

HEART Bridge

HEART Bridge is a new initiative exclusively for students who participate in HEART, program to help bridge the gap between high school graduation and a viable career.



In partnership with Dupaco Community Credit Union, the HEART Bridge program coaches students in financial literacy, goal setting and saving. Furthermore, the stipends that students earn from their work with the HEART program are generously matched to help students reach their education and career goals.

How It Works

- Students work with HEART staff to explore ideas to set their career goal and objectives (through TAP, with IVRS).
- Students participate in financial education sessions presented by Dupaco Community Credit Union to learn the basics of money management and saving for a goal.
- Students designate a portion of their stipend to invest in savings, which earn matching funds from the Dupaco R.W. Hoefer Foundation.
- Real-life banking and member experiences prepare students for adulthood.
- Students graduating from HEART and high school utilize their saved and matched funds toward their career goal objectives.

CONSISTENT SAVING + CAREER PLANNING + TIME = SUCCESS

For more information, contact
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Since 2003, HEART (Housing Education and Rehabilitation Training) students completed almost 80 community-changing service projects. Students work in an innovative educational setting, spending half-days in HEART's classroom and half-days on the worksite. They rebuild homes in Dubuque's downtown neighborhoods, revitalizing community. To date, students have converted 37 derelict rental units into 27 owner-occupied homes. Only twelve positions are available annually. Most students put in over 500 service learning hours each year and to date they are earning a 91% graduation rate.

HEART'S EFFECTIVE LEARNING

- Customized curriculum for students 16 and up
- Exclusive to students with IEPs
- Close-knit learning experience
- Staffing to student ratio of 1:3
- Hands-on service learning experience

STUDENT BENEFITS

- Students can stay engaged in their home schools
- Students earn diplomas from their home school
- Values of service learned through real work and community impact



HEART BRIDGE DONORS

Dupaco Community Credit Union
R.W. Hoefer Foundation
McDonough Charitable Foundation
Kiwanis Club of Downtown Dubuque