

LeadershipLink

The Central Iowa Region is a vibrant place with individuals and organizations dedicated to continued success. A key component to the numerous accolades and advancement may simply boil down to engaged leadership. The nonprofit community is a key player in Central Iowa that is driving the quality of life and critical support services for all those who call this community home. In an effort to connect both nonprofit organizations to ready and willing volunteer leaders, we are pleased to introduce **LeadershipLink**.

What is LeadershipLink?

LeadershipLink is an online portal that will connect individuals in Central Iowa seeking leadership roles to nonprofit organizations that have opportunities. Whether the leadership positions are as members of Board of Directors, Committees, Task Forces, Councils or Ad Hoc Steering Committees, **LeadershipLink** is a place where important connections can be made!

Who is leading the effort? This online portal, led by the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, United Way of Central Iowa and the Regional Leadership Council, is lifted up in the region's Capital Crossroads plan for Social Capital. Specifically, the portal is an enhancement to the United Way of Central Iowa's online volunteer matching system. By utilizing this already existing mechanism, nonprofit organizations will be able to post all volunteer experiences – including leadership opportunities – in one convenient location.

Who is the target audience?

LeadershipLink was created to support both nonprofits as well as individuals in our community who are looking to become engaged in a volunteer leadership role at an organization.

- Nonprofit organizations serving a charitable purpose in Central Iowa are invited to post volunteer leadership position openings on the website. Organizations need not be funded partners of the United Way of Central Iowa or the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines to post a volunteer leadership vacancy. Whether the nonprofit focuses on arts and culture, health, human services, education, historic preservation, community development, immigrant & refugee services, environmental protection or more, applicable positions may be posted on **LeadershipLink**.
- Individuals seeking a volunteer leadership role at a nonprofit organization are invited to search for a possible match, create an account and learn more about position openings. Those utilizing **LeadershipLink** are not required to have a certain level of previous experience but rather should have a desire to volunteer their time, talent and/or treasure for the betterment of a nonprofit organization. Direct service opportunities are not included in the **LeadershipLink** section of the portal as these postings are specific to roles as members of Board of Directors, Committees, Task Forces, Councils or Ad Hoc

Steering Committees. Click here to search for direct service volunteering. While the Regional Leadership Council will be encouraging current program participants as well as alum from various leadership programs in the region to utilize the online portal, anyone interested in serving in a leadership capacity is invited to use **LeadershipLink** to find meaningful connections.

How does it work? Nonprofit organizations will need to establish an account with the United Way of Central Iowa. Specific instructions can be obtained by contacting Ramona ramona.gaukel@unitedwaydm.org or by viewing this stepby-step guide. There is no fee to post a volunteer leadership position; however, nonprofit organizations are asked to keep only current openings live in **LeadershipLink**. Individuals interested in serving in a leadership capacity are invited to search the posted volunteer leadership positions by visiting <http://volunteer.unitedwaydm.org/leadershiplink>. Individuals then indicate their interest through the system by creating an account which will then send notification to the nonprofit for possible further conversation. The nonprofit organization will then take the lead in reaching back out to the individual to learn more about their interest and determine if it is the right match at the right time.

How much does it cost? There is no cost for a nonprofit organization to post a volunteer leadership position or for an individual to search open positions.

Who do I contact with questions? Questions about how to post a volunteer leadership position or search open positions should be directed to Ramona Gaukel ramona.gaukel@unitedwaydm.org at the United Way of Central Iowa.

How frequently can volunteer leadership positions be posted? Volunteer leadership positions can be posted as frequently as they become available at a nonprofit organization. Updates are made by the nonprofit organizations themselves so postings can be adjusted as needed.