowans who are blind or severely visually impaired. The Department also houses the Iowa Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped which provides library services and materials in alternative media to Iowans who, because of physical limitations, cannot easily read standard print. The Iowa Department for the Blind agrees to the General Provisions and to otherwise abide by the Memorandum of Understanding for Region 1 as set forth below for the IowaWORKS delivery system.

IDB Core Services:

To be eligible for services from IDB, an individual must have a qualifying visual impairment that substantially limits his/her ability to work and he/she must need vocational rehabilitation services to be able to prepare for, enter, or retain a job. IDB will deliver client services as described below:

- Eligibility determination

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- Diagnostic and/or evaluation services
- Pre-vocational and vocational training
- Guidance & counseling
- Career exploration, job placement & job retention counseling
- Skills training in alternative techniques of blindness
- Adaptive devices for training and employment
- Employer development
- Library and informational services
- Independent living services

An Individual Plan for Employment (IPE), which identifies all services necessary to overcome the barriers to that person getting and keeping a job, is developed with each eligible individual. Only IDB counselors can determine eligibility and agree to provide services. IDB staff can only be supervised by other IDB staff. IDB must comply with confidentiality requirements and the provision of mediation and a fair hearing process as stated in the Rehabilitation Services Act of 1973 as amended.

Location and Hours of Service:

Main Office: 524 Fourth Street Des Moines, IA 50309-2364

Hours of Operation: 8 am to 4:30 pm - Monday through Friday, excluding established holidays.

Regional Services and Resources:

IDB services are provided statewide by Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors. VR Counselors travel to clients in their assigned territory and work with the client in their community and/or workplace. They also work with businesses and employers in their territory. The IDB VR Counselor territories do not perfectly align with the workforce regions. As a consequence one VR Counselor may serve counties in multiple workforce regions. Similarly, one workforce region may be a part of two or more IDB VR counselor's territories. Two IDB VR counselors serve Region 1 and counties in neighboring workforce regions.

Funding for services and equipment is provided on an individual basis to meet clients' needs as indicated by their Individualized Plans for Employment.

- **Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS)** is the state agency providing vocational rehabilitation services including assistive technology and independent living services to Iowans who are eligible individual with a disability. Eligible individuals receive high-quality comprehensive and intensive services throughout the rehabilitation process – career counseling/services, training, education and support services in order to obtain good gainful competitive integrated employment. IVRS will work with area-wide businesses to provide consultation and intensive knowledge in order to understand the needs of the disabled in the workplace. Employment is the objective for each individual serviced by IVRS.
 - At the transition level all students who have an IEP or would be covered under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (essentially all students with a disability) will be considered “Potentially Eligible”. IVRS will provide basic Pre-Employment Transition Services (PETS) to all of these students in partnership with the schools. As we implement these services and work with the students and school staff, we will be able to determine students that will need more intensive services from IVRS in order to achieve employment

outcomes. These identified students will then be approached to apply for services so that the intensive interventions can be provided. IVRS Associates/Assistants are partnering with teachers and other agencies to collaborate together to provide PETS activities.

The Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services will partner with WIOA core leaders/agencies and be jointly responsible to provide a seamless delivery of services to job candidates. This will integrate service delivery across all programs and also enhance the programs and services within each partner. The Dubuque IVRS will be a part of the Memorandum of Understanding with Region 1 WIOA/IWD partnership.

IVRS Core Services:

To be eligible for services for IVRS, an individual must have a qualifying impairment that substantially limits the ability to work and must need vocational rehabilitation services to be able to prepare for, enter, or retain a job. IVRS offers the following services integral to reach their vocational goal:

- Eligibility determination
- Diagnostic and/or evaluation services
- Guidance & counseling – job shadows and career exploration
- Rehabilitation Technology/Assistive Technology
- Training Assistance
- Job Readiness Training
- Job Seeking Skills training
- Employer development
- On-the-job supports/OJT
- Customized Employment
- Job placement and retention services

An Individual Plan for Employment (IPE), which identifies all services necessary to overcome the barriers to that person getting and keeping a job, is developed with each eligible individual. IVRS staff assists with career exploration, job shadowing and other assessments to assist job candidate reach a potential goal. IVRS counselors and job candidate will then determine jointly whether the goal is feasible due to their disability, if so a IPE is developed in conjunction with their interests and goals along with determining how they will achieve employment. Through this determination we will match the job candidate with employers to allow them to become gainfully employed in an integrated employment setting.

- **PROMISE JOBS:** Iowa's model for providing assistance to Family Investment Participant's (FIP) through specialized services. A partnership with the Department of Human Services assists in providing comprehensive work based services to help participants obtain financial independence through a Family Investment Agreement. In addition, Promise Jobs provide: Orientation, Life Skills, Family Self-Sufficiency Grant, Classroom Training, Adult Basic Education, High School Equivalency Diploma, Case Management, Transportation, Childcare, Assessment, Parenting Skills, Job Seeking/Keeping Skills, Work Experience, Employment, and Family Development.

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- **Family Self-Sufficiency Grant:** A one-time cash grant to families in need of immediate financial assistance that would allow them to quickly obtain employment or prevent them from losing employment. Allowable expenses include car insurance, car repairs, clothing and other items deemed appropriate.
- **Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation (NEICAC)** is private non-profit “Community Action” agency that has been serving the residents of northeast Iowa since December of 1966. NEICAC’s geographic service area consists of the seven counties of: Allamakee, Bremer, Chickasaw, Clayton, Fayette, Howard and Winneshiek.

NEICAC’s mission is to help meet the primary needs of people and create opportunities for basic self-sufficiency through community partnership, education and the provision of services. Through eight (8) Family Service Offices, located in the county seats of each county, plus an additional office in Oelwein, we assist individuals and families through a wide variety of programs. Currently NEICAC’s major programs include: Emergency Services, Housing, Homeless Prevention, Energy Assistance, Early Childhood Programs (Head Start and Early Head Start), Health Programs (WIC and Family Planning), Weatherization, Family Development and Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS), Regional Transit, Food Closets, Prescription Assistance, Daycare Provider Nutrition Assistance, and Volunteer Coordination

- **Proteus, Inc.**, an Iowa non-profit organization, is the grantee for the National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) in Iowa. NFJP is funded through Section 167 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). NFJP is a nationally-directed, locally-administered program of training, employment services, and related assistance that helps MSFWs and their dependents overcome these barriers. NFJP is designed to serve economically disadvantaged persons who primarily depend on employment in agricultural labor performed within the United States, including Puerto Rico, and who experience chronic unemployment or underemployment. The program is intended to assist eligible MSFWs and their dependents to prepare for and retain jobs that provide stable, year-round employment, both within and outside agriculture. Related assistance services, such as nutrition, health care, child care, and housing, are provided to help MSFWs retain or stabilize their agricultural employment or maintain enrollment in NFJP.

- **Northeast Iowa Community College**

Training & Economic Development: The College delivers outreach and training services through the 260E and 260F programs. The 260E program provides training for new and expanding businesses and the 260F program provides training for incumbent workers. These programs are administered by NICC and all applicable college policies will be applied. Allowable costs under 260E and 260F may be charged as appropriate, subject to Iowa Department of Economic Development (IDED) approval.

Service contracts are negotiated with the customer and a contract agreement is completed.

The College is a strong player in working with established business partnerships in providing training. The Northeast Iowa Community College Economic Development team has a strong tie with businesses and is focused on bringing workforce training to our region and strategizing over community workplace needs. The College and the Iowa Department of Economic Development are key contributors to serving businesses' training needs through 260E & 260F programs. (Funding opportunities for eligible new, expanding and existing businesses)

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NICC will provide certificate (Skills Upgrading) training in advanced manufacturing, health, and information technology careers and will partner with various grants to assist clients to become employed in high demand occupations through payments for WIA services, sharing resources and providing input through our various business groups.

NICC will provide Carl Perkins Career and Technical programming with our high schools throughout the district, by assisting with Career Facilitation, Career Pathways, training of instructors, consulting on high school curriculum and facilities/equipment needs for vocational tech programs.

Northeast Iowa Community College offers Adult Education and Literacy classes throughout the northeast region. Classes are offered in the following counties: Allamakee, Chickasaw, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette, Howard and Winneshiek.

Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Adult Basic Education instruction is offered to help people with limited academic skills. Classes are vocationally based and are designed for students with learning challenges who want to build on their current skills. These classes may also be academically oriented and are designed for students who want to brush up on prior skills that could help them in their daily lives or who need help in passing college-entrance/work related exams or are taking the High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED).

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) instruction is offered throughout the district to help people with limited English learn the language and learn about the American culture in the United States. Students whose English is not their native language are encouraged to take these classes as a pathway to transition to college level classes.

High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED)

The Adult Education and Literacy Program allow those individuals who have not finished high school to receive a high school equivalency diploma (HSED) from the state of Iowa. This diploma shows that individuals have achieved a level of educational development comparable to that of a high school graduate. This program was formerly known as the General Education Diploma (GED). The test is available in English and Spanish, and must be completed within five years of the first test date.

Classes are available throughout the district in a direct-instruction, managed –enrollment format to facilitate student learning and engagement.

Refresher Sessions

Refresher sessions or classes are offered in drop-in opportunities throughout the district and in managed enrollment format for high school graduates, those studying for the HSED and soon to be NICC students and any individual just wanting to recall prior information or review reading, writing, math, computer literacy, and job/career skills needed for college success or career certificate preparation.

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- Job Corps is a free educational opportunity for young adults 16-24, based on lower income guidelines. It offers career technical training in over 100 career programs, academic training for high school diploma equivalency and career success standards such as social skills, employability and independent living skills. A student can also obtain their driver's license through our campuses.

Mission Statement: To attract young adults, teach them relevant skills needed to become employable and independent, and help prepare them for success in life by securing meaningful jobs or opportunities for further education.

Eligibility:

- At least 16 but no more than 24 years old at the time of application
 - Able to legally work in the US
 - Willing to register with Selective Service (males)
 - Low income, in foster care, or receive government assistance
 - Have one of the following barriers: is a high school dropout, requires additional education or career training, or is basic skills deficient, homeless
 - Must have parent or guardian signature and consent if a minor
 - Willing to follow the rules and behave appropriately while enrolled
- **Goodwill Industries** of Northeast Iowa is a CARF(Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) certified organization that was established in Waterloo, Iowa in 1960 to provide a wide variety of vocational and residential services to individuals with a variety of disabilities that allow them to maintain as independent lifestyle as possible. Goodwill Industries provides services in the following areas: Waterloo, Cedar Falls, Independence, Oelwein, Decorah, Dubuque, Waverly, Maquoketa, and Tama/Toledo.

The Decorah Office provides a variety of residential services to people in Decorah and the surrounding areas. These services include:

- SCL(Supported Community Living)-Goal driven services that teach individuals skills that are necessary to live as independently as possible. These goals are individualized to the person and address each individual's strengths and weaknesses. These services can be given on an hourly basis or 24 hours a day, depending on needs.
- CDAC(Consumer Directed Attendant Care)-Providing support to physically disabled people who cannot do some tasks on their own. This can include housekeeping, cooking/feeding, personal cares, etc.
- Respite-This service is designed to give primary support people of individuals a break from the day to day duties of caring for a person with a disability. This service is not goal driven or skill building, but more designed to provide support and supervision.