Volunteer Iowa is always on the lookout for individuals who want to give back and make a difference in their communities. Through national service and volunteerism, AmeriCorps invests in new and innovative ways to address the critical issues that divide us. Together, we can strengthen ties to our communities and one another while we address the needs of our neighbors. Volunteerism has many benefits to offer. According to recent studies, people who volunteer are 78% more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities, 37% more likely to be employed, and 55% more likely to be enrolled in college. Volunteerism also provides a platform to come together as a community of practice to explore engagement and become involved in real life. Mentoring relationships are at their best when connections are made between a caring adult and a young person who knows that someone is there to help guide them through life choices. Through the Training Program, you will learn about:

- Individualized consulting to address unique organizational opportunities and needs of the organization.
- Supervision and Support to help volunteers maintain their commitment and enthusiasm.
- Accountability and evaluation to ensure that volunteer service a pathway to community.

Over the next few months, the alliance will hold training and information sessions, providing opportunities for Americans to become a member. In Iowa, funding opportunities for schools will create a funding program for elementary and middle schools to support the initiative. In partnership with VQ National Mentoring Month, Volunteer Iowa will launch a pilot initiative in early 2023, developed in partnership with VQ to support the initiative. Volunteer Iowa will offer a platform to come together as a community of practice to explore engagement and become involved in real life.

To find volunteer opportunities with Volunteer Iowa today, visit www.volunteeriowa.org. Nominations for the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame are now being accepted! If you or someone you know has made a long-lasting positive difference in the lives of people through their volunteer service activities, receive a special ceremony held in the State Capitol Building and by having their names engraved on the Volunteer Hall of Fame plaque on permanent display in the State Historical Building. Inductees are recognized both during a special ceremony at the Capitol in the spring. Details and nomination materials are online at www.viia.org/nihof.