# EMPOWER DECORAH

Empower Decorah 2023 is a six-session leadership program led by the Decorah Area Chamber of Commerce in Decorah, Iowa. This program is best suited for young professionals who are new to their business/organization and would benefit from leadership training, learning more about the Decorah area, and increasing their connections with other professionals. New residents welcome. A translator option is available for those who do not speak English as their first language.

To submit yourself or your employee for consideration, please visit the chamber's website and complete the application form online or contact chamber staff directly.
25 individuals will be accepted into the 2023 program. Cost is $500 per individual. All classes will be in-person and take place on Thursdays.

# PROGRAM PILLARS

**LEARN DECORAH**

THE CLASS LEARNS ABOUT CITY AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC SERVICES, AREA NONPROFITS, OUR BUSINESS ECOSYSTEM, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND SOCIOECONOMIC / WORKFORCE ISSUES SPECIFIC TO THIS PLACE. GOAL: BE A MORE INFORMED RESIDENT.

**CONNECT DECORAH**

CLASS MEMBERS CONNECT W/ 50+ NEW PROFESSIONALS INCLUDING PEERS, AREA LEADERS, ENTREPRENEURS, EXPERIENCED BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND THOSE WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THEIR AREAS OF EXPERTISE. GOALS: INCREASE CONNECTEDNESS

**SERVE DECORAH**

INFORMED PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE CONNECTED ARE MORE LIKELY TO SHARE THEIR TALENTS, SERVE ON BOARDS, VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME, AND SHAPE THE AREA'S QUALITY OF LIFE. THE CLASS IS INTRODUCED TO OPPORTUNITIES. THEY ALSO COMPLETE A SMALL GROUP PROJECT THAT CONTRIBUTES TO DECORAH'S AESTHETIC. GOAL: EMPOWER ENGAGEMENT

**LEAD DECORAH**

LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND TOOLS ARE IMPORTANT IN EVERY WORKPLACE. THIS CLASS COMPLETES GALLUP STRENGTH FINDER AND COMPLETES SMALL GROUP WORK TO BETTER UNDERSTAND TEAM DYNAMICS, THE ROLE OF PERSONALITIES, AND HOW THE BEST LEADERS NAVIGATE BOTH CHALLENGES. GOAL: ENHANCE LEADERSHIP

## prework

Class participants are required to complete **Gallup CliftonStrengths Assessment** prior to the first class. Prior to the second class, participants will need to complete the **NERIS Analytics Limited 16 Personalities Test.** These two assessments inform activities and groupings. Information and results gained from these tests will be applied over the entire six-week course to ensure an applied understanding of the material. The Chamber will provide access codes/information ahead of the course. These tools benefit the individual, the team as a whole, and can be applied/used in any workplace.

## outside class

Before class five, participants are required to read the book **This is Where You Belong by Melody Warnick**. Books are provided to participants.

Before the last class, each participant must **attend one public meeting** (in-person or virtual) of the city or county elected officials. This may include a committee meeting/work session (various time blocks) or a full city council meeting (Monday evenings) or full County Board of Supervisors meeting (Monday mornings). The Chamber will provide a sign up at the beginning of the course.

## project

Together the 2023 class will be responsible for a small, new public artwork. The chamber will determine a location and provide the class with three artist proposals from artists for their selection. The Chamber will help facilitate the process and provide resources needed for the project to be executed successfully.

## classes

The 2023 Empower Decorah program will take place on Thursdays. The class is also asked to attend the Chamber's Annual Gala event so that they can be recognized. We ask that participants attend at least 4 of the 6 scheduled classes.

Social Mixer (Optional) Tuesday, January 17th from 6-8pm at King Pin
Class One (All Day) Thursday, January 19th
Class Two (830AM - Noon) Thursday, February 2nd
Class Three (830AM - Noon)  Thursday, February 16th
Class Four (830AM - Noon)  Thursday, March 2nd
Class Five (830AM - Noon)  Thursday, March 16th
Class Six (830AM - Noon) Thursday, March 30th
Chamber Gala / Class Graduation Friday, April 14th at Impact Coffee