



**For Immediate Release**

**Contact:** Amy Jennings  
Executive Director  
515-286-4980  
[director@gdmli.com](mailto:director@gdmli.com)

**Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute Announces  
2016 Community Connect Program Participants and Mentors**

DES MOINES, Iowa (February 18, 2016)– The Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute is pleased to announce the 30 program participants and 16 mentors selected for the Community Connect: Mentors Inspiring Success program.

Community Connect seeks to inspire future leaders to take purposeful action in the community as a result of relationships with experienced community leaders and a curriculum that encourages discovery of personal values and motivations. The six-session program, running February through May, occurs in a small-group setting, which ensures interaction with each mentor as well as other program participants.

**Participants include:**

David	Albrecht	Fiedler & Timmer, PLLC
Callie	Angove	John Deere Financial
Brooke	Axiotis	State of Iowa
Kristin	Broers	Eli Lilly & Company
Nicole	Burgmeier	Dorsey & Whitney LLP
Emily	Caropreso	Iowa Credit Union League
Crissanka	Christadoss	American Parkinson Disease Association
Ramon	Christopher	Nationwide Insurance
Bridget	Drendel	Cooper Smith & Co
Brandon	Hess	Apache Inc.
Kelli	Huerter	Visionary
Leslie	Jasper	Business Publications
Adnan	Junuzovic	Wells Fargo Home Mortgage
Alexandria	Karei	Webspec Design
Jenna	Knox	Planned Parenthood of the Heartland
Daniel	Morse	Businessolver
Juliette	Olejnik	American Heart Association
Hannah	Olson	SPPG

Stephanie	Oppel	Des Moines Area Community College
June	Owens	Opulence Media
Omar	Padilla	Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity
Laura	Rasmussen	West Des Moines Chamber of Commerce
Jack	Reed	Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Iowa, Inc.
Blair	Rosenberg	Community & Donor Relations
Michael	Roy	Principal Global Investors
Katie	Stull	Willis Auto Campus
Amy	Sturm	Iowa Department of Public Safety
Sharese	Van Sloten	UnityPoint Health
Sarah	Welch	Prevent Child Abuse Iowa
Jaclyn	Wulfekuhle	United Way of Central Iowa

**Mentors include:**

Emily	Abbas	Bankers Trust
Kim	Butler	The PrivateBank
Mary	Chapman	Retired, DMACC
Sally	Dix	Bravo Greater Des Moines
Angela	Gallagher	John Deere Financial
Joe	Gonzalez	Latino Resources and Latino Heritage Festival
Andy	Hansen	John Deere
Bud	Hockenberg	Coppola Law Firm
Eric	Idehen	Wells Fargo
Joseph	Jones	Greater Des Moines Partnership
Matt	McGarvey	Telligen Community Initiative
Elizabeth	Presutti	DART
Dana	Ramundt	The Dana Company
Jana	Rieker	Trilix
Katie	Roth	Portico Staffing
Mary	Sellers	United Way

Community Connect launches February 22, 2016, at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden. The program is graciously supported by the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines and The Dana Company. Learn more about Community Connect and the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute at [www.gdmli.com](http://www.gdmli.com).

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*The Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute is a premier leadership organization, guiding leaders to greater public awareness, commitment and involvement – improving the overall quality of life in our community. In three decades, more than 1,800 leaders have participated in Leadership Institute programs, gaining a greater understanding of our community and opportunities for civic improvement. For more information about GDMLI, visit [www.gdmli.com](http://www.gdmli.com).*